

## The development of genealogy in Europe, based on the examples of Poland, Italy, Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina

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### Abstract

Amateur genealogy is becoming more and more popular in many countries. Thanks to the development of information and communication technologies, national genealogy has also acquired an international dimension, and websites presenting genealogical data contribute to an exchange of experiences between people from different countries. In this article, the authors traced the development of genealogy in four different countries: Italy, Poland, Turkey, as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing primarily on sources of information regarding origin, methods of presentation, genealogy organizations, information exchange portals, and support in genealogical searches. As a result of the analysis, it can be concluded that these four countries - despite numerous differences - developed genealogical activities in a similar way.

**Keywords:** genealogy, origin, root, international exchange of experience and knowledge.

### Introduction

Currently, there is a growing interest in amateur genealogy. Access to archives, the publication of key records on the Internet, as well as the possibility of using genetic tests to search for relatives around the world all facilitate genealogical research. Searching for our roots is one of the elements which contributes to the human identity. The need for family affiliation seems to intensify in our contemporary fragmented society. Additionally, it provides an opportunity for intergenerational dialogue, mutual learning and value transfer.

In the past, the special role of the elder generation was clearly visible. The seniors of families, rich in experience and knowledge, passed on family stories to the younger generations, gave advice and guidance, and helped solve problems. Nowadays, the development of media, new technologies and the information society has brought consequences in the form of the social exclusion of elderly people. However, observing the activities of genealogists one can notice the intergenerational phenomenon of transfer of knowledge and skills. Seniors, as experts in the history of the family, referring to their memory, provide information to younger generations. In turn, the younger generation - fluent in handling new technologies - facilitates, and sometimes even allows, seniors to search online databases.

This analysis compares the development of amateur genealogy in four countries with different cultures, religions and social structures. Italians, as heirs of the ancient Romans, have their statehood for many centuries before our era. In that country, the multigenerational family model still prevails, especially in the southern part. It is one of the most highly developed countries, and according to data from 2017, Italy is the eighth largest economy in the world and the fourth in Europe. Similarly, Turkey appears as a centuries-old state which derives its history from the Turkish tribes which originally inhabited the Asian interior. At present, the state is the 17th largest economy in the world, and its territory is only partially located in Europe. Poland dates its history from the year 966, when the Slav tribes led by Mieszko the First adopted Christianity. However, as a result of the partitions made by Russia, Prussia and Austria, the state disappeared from the world map for 123 years. After the Second World War, it was under the influence of the Soviet Union and it was only the political transformation in 1989 that enabled it to free itself from them. Currently, Poland is in the 23rd position in global economies. In turn, Bosnia and Herzegovina has existed in various state-legal forms for about one thousand years (the first written mention of Bosnia is in the 10th century. Bosnia is the historical name of the south-slavic and Balkan country which is now

called Bosnia and Herzegovina). During the pre-Christian era, this area had been a part of great Rome Empire under name Illyria, whose inhabitants were called Illyrians. This area was settled by Slavs in the 7th century, as part of the great migrations of peoples. In the Middle Ages, Bosnia had been an independent state with its own rulers and an independent church. In 1463, Bosnia was occupied by the Ottomans, and remained part of the Ottoman Empire for the next four centuries. In 1878 Bosnia became as a part of Austro-Hungarian Empire, and later a part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenians (1918-1929), and the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (1929-1941). After WWII Bosnia and Herzegovina was a republic within Federal Socialist Yugoslavia, and in 1992, Bosnia and Herzegovina regained its independence and statehood. During the aggression of the late war (1992-1995), Bosnia suffered great devastation in many social areas. Currently it is a country of low economic development. A comparison of basic information about these four countries and their social structure is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1**

