



## Dagome Iudex - English text

Similarly, in another tome from the time of pope John XV: <sup>1</sup>Dagome<sup>2</sup> the judge and Ote,<sup>3</sup> senatrix, and their sons: Misicam and Lambertus – I know not of what gens these people be, but I suppose however that they are Sardinians<sup>4</sup>, for the same are governed by four judges – are read to have conferred to the blessed Peter one country in its entirety, which is called Schinesghe<sup>5</sup>, with all its appurtenances within the following boundaries: so as to commence, on the first side is the long sea<sup>6</sup> [stretching to] the Bruzzian [i.e., Prussian] border and on the location that is called Russe [i.e. Rus'/Ruthenia], and along the borders of Russe does it extend on to Craccoa [i.e., Cracow], and from that same Craccoa on to the river of Oddere [i.e., the Odra/Oder] directly to the location that is named Alemure<sup>7</sup>, and from that same Alemura [sic] on to the land of the Milze [i.e., the Milceni tribe]<sup>8</sup>, [and therefrom] directly onto the Oddere, and therefrom leading along the river Oddera [sic] back to the aforesaid city of Schinesghe.

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<sup>1</sup> John XV was Pope from 985 to 996.

<sup>2</sup> As the name "Dagome" appears in not a single other source regarding Mieszko I - and as the title "iudex" is also highly puzzling - it is generally assumed by Polish scholars that "Dagome iudex" is one of the text's many garblings. One prevalent theory is that "Dagome iudex" is a corruption of "Ego Mesco dux" - "I, Mieszko, the ruler".

<sup>3</sup> Oda was Mieszko's second spouse, daughter of Theodoric, Margrave of the Northern March.

<sup>4</sup> It is plain that the copyist who compiled this summarized version of the (now lost) original document found it impossible to situate the Gniezno state in geographical space – hence his conjecture that the people referred to might be Sardinians. His confusion is also seen in the way he renders both geographical terms and the names of people.

<sup>5</sup> The prevalent opinion among historians is that Schinesghe stands for Gniezno.

<sup>6</sup> The Baltic Sea is concerned, or its adjacent lands – that is, Pomerania.

<sup>7</sup> Alemure meaning Moravia or, as some historians claim, Olomouc.

<sup>8</sup> The name refers to a West Slavic tribe, their burg-city having been Budissin (today, Bautzen in Germany).