

VOCABULARY DESCRIBING CLASSES OF PEASANTS, NOBLES, AND CLERGY

LATIN	POLISH PEASANTS (NOUNS)	ENGLISH
cmetho (cmeto), onis, m.	kmieć	a self-supporting peasant farmer
cmethona, ae, f. cmet(h)onissa, ae, f.	kmiotka kmiotka	female self-supporting peasant/farm wife
semicmetho (semicmeto), onis, m.	półkmieć	semi-self-supporting peasant who had less land than a cmetho
semicmethona, ae, f. semicmet(h)onissa, ae f.	półkmiotka półkmiotka	semi-self-supporting female peasant/farm wife
hortulanus, i, m.	ogrodnik, zagrodnik	peasant who had a cottage and enough land for a garden and perhaps for some farm animals
casarius, ii, m. coterius, ii, m. tugurinus, i,m	chałupnik chałupnik chałupnik	cottager, i.e. a peasant who had his own cottage ditto
rustica, ae, f.	włościanka	female peasant farmer, farmer's wife
rusticus, i, m.	włościanin	peasant farmer
colonista, ae, m.	kolonista (masculine)	colonist, settler, (later: peasant farmer)
inquilinus, i, m.	komornik	landless peasant/border (i.e. someone who lived with and worked for another)
famula, ae, f.	slużąca	female servant
famulus, i, m.	parobek	landless farm worker or a worker on a large estate, farmhand, day laborer
arator, oris, m.	rataj	hortulanus, zagrodnik, ogrodnik who also worked

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on the farm of a large estate

ancilla, ae, f.	służąca	maid, female servant
agricola, ae, m.	rolnik, włościanin, gospodarz	peasant farmer, fairly prosperous farmer
mercenaria,ae, f.	wyrobnica	female day laborer
mercenarius, ii, m.	wyrobnik	male day laborer

ADJECTIVES

honestus	uczciwy	upright/honest (usually a farmer from a village or small town)
laboriosus	pracowity	industrious (a general term for a peasant, worker)
famosus/famatus	slawetny	renowned/famous (generally refers to a middle class craftsman)
circumspectus/providus	opatrzny	prudent, a poor (i.e. not wealthy) craftsman
infidelis/perfidus	niewierny/przewrotny	non-believer (i.e. non- Christian)

VOCABULARY REFERRING TO NOBLES AND CATHOLIC CLERGY

NOBLES

LATIN	POLISH	ENGLISH
illustrissimus ac magnificus	jaśnie wielmożny	The Honorable (a magnate, senator)
magnificus	wielmożny	Your Honor/Esquire (a court official)
generosus	urodzony	“well-born” (an owner of at least one village)

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nobilis	szlachetny	noble (owner or a leaseholder of a parcel of land)
spectabilis	godny	worthy (a wealthy aristocrat, patrician from a large town or city)
honoratus	zaczny	honorable (an aristocrat, patrician)

CLERICAL TITLES

LATIN	POLISH	ENGLISH
reverendissimus (or sometimes as reverendissimus ac eminentissimus)	przewielebny	most reverend (bishop/ordinary of a diocese)
reverendus	wielebny	reverend (an abbot, suffragan, auxiliary bishop, pastor of a parish)
venerabilis	dostojny	distinguished/venerable (the pastor, curate, vicar of a parish)
honorabilis	czcigodny	honorable/venerable (rural parish priest, pastor, assistant pastor)

N.B. The clerical titles admit of exceptions and sometimes were used interchangeably to designate clerics of various ranks. Some Latin terms used to designate priests in a parish are: parochus/vicarius/curatus (a pastor who is a member of the diocesan/secular clergy); commendarius/praepositus (a pastor who is a member of a religious order or the pastor of a large parish which also had assistant priests); cooperator (an assistant priest).

It is important to keep in mind that there can be variations in both spelling and use of the terms listed during various periods of time and in various areas of Poland.

Some of this data is derived from information found in *Poradnik genealoga-amatora (1992)* by Rafał T. Prinke and some is based on vocabulary found in records personally viewed and/or translated by Dave Nowicki.

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