**Comparison of Italy, Poland, Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina**

|                                   | Italy  | Poland  | Bosnia and Herzegovina  | Turkey   |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Area (place in ranking)           | 301,340 (71)   | 312,685 (69)  | 51,197 (125)  | 783,562 (36)   |
| Population in 2017                | 62,137,802 (23)  | 38,476,269 (36)   | 3,856,181 (128)   | 80,845,215 (18)  |
| Age structure                     | 0-14 years: 13.6% (male 4,326,862 - female 4,136,562)<br>15-24 years: 9.61% (male 2,994,651 - female 2,984,172)<br>25-54 years: 41.82% (male 12,845,442 - female 13,183,240)<br>55-64 years: 13.29% (male 4,012,640 - female 4,261,956)<br>65 years and over: 21.69% (male 5,817,819 - female 7,683,330) (2018 est.) | 0-14 years: 14.8% (male 2,924,077 - female 2,762,634)<br>15-24 years: 10.34% (male 2,040,043 - female 1,932,009)<br>25-54 years: 43.44% (male 8,431,045 - female 8,260,124)<br>55-64 years: 13.95% (male 2,538,566 - female 2,819,544)<br>65 years and over: 17.47% (male 2,663,364 - female 4,049,281) | 0-14 years: 13.24% (male 263,338 - female 246,220)<br>15-24 years: 11.26% (male 223,824 - female 209,829)<br>25-54 years: 45.51% (male 881,331 - female 870,601)<br>55-64 years: 14.95% (male 278,460 - female 297,231)<br>65 years and over: 15.04% (male 229,282 /female 349,775) (2018 est.) | 0-14 years: 24.26% (male 10,085,558 - female 9,627,967)<br>15-24 years: 15.88% (male 6,589,039 - female 6,311,113)<br>25-54 years: 43.26% (male 17,798,864 - female 17,349,228)<br>55-64 years: 8.82% (male 3,557,329 - female 3,606,120)<br>65 years and over: 7.79% (male 2,825,738 /female 3,506,283) (2018 est.) |
| Ethnic structure                  | Italian (includes small clusters of German-, French-, and Slovene-Italians in the north and Albanian-Italians and Greek-Italians in the south)   | Polish 96.9%, Silesian 1.1%, German 0.2%, Ukrainian 0.1%, other and unspecified 1.7% (2011 est.)  | Bosniak 50.1%, Serb 30.8%, Croat 15.4%, other 2.7%, not declared/no answer 1% (2013 est.)   | Turkish 70-75%, Kurdish 19%, other minorities 7-12% (2016 est.)  |
| Migration rate (place in ranking) | 3.70 (31) 2017 est.  | -0.40 (121) 2017 est.   | -0.40 (118) 2017 est.   | -4.50 (185) 2017 est.  |
| Population abroad                 | Over 5 000 000   | Estimated: 20 000 000   | 2 000 000   | 1,592,437  |
| Religions                         | Christian 80% (overwhelmingly Roman Catholic with very small groups of Jehovah's Witnesses)  | Catholic 87.2%, Orthodox 1.3%, Protestant 0.4%, other 0.4% (includes Jehovah's Witness,   | Muslim 50.7%, Orthodox 30.7%, Roman Catholic 15.2%, atheist 0.8%, agnostic 0.3%, other 1.2%, undeclared/no answer 1.1%  | Muslim 99.8% (mostly Sunni), other 0.2% (mostly Christians and Jews)   |

|  |   |   |              |                |
|--|---|---|--------------|----------------|
|  | and Protestants), Muslim (about 800,000 to 1 million), atheist and agnostic 20% | Buddhist, Hare Krishna, Gaudiya Vaishnavism, Muslim, Jewish, Mormon), unspecified 10.8% (2012 est.) | (2013 est.)  |                |
| Gross domestic product 2017 in millions of US dollars (place in ranking) | 1,934,798 (8)   | 524,510 (23)  | 18,169 (113) | 1,015,539 (17) |

Source: own research based on: *The World Factbook*, n.d.; *The World Population Review*, 2018; GUS, 2017; Kovacicic, 2017; De Bel-Air, 2016; *Gross Domestic Products*, 2017.

Despite such huge differences in the countries, there is a lot of convergence concerning the