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**CULTURAL INFLUENCES IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS
OF GALICIA-VOLHYNIA RUS WITH THE EAST**

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Based on systematization of sources, the paper reconstructs the picture of cultural and economic contacts of Galicia-Volhynia Rus with eastern countries, primary attention being paid to trade and artistic crafts.

We consider a wide range of artifacts (household items, accessories, things of personal piety, numismatic artifacts) that attest to the Eastern influence on the culture of the region, associated with economic and cultural links of Galicia-Volhynia Rus. We analyze artistic and stylistic features of separate handicrafts, which made up eastern imports, and identify their analogies and distribution area.

We make an emphasis on peculiar existence of oriental goods in relation to growth of demand for them, their aesthetic value in the interior of housing or clothing of the ancient Ruthenian nobility, as well as the role of certain products in fashion and cult practice shaping.

Key words: East, Galicia-Volhynia Rus, trade, encolpion crosses, goods, import.

Challenge Statement. Finding out the place of origin of imported goods among the archaeological finds from ancient Galicia allowed identifying the countries with which Rus conducted trade, as well as intermediary countries located on the main routes of trade. Dating of the

artefacts found by archaeologists outlines the periods of establishing, strengthening and weakening ties with specific regions, while their topography allows reconstructing the most important trade routes. Concentration of finds testifies to the importance of a particular region in the economic life of the country, determines main economic centers. The nature of archaeological occurrence of items imported from foreign countries allows determining the social composition of trade operations participants.

Development of the Kyivan state contributed to the establishment and strengthening of ties between the Galicia-Volhynia lands and the East. They are largely carried out through Byzantium, which is known to have had long-standing political and economic ties with eastern powers, including Sassanid Iran. In addition, works of art from Armenia, which was in the area of cultural influence of Byzantium, were transported from east to west through Chersonesos (ancient Ruthenian Korsun).

According to sources, Arab traders in Eastern Europe exchanged goods across the Caspian Sea and the North Caucasus to the Azov Sea, to the territory of the Khazars and further – to the steppes between the Don and Dnieper rivers. Persian and Arab authors have repeatedly pointed to mutual Arab-Ruthenian trade contacts in the ninth and tenth centuries. Ibn Khordadbeh noted that Ruthenians brought the fur of squirrels, black foxes, and swords to the Black Sea, to the Khazar capital Atil, and even to Baghdad.

In the 11th century. Middle Eastern glass beads and similar decorations made of carnelian, rhinestone, and amethyst, cowrie shells, and North Caucasian boxwood caught in the Arabian Sea were in great demand. Glassware from Syria and Egypt occupied an important place in the Middle East imports of the 12th-13th centuries. It is not impossible that glass beads with a metal gasket were of Alexandrian or Syrian origin [4].

Not many oriental metal art objects have survived, presumably due to their remelting. They are mentioned in the pages of chronicles. For example, it is known that in 1288 Prince Volodymyr Vasilkovich ordered to remelt expensive dishes [12].

Statement of the Objective and Aims of the Paper. The paper reveals some aspects of compositional and technological influences of oriental art on the artistic culture and life of Galicia-Volhynia Rus from the perspective of trade relations.

Data Presentation. The beginning of eastern trade dates back to the first century of the Abbasid dynasty. Along with the formation of the Baghdad Caliphate as a state, its economy develops. Expensive fur, especially that of sables and black-and-brown foxes, was highly valued among Muslim nobles. Coin silver and real silver (works of oriental toreutics of different epochs, jewelry) served as an equivalent in trade. The influx of Abbasid (in the ninth century) and Sassanid (in the tenth century) dirhams took place along the line of growth.

A set of jewelry of the ninth century was found near an ancient city of Olesk, in the east of Lviv Oblast. The number of coins included in the find is about 100. These are well-preserved silver Arabic dirhams. Several of them have small holes, i.e. they could have been used as a necklace or sewn on clothes. [13, p. 51]. Dirhams of the 9th-10th centuries with a hole for hanging were also found during excavations in a Slavic settlement of the 11th-12th centuries in the village of Bucha of Berehiv district (Transcarpathia).

Prevalence in the 10th-12th centuries of Byzantine coins found in the cities of Galicia-Volhynia Rus (Luchesk, Zvenyhorod, Halych, Terebovlya, Lviv) and princely fortresses (Hrabovets near Halych), which lay mostly along the ancient trade routes from the Baltics to the Black Sea, are considered to be leveling dirhams [10, p. 14].

Items of interest of oriental origin were found in princely Luchesk. In the treasury of 1866, there were three hryvnias of the Novgorod type, which lay next to the Prague money. The weight of two of them was 206.1 g and 194 g, respectively. Their shapes resemble the Golden Horde ingots of silver – the suma (weight of 200.3 g), which was the largest currency unit in the Golden Horde [9, p. 68–72]. Given the significant trade turnover between Luchesk and cities of the Golden Horde, this similarity of the main currencies is natural. Even in the early fifteenth century, Tatar and Novgorod hryvnias were still in circulation [7, p. 82–83], [8, p. 37–38].

Sviatoslav Tersky made an interesting assumption about the rich house he found in ancient Luchesk. The archaeologist believes that the owner was, apparently, involved in trade with the East. Indeed, among the fragments of Black Sea amphorae, imported luxury items (ornamental oriental glazed crockery) found in the cellar of the dwelling, there was a copper Golden Horde coin of 1361–1370 by Abdullah, distributed in the middle – second half of the 1360s. The dating of the archeological complex by the 1370s is supported by other finds, in particular fragments of pottery, imported to Rus only during 1340–1395. There were scales among the merchant's treasure. They were used in the 13th-14th centuries in the cities with which Volhynia was connected by trade routes [1, fig. 69, 4], [5].

