



Jak Mieszko pojął za żonę Dąbrówkę - Tekst angielski

Having taken over the dukedom, Mieszko¹ began to display mental skill and physical power, and increasingly to attack [neighbouring] peoples. However, he was so mired in the errors of his pagan ways that, as was his custom, he enjoyed seven wives. Finally, he demanded a very good Christian woman from Bohemia, one Dąbrówka², in marriage. But she refused to marry him unless he abandoned his immoral ways and promised to become a Christian. When he agreed to abandon the said pagan ways and to receive the sacraments of Christianity, the lady came to Poland with a large retinue of secular and religious [dignitaries], but did not share his marriage bed until he, slowly but diligently assimilating Christian customs and church law, renounced the errors of heathendom and came to the bosom of Mother Church.

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¹ Mieszko I (ca 930-992) – the first historic ruler of Poland from the Piast dynasty, ruling from ca 960 until his death. He united the historic Polish lands and started the Christianization of the country, introducing church organization (a missionary bishopric in 968). The capital of Mieszko's state was in Gniezno.

² Dobrawa / Dąbrówka (d. 977) – daughter of the Bohemian duke Boleslaus I the Cruel, mother of Polish king Bolesław the Brave and probably also of Świętosława, queen of Denmark and Sweden.