

**Thesis of Ph.D**

**Lifestyle and farmland in two Matra-region settlements  
in the 20th century**

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## **1. Research subject and task**

The task of the regional historical research is to elaborate the part of a whole settlement or a part of it, and that of a group of settlements or a smaller or a greater region, area. Different reasons further the formation of the regional historical researches.

Intensively studied excellent specialists the story of the Hungarian population living in the villages from the medieval beginnings entirely to the abolition of the feudal system in 1848, then at the time of the civil transformation, later its fights fought the participation in the production happening in the Soviet sample until the recent times. The domestic society's specific features were presented, in this manner it, that country squiring living in a peasant row in a part of quite a few villages lived.

The fundamental, elemental reason of this lies in the human life, the geographical dividing of social motion, that is in the self-evident fact that the processes are going on somewhere the events happening somewhere. The man is attached to a narrower place the most directly to: his homeland, inhabitant and his workplace, from this direction would love to know most, and the desire to get acquainted with the past of the homelands stems from this tight emotional-intellectual bond.

Apart from the emotional reason a more important reason is: the scientific recognition that a nation, a country's past, his present is made up of the local phenomena and processes in a significant part, and this latter, so the microstructures his profound examination, detailed, quasi his microscopic exploration quasi his condition of the makro world, that is for the country's, the nation's historical presentation elaborated properly.

We may notice a motivation which can be perceived all the more much yet in our days. Becoming globalized is huge and presumably unavoidable, though for the single man difficultly tangible, can be experienced, the national and the local values, the historical traditions report the safe clue in his current burdened with insecurities at the same time, the spiritual and ethical support.

The writing of a regional history plays an inestimable role in the exploration and acquaintance of these values, and also in the strengthening of the identity consciousness. As Mario Vargas Llosa says: „The globalization will not bring the local cultures to an end: in an open world some valuable one and onto a survival their worthy part finds that fertile soil then, on which may burst into bloom.”

The distinguished historian, Vörös Károly warns about the appreciation of the writing of regional history: Effectively the regional historical research not a lower, but makes work with a deeper level possible – indeed obligatory one. Low and deep are concepts differing from each other very much which is not only a question of viewpoint.

One of the objectives of the local governments becoming independent freshly after the political transformation was, that because of the reasons mentioned higher up to let regional historical researches be favoured. Two small settlements in Heves County, Detk and Ludas made this. Their which appeared in connection with appearance time 1996 and 2002) this skilled work is the continuation of that regional historical research and village monographs.

The researched period is the centuries of time running from the first decades of the 20th century to our days; the intensive collector and research work were began with 10 years ago (1999). In the researched period the story of the farming of the settlements, within the appearance of the vine-growing, and its spreading was examined.

Our largest historical wine region is located on the eastern foothills of the Mátra Mountains, which is Hungary's highest mountain range. Here, in Mátraalja, in the vicinity of

Gyöngyös, Nagyréde, Abasár, Markaz, Visonta, Detk and Halmajugra there are wine cellars and press-houses of various design.

Many Hungarian settlements turned towards their past with interest in the year of the mille-centenary. Two little villages, Detk and Ludas made this, too. Those regional historical researches may have begun in connection with this, which archival and library data not only concerning the parishes were revealed and it was built into the village monographs being born, but they may have fed on the verbal communications strongly.

Both villages elder application told a story about their childhood, which is full of hard-working one filled in the cooperative farm between the two world wars, with pleasure from decades. In this manner we may receive a realistic picture of the villages' inhabitants his life, and we may look in into the events of a weekday.

The work is continuitation of the regional historical research, and village monographs appeared on its hook this skilled labour, the spine of which Detk and Ludas. The story of the farming of settlements, the appearance of the vine-growing, his spreading get it on this country within on it.

A village's population or the cooperative farm's membership not only dealt with a viticulture naturally in the concern of the economic life. The animal husbandry and the different sections of the cultivation were on a sign on the settlements examined by me, from which one – in a smaller measure – but I spoke likewise in my paper.

The paper lays a big emphasis on related data with the folk lifestyle which can be collected yet beside this, which ones they do not differ from the tradition substance of the Palóc country largely, an interesting mix is formed on the other hand arrived from the plain with effects. One of the interesting problems are his measure, the economic and social effects of the railroad in the examination of the villages' ethnography.