In the 10th-13th centuries, Galician land and Volhynia became part of the system of economic relations of the ancient Kyivan state. One of their important directions was the countries of the Arab East (territories that were part of the Arab Caliphate and the lands that were influenced significantly by Arab culture – Persia and Central Asia). When Prykarpattia and Volhynia became part of Kyivan Rus in the last quarter of the tenth century, important land routes and waterways connecting the countries of the Arab East with Europe began to operate here.

Thus, since the tenth century, as it is now established, the importance of the Black Sea direction of Arab-European trade relations has been growing. At that time, the most important Black Sea colony of Arab Caliphate merchants was formed in Trebizond. The majority of the trading articles of this state moved through Trebizond. Geographer al-Istakhri reported in the 950s: “All our merchants come there. All fabrics of Greek production and all brocade imported to Muslim countries move through Trebizond” [17, p. 42].

Arab states of the Eastern Mediterranean built relations with the lands of Kyivan Rus through the Black Sea littoral and the Dnieper. This direction acquired special significance since the late 11th century, when pilgrimage of Christians from Rus to Palestine became relevant after the conquest of Jerusalem by the Crusaders and formation of the Kingdom of Jerusalem. Pilgrims often performed the functions of small traders. Trade in the Black Sea intensified as a result of the Crusades.

As it is known, the usual sea route of pilgrims to the Holy Land in the Middle Ages led through Constantinople, the Aegean Sea (along the coast of Asia Minor), Rhodes, Cyprus and Jaffa to Jerusalem. After the capture of the Byzantine capital by the Crusaders, Trebizond and Sinop, where the roads through the Sinai Peninsula led, occupied a prominent place in the Black Sea trade.

So-called Syrian encolpion crosses are a clear evidence of both Galicia-Volhynia and Ruthenian trade. It is established that they were made in the monasteries of the Byzantine provinces of Syria and Palestine [18, p. 75]. These expensive items of Christian worship could have been purchased either by a wealthy man or by a pilgrim who visited holy places. Only 37 specimens of such crosses with geographical reference were found on the territory of ancient Ruthenian lands [6, p. 41]. In particular, six specimens are known from excavations in Kyiv [11, p. 106–116], four

encolpions – from Halych [6, p. 233], [16, p. 91], five from – Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy [6, p. 41]. Syrian encolpions are often found in Bukovina, between the Prut and Middle Dniester rivers. Four such specimens were found here: two in the annalistic Vasyliv and two in the settlement near the village of Chornivka [15, p. 65–67; 73–74]. These encolpions belong to the type with cast relief and engraved images [6, p. 41–47; 53].

The remarkable thing is that Byzantine encolpions account for 11% of the total number of archaeological finds from the entire territory of Kyivan Rus, which suggests active contacts of the local nobility with the lands of Byzantium. A fragment of a steatite icon with the image of St. Nicholas from the settlement near the village of Chornivka in Bukovina can also be associated with cult objects of oriental origin, which spread through Byzantine mediation [14, p. 100–103].

Imported jewelry from the East is represented by a lazurite pendant and cowrie shells, which served as talismans and amulets. One of such finds related to the settlement in Rohizna [15, p. 118–119], is characterized by an anthropomorphic form. Pendants of such type were common mainly among nomads. They were made of lazurite, which at that time was mined in Badakhshan (the Hindu Kush) in northern Afghanistan, near the town of Firgash. The sacred piece of jewelry came to Eastern Europe along trade routes, probably through nomads or the Byzantine Chersonese [2, p. 101–103].

The rise of Rus' trade with Central Asia is observed in the second half of the twelfth – the first third of the thirteenth century. Central Asian silk fabrics from untwisted yarn ("zandanechi"), which were made in the settlement of Zandana near Bukhara, came through Bulgar. At that time, Muslim merchants made long journeys across Eastern Europe (Abu Hamid al-Gharnati) [3].

In addition, the Galicia-Volhynia Principality became a determining factor in ensuring Ruthenian-Arab contacts in the thirteenth century. Archaeologists have found evidence of established economic ties with the countries of the Arab East in the Carpathians and Western Volhynia, such as goods made of colored glass, non-ferrous metals, ceramics, coins, etc. This is confirmed by many objects of oriental origin, which are stored in the Kyivan Rus Archaeological Collection of the Lviv Historical Museum. They are classified into several groups: household items; rider's armament and equipment; numismatics.

Conclusions. Cultural influences in terms of economic relations of Galicia-Volhynia Rus with the East were conditioned by trade with the local states. Intensive trade was carried out primarily through such a large trade center as Kyiv. When Prykarpattia and Volhynia entered Ancient Rus in the last quarter of the tenth century, important land and water routes were fortified here, by which Varangian or Arab merchants traveled through Polish lands to the West. They connected the countries of the Arab East with Europe.

At the same time, countries of the Arab East (territories that were part of the Arab Caliphate and the lands that were significantly affected by Arab culture – Persia and Central Asia) were an important direction in terms of economic relations of the ancient Kyivan state. Since the tenth century, the importance of the Black Sea direction of Arab-European trade relations increased. At that time, the most important Black Sea colony of Arab Caliphate merchants was formed in Trebizond.

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