

600th Anniversary of the Birth of Jan Długosz

Jan Długosz of the Wieniawa coat of arms – historian, king's diplomat and Canon of Cracow. Długosz was born into a middle class noble family in 1415 in the village of Brzeźnica situated in the Sieradz area. At the beginning he attended the parish school in Nowe Miasto Kroczyn and in 1428 he enrolled at the Cracow University. After three years he interrupted his studies and never graduated. From 1431 he stayed at the court of the Cracovian bishop, Zbigniew Oleśnicki, gradually becoming his most trusted co-worker. Thanks to the bishop's support, he gained successive church distinctions: he was the parish priest in Kłobuck, the Canon of the Cracow cathedral, the cantor and the custodian of Wiślica and the Canon of Sandomierz. On behalf of the bishop, he was also sent on diplomatic missions; among others, in 1450 he brought the Cardinal's hat for Oleśnicki from the Pope.

After Oleśnicki's death, Jan Długosz supported King Casimir Jagiellon. On behalf of the ruler, he was sent on numerous diplomatic missions, and from 1467 he was the tutor of the King's sons. At the end of his life, in 1479 he was appointed as the Archbishop of Lviv. However, he was not able to take over this position. He died in Cracow on 19 May 1480 and was buried in the cathedral on Wawel Hill. In 1880 the remains of Długosz were moved to the Pantheon in the Pauline Fathers Monastery, Skalka, of which he was the founder.

Jan Długosz was one of the most distinguished Medieval historians. His most important work is the "Annals or Chronicles of the Famous Kingdom of Poland" (Annales, seu cronicae incliti Regni Poloniae) – the history of Poland described in twelve extensive books, from the legendary beginnings until 1480. He was also the author of several catalogues of Polish bishops, the description of Teutonic Knights' coats of arms (Banderia Prutenorum), the first Polish book of coats of arms (Insignia seu clenodia Regni Poloniae), the lives of St. Stanislaus and St. Kinga, the historical treaty on incorporation of Mazovia to the Crown (Articuli de incorporatione Masoviae), as well as the register of properties of the Cracow Diocese (Liber beneficiorum dioecesis Cracoviensis).

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On 24 August 2015, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a collector note "600th Anniversary of the Birth of Jan Długosz", with the face value of 20 zł.

Face value: 20 zł

Dimensions: 138 mm x 69 mm

Volume: up to 30,000 pcs.

Note designer: Andrzej Heidrich

The image of the Wawel Royal Cathedral was modelled on a photograph from the collection of Stanisław Markowski.

Issuer: NBP

The banknotes, commissioned by NBP, were manufactured by the Polish Security Printing Works (PWPW S.A).

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All coins and banknotes issued by NBP are legal tender in Poland.

Technology partner



NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Collector banknote

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www.dlugosz.nbp.pl

Collector banknote

laser engraved numbering

see-through register

intaglio microprinting

intaglio printing

embossed element for the visually impaired

2D DataMartix barcode

text visible under UV light

"A knowledge of the past and the events at home and abroad is a virtue, held up by the wise as the parent and the teacher of life" - based on the translation into Polish by Wanda Semkowicz-Zarembina

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intaglio printing

NBP logo visible under UV light

see-through register

watermark

OVI element

intaglio microprinting

security thread

laser engraved element

Narodowy Bank Polski also holds and manages the foreign exchange reserves of the State. Finally, it functions as a banker to banks, creating conditions for the operation of the Polish banking system. Narodowy Bank Polski is one of the most important research and analytical centres in the fields of economics and financial markets. For more information on NBP visit: www.nbp.pl

Narodowy Bank Polski

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