## ***2. Applied methods***

We strived for it being based on the widest source-material which can be reached currently and literature in the course of the completion of the treatise. Two approaches characterize the research method applied by me. While the treatise is the part of a descriptor it appeared on the processing of literature till then lies, chapters implying the empirical research till then are founded on the quantitative analysis technique methodologywise. The first half of the treatise implies the processing of the researches done till now and their analysis. Those hypotheses were put into words in the course of the making a map of this theoretical background, that I was struggling along in the light of the empirical researches theses to ripen.

### ***The sources being attached to the topic of the dissertation***

The written sources of which use was made in the paper were mostly provided by Heves County Archivum, Episcopal Archivum, „Barátság” Farmers’ Co-operative archivum, Ludas and the Detk Parish Archivum, Historia Domus which can be found here.

It facilitated the examination of these documents, that they were written on a Hungarian language in his majority, and them analysing in this manner and the in them character a fact substance was performable easily despite the old-fashioned writing style and unique spelling.

### ***Etnography methods***

The exploration of the ethnographic concerns of the settlements according to the order of the traditional ethnography activity on ground, that is happened in the villages, in the course of ethnographic collections. This was supplemented in the later ones archival and museum substances, primarily examining and assessing the ethnographic data from Heves County Archivum and with the examination of Eger Dobó István Vármúzeum.

Was the researching special situation in the course of the fieldwork since one spent her childhood on of the small settlements, and may have recognized its benefits and disadvantages. Case of ethnography searching in his own culture existed here and raised to a power.

The informants storiesbased on the existence of the common knowledge many times, their stories were not outlined to thoroughness like that possibly, they turned to the researcher more confidentially however on the other hand as they would have done it for a stranger, since it was regarded as an own villager. The work benefited from this attitude rather according to my opinion.

We utilized beside all these the intellectual one and the general results of the objective ethnography and its methods: we think of the literature of the topic here primarily the complex questions of , the folk culture regional dividinteh folk culture, the folklore, the society ethnography and the objective culture in unity displaying and the cartography one onto a method.

### 3. Results

The treatise consists of four capital parts actually. I depicted the historical background of the concerned settlements in the first part of the paper. It is clear from the chapter that the history of the two villages has been connected with each other for centuries, tight threads connected it, as the common landlord authority, the common traffic junction, and watermills used on brook Bene.

The history of the owners its medieval story, and the families' career, his fate defined the village's story strongly. The serf liberation started the villages' development. The wealthy residents paid an attention to erecting their settlements to the standard of education. Two schoolmasters were employed in the schools from 1910. The function of the civil organisations began with the fireman body's forming.

Following this more were in the range between the two world wars mainly following this: the paladin association, the civil rifle club, the acting group, spike Catholic girl circle, KALOT young men's club people's academy, cooking course, then after the World War two newer choirs, newer acting group worked.

The deficiency of the bread and the workplaces forced into emigration considerable part of the Detk ones from the beginning of the 20th century to United States primarily until 1914, between the two world wars - until 1929 – they undertook work in Canada — many people stayed here with a family, due to this the village's population became sparse.

The world wars hit it XX. the most important elements of the economic and social infrastructure came into existence on Detk and Ludas in a century's first half, they were formed and the cultural institutions enmeshing the social life and community forms thrived. The World War II. and the political changes modified the previous procession of the economic and social development in the bases.

1945 – and 1948 – the villages fare the way just. The power, the hard-working peasant farming beat his solidary small communities up together with his frameworks. They were formed the first and soon one got into a bankruptcy co-operatives, and although the second achieves results, and with time the local initiations get so far, that the communities start reorganizing themselves, the peasant farming gets weak irrevocably, while the villages improve in another look.

The second unit elaborates the history of economics of the settlements. The economy of the 20th century is in the focus of the paper, we ensure the feudal farming forms examining the development with a reference to its process however. Beside the cultivation laying the foundations for the self-supporting farming and animal husbandry from the villages' conditions the grape growing receives the most emphasised part.

The economy of these two settlements fits into the centuries-old history of vine-growing. Differently from the traditional viticulture the grape plantations were forced back but because of the spreading of the mining. From this viewpoint I examined being valid in the new situation. The vine plantings began after the phylloxera disaster.

