

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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Subject: Chancellery of the “major” convent of Carmelites of the Ancient Observance  
in L’viv in the time of partitions of Poland. An archival science approach.

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A thesis submitted to the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage in fulfilment of the  
requirements for the degree of PhD in History.

## SUMMARY

The thesis focuses on the functioning of the chancellery of the “major” Carmelite monastery of Lviv in the 19th century. The author has written the dissertation based on archival material stored in archives located in Poland and abroad. The author conducted in-depth research in the sort of archives like the Archive of the Monastery of Carmelites Fathers in Krakow “on Sand”, where the archive of the "major" Lviv monastery is kept. Other archives that store archival materials used in this work are the National Archives in Krakow, the Archbishop Eugeniusz Baziak’s Archives (historical archive of the Lviv metropolis, which is kept as deposit on the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow), Archive of the Editorial Office of “Nasza Przeszłość”(eng. “Our Past”), where are kept Dr. Waław Kolak papers. The foreign archives where the author of the thesis conducted research are the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Lviv (Ukraine), the Austrian State Archives in Vienna (Austria), and the General Archives of the Carmelite Order in Rome (Italy).


The author of the doctoral dissertation used several paradigmatic approaches characteristic of historical and archival research. The author presented how the documentation used to manage the monastery was produced, as well as its management and archiving methods. The



thesis among of the paradigmatic approach the history of knowledge trends. The thesis presents social contexts and practices of the chancellery activity related to office work. The author also presented the contact between the lowest organizational unit of the order, the monastery, and the inhabitants of various social classes of Lviv through the activity of the Carmelites recorded in the primary sources.

The methods used by the author of the thesis are characteristic of historical research. Therefore, they focus on working with a historical source that constitutes evidence of the existence of a historical fact (historical evidence - primary source), which in the course of a historian's work has a chance to become a historiographical fact. An analysis of internal and external sources revealing the activities of the chancellery of the larger Lviv monastery in the 19th century was performed. Most of it was official documentation written in Polish, Latin and German. The research was also based on conclusions drawn from the analysis of all archival sources. In the fourth chapter, the author also used sources such as oral history interviews of archivists cooperating with Dr. Waclaw Kolak (1923–2007), who arranged the Archive of the Monastery of the Carmelites in Krakow “on Sand” (archive of the Polish province of Carmelites).

The dissertation was divided into four chapters presenting the issues related to the activity of the office of the monastery and placing it in the wider historical context. The first chapter was devoted to the history of the Order of the Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel (*Ordo Fratrum Beatissimæ Virginis Mariæ de Monte Carmelo*), which is called the Carmelite Order. This chapter describes the creation and development of Carmelites, settling them in Poland and founding a monastery in Lviv. The history of Lviv’s monastery ends with its closure and the expatriation of the monks from Lviv to Krakow in 1946. This chapter describes also legal acts affecting the work of the chancellery in the 19th century. The second chapter presented the activities of the convent's office. It showed office forms, sample documentation created in this office, and the staff, which were mostly the priors (superiors) of the monastery. The third chapter presents the systems introduced in the monastery's registry since the 18th century and examples of incoming documentation from people and institutions addressed to the monastery. The fourth chapter shows the history of the archives of the Lviv monastery after 1946 when they were transported to Krakow. The last chapter included the characteristics of the archives records of the “major” Lviv Carmelite monastery.

  
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