

= House of Mindaugas =

The House of Mindaugas was the first royal family of Grand Duchy of Lithuania , centered on Mindaugas , the first known and undoubted sovereign of Lithuania . He was crowned as King of Lithuania in 1253 and assassinated ten years later . His known family relations end with children ; there is no data on his great @-@ grandchildren or any relations with the Gediminids , a dynasty of sovereigns of Lithuania and Poland that started with Butigeidis ca . 1285 and ended with Sigismund II Augustus in 1572 .

Historians have to make considerable assumptions trying to reconstruct the full family tree because of extremely scarce written sources about the early history of Lithuania . The matter is further complicated by the 16 ? 17th century genealogies , most famously the Bychowiec Chronicle , that mixed legends and facts into one . The legends about Palemonids , a noble family from the Roman Empire who settled in Lithuania and gave rise to the Duchy , are quite popular and widespread in these genealogies . The real historical data comes from the Russian and Livonian chronicles , most important of these being the Hypatian Codex .

= = Family tree = =

Mindaugas and his brother Dausprungas are first mentioned among the 5 elder dukes in a 1219 treaty with Galicia ? Volhynia . Since at that time both brothers had to be relatively young , it implies that they inherited their high status . However , no written sources of the period talk about their father , except the Livonian Rhymed Chronicle , which mentions in passing that he was a powerful Grand Duke (ein kunic grôß) . Chronicles written in the 16 ? 17th centuries gave him the name of Ryngold (Lithuanian : Rimgaudas) and made him part of the Palemonids ' legends . Historian Edvardas Gudavičius argued that because the 1219 treaty mentioned two pairs of young brothers among the 5 elder dukes (Mindaugas and Dausprungas , Daujotas and Vilikaila) , it was very likely that they were sons of powerful Lithuanian dukes Daugirutis and Stekšys , killed in 1213 and 1214 .

Dausprungas is not mentioned anywhere else . However , it is known that Mindaugas had two nephews , Tautvilas and Gedvydas , who waged a war against their uncle . Since historians do not have any data on other brothers of Mindaugas , it is generally assumed that the two were sons of Dausprungas . During the civil war of 1249 ? 1252 Tautvilas and Gedvydas asked Daniel of Galicia , their brother @-@ in @-@ law , for help . This bit of information indicates that they also had a sister . The sister was the second wife of Daniel and they did not have children . Dausprungas ' wife must have been Duke of Samogitia Vykintas ' sister since Vykintas was an uncle of Tautvilas and Gedvydas . It is believed that Gedvydas died in 1253 in a campaign against Bohemia , as it is the last message about him . Tautvilas was killed by his cousin Treniota in 1263 . Some historians suggest that Tautvilas had a son , Constantine , who ruled Vitebsk , however others disagree and claim that his son might have been August , who was sent by Novgorod to Pskov in 1271 .

It is assumed that Mindaugas had three wives even though nothing is known about the first one . The assumption is made because Mindaugas had two older children , Vaišvilas and a daughter of unknown name , who already led independent lives while the children Mindaugas had with Morta were young and still dependent on their father . Vaišvilas became such a devoted Orthodox that he voluntarily gave up the title of Grand Duke of Lithuania in favor of his brother @-@ in @-@ law Shvarn and died heirless . The only known daughter of Mindaugas , by marriage with Shvarn in 1255 , became the Queen of Galicia (1255 ? 1264) and Princess of Chełm (1264) . According to one source , after Shvarn 's death his brother Lev of Galicia married the childless widow Ramona to his ally count Hujd . Their children were the originators of the Sas noble family of western Ukraine and Poland .

In the commentary of the 1219 treaty with Galicia ? Volhynia it is noted that Mindaugas took the wife of Vismantas from the Bulionis family for himself . It is assumed that Vismantas ' wife and Morta are the same woman . It is known that Vismantas died in 1252 in a battle against Mindaugas ; however the date of Mindaugas and Morta 's wedding is unknown . There is no consensus on how many children Morta had . The chronicles mention two sons , Replys and Gerstukas , in 1261 . In

1263 two sons , Ruklys and Rupeikis , were assassinated together with Mindaugas . This is the only information available and historians disagree on whether these are the same two sons , whose name got distorted by scribes , or they are four sons . There is no data on any rivals to the crown after the assassination , except for Vaišvilkas and Tautvilas ; it would indicate that , whether there were two or four sons , they had perished in their youth .

After Morta 's death in 1262 , Mindaugas took her sister (name unknown) as his wife despite her being married to Daumantas . This cruel act motivated Daumantas to become an ally of Treniota and assassinate Mindaugas with two of his sons . Treniota was Mindaugas ' nephew . It is believed that he was son of Duke of Samogitia , either Vykintas or Erdvilas . If it really was Vykintas , then there was a double marriage : Vykintas ' sister married Dausprungas and Dausprungas ' (and Mindaugas ') sister married Vykintas . Erdvilas is mentioned only once in the 1219 treaty . The other nephew , Lengvenis , played a role in Lithuanian state in 1242 ? 1260 .

= = Graphic representation = =

Please note the assumptions outlined above