One of the specialities of the area, is that a cellar and a press houses cannot be seen in the grapes. The vintage was transported into the apartment houses' cellars pouring the crop into the big tubs on the carts into the buckets picked curls.

In Detk the 4 cadastral acres of setup in 1902 was expanded with bigger industry to 136 cadastral acres of area in 1914. Fleischmann Rudolf, the plant breeder and appeared in Detk at this time as a wine-grower and founder of a research station.

The viticulture of the next decades improving in individual farming in an other form and the cooperative production arranged it between new frameworks. From the cooperative movement's forcing government regulation it was published in February 1959. In Heves county the practical realisation of the organizational work began on 9 February. Party functionary, council peoples, industrial workers fearing for their position, intellectuals went into the villages to informative work.

The peasants joined the co-operative under the pressure of necessity because they thought that they did not have other choice on Detk and Ludas. The new co-operative considerably consisted of a little parcel vineyards with a traditional technique, which ones after growing too old (30-40 years) were judged to cutting. And uniform grape boards got into his place with large scale firm setup. 1961–1986 period is the golden age of the viticulture of the neighbourhood and its winery.

The unfortunate end of this was with the collective farms' disintegration and the amends ensued.

We spoke about another famous personality, Mórocz István in connection with the grape growing, who is a Ludas birth, a prestigious specialist with national fame, who was the committed devotee of the agriculture beside his medical work, it from within of the viticulture.

A village's population or the cooperative farm's membership not only dealt with a viticulture naturally in the concern of the economic life. The animal husbandry and the different sections of the cultivation were on a sign on the settlements examined by me, from which one – in a smaller measure – but I spoke likewise in my paper.

In the third part I undertook acquainting the ethnographic peculiarities. Both villages settle down in Keleti Mátraalja, Palóc effects mingle with the Northern Great Plain characteristics in their culture and his ethnography. One of the interesting problems is measure, the economic and social effects of the railroad in the examination of the villages' ethnography.

Ludas and Detk are villages with a band plot building in, while Ludas is a typical village, that is it was built on a part of the mainroad, while Detk with an arrangement with a reel street, that is the village broadens out around the church, and a marketplace took shape. Detk and Ludas can be found on the edge of the Hungarian ethnographic group called the Palóc the more characteristic examples of this specific world. The typical Detk and Ludas apartment house did not differ from the Palóc house a lot.

The unheated, pantry furnished with beds, chests was the women's berth, there was not heating in the auricle, a quarter of the room was occupied by the big flat furnace which can be heated and they also cooked it. Soups, pastas, potato and cabbage foods characterize their diet. Three-four generation joint families lived together in a house like this the XIX. century. Their national costume it was preserved until a beginning of the 20th century following a century's front, following this but due to the intensifying urban, civil effects they quickly cast it aside.

Despite the heavy circumstances of living the turnings of the human life, the illustrious days the villagers were celebrated on a northly manner compared to their circumstances. The community's life was primarily defined by the plan of work, the hard-working work full weekdays, the fulfilment of his duty imposed on them in the course of the division of labour defined it.

The villages' community lived together, worked together, all of their joys and their grief were shared with each other. Through more centuries this community solidarity, this it onto each other dependency defined the villages' face. The Detk ones and the Ludas ones were the members of a community where everybody may have counted on the other one, since he may have needed the recompense of their in a concrete case, the village accepted it only who adapted to this order.

The fourth part presents the villages' religious life. In 1471, certainly there is a Christian congregation in the villages already, reverend known from this year László, the Detk parson, at the same time cathedral altar master. Presumably the Ludas Christians the faithful ones went over to Detk attend a mass as our kinf St. Stephan ordered it, because of their church's bad state.

Ludas will be one of the extensions of Detk, which later Ugra joins, for a mother church from the 1720's years. The plastered church with a hedge masonry that turned into the one which cannot be used for the 1740's years was doing already at this time. The stone church's building was started in 1745, which is all doing until the today's day,.

The mystic consciousness world weaving the Palóc villages teaching his religious life, the church through characterize it. The row of the customs being attached to the holidays received a content in this manner. Until they believed that the customs, beliefs prevent the troubles and may bring a favorable turn, they remained.

Mária's nurse was one of the parishes' most majestic feminine function. A piety of her, her morals and her virtue a well-known woman was entrusted with the nursing, and dressing of Maria. Her function radiated onto the everyday life she was the récitant, the farewell leader, the dead person lament, directed the church decoration, and organized it first of all, guided it, checked the Mária girls.

At the time of Whitsun and on Nagyboldogasszony holiday (August 15.) the Detk ones and the Ludas ones went away into the Mátraverebély-Szentkút farewell. According to the legend László the horseshoe of a King Laszlo's horse caused the water of the source which can be found here to spring forth once. The Szentkút hoped for wonderful recoveries from that of water the popular belief, and being purged of the sins. From the villages into the farewell ambitious they set out on foot on a Saturday.

The past century brought enormous changes in the villages' farming, their society and his lifestyle equally. A period like that in the Hungarian history, which is called by historians- the short one 20th century, the modernisation, the system of the series of the industrialisation, the political changes.

It was my aim was to strengthen a direction of the Hungarian ethnographic researches like that with the examination of the settlements, that the manifold one tries to interpret it with a community's examination and a lot social-, cultural-, and economic process, which influenced the development of the everyday life of the past decades.

Continuous seeking ways, strategy development characterized the communities, the politics dictated it adapting himself to requirements, opportunities, rules. The agriculture meant the source of the living to the community's members fundamentally. The traditions and the different natural opportunities persuaded the settlements into the starting of the grape growing, however mining developing in the neighbourhood however forced this ascending section in an arc into a decline.

The cooperative farm's decades meant safe living to the population working in it, and infrastructural developments may have come true on the settlement with its help. However the relative prosperity understood an end in 1989.

The political transformation of the 90 years modified the forms of ownership again. However a change came about in an entirely new social structure already however. Many people reckoned that the relations decades earlier can be restored, and the firm and working organization forms in this the new social political and in an economic medium are resumable.

In the villages growing old continuously, the money-, contact capital engaging in the competitive agricultural production was given to few people struggling with deficiency only.

A decade after the political transformation the processes that define the segments of the agriculture with a new type are much better visible. The market acquisition of the agricultural undertakings' leaders and their economic headway insisting on the parents' traditions does not characterize it already primarily, but the profit-oriented.

Onto the period of the political transformation the social picture of the settlement meant a upset, plundered social structure stopping the continuous development artificially. The deficiency of the intelligentsia with the local bonds are more decennial one, since most did not return into his native village. The able to work population's proportion decreased, the previous, industrialisation with big pace, the transformation of the agriculture led to the development of mentality that did not bind it to the local economy between the hosts, to the local household the young persons. The previous economic fund the land - his repossession a position was prestige, but the incomplete amends upset this, and the deficiency of strengths is necessary to the starting of the farming, and the age peculiarities, the ageing intensifying continually made it impossible the intensive smallholder, enterprise-friendly mentality and hereby the presence of the integral citizen processes.

The new entrepreneurial layer's development can primarily be bound to the expertise, the capital can be bound. More compulsion undertakings were born on the space of the agriculture in the first half of the ninetyfold years, however big part of this lost all of its hopes after survival some yearly vegetations however onto the survival.

The identity search creates those village monographs, creates the ethnographic collections, builds up those provincial houses, which ones for the local intelligentsia meant to fill the role of the compass.



## **4. Publications**

### **The author publications in this topic:**

History of Ludas – monography, Eger, 2002 140p

The story of the wine growing three mátraalji a settlement, in.: Ethnica 2006/3 85-91 pp.

Two mátraalji a village's pilgrimage onto Szentkút in.: Ethnica 2005/1 23-26 pp.

Not to live without faith, neither it is not possible to create – Ludas parsonage's story, manuscript, in.:Eger Érseki Levéltár publication, 2009, an appearance

American Detk ones – data to the story of the fervid county emigrations, manuscript, in.:AGRIA – Eger Dobó István Vármúzeum almanach, 2009, an appearance

### **Other publications**

Novák László Ferenc: Fejfa monograph in.: Ethnica 2006/1

Luby Margit: A the order of a peasant life and later studies in.: Ethnica 2006/1

Hála József-Landgraf Ildikó: Hungary miner legends in.: Ethnica 2006/2

Kriston VíziJózsef: In company on Palócföld in.: Ethnica 2005/1

Fodor István Ferenc: The hey-day of Jakóhalma's craftsmanship in.: Ethnica 2005/1

Vörös László: The smelting work settlements of Bükk mountain range in.: Ethnica 2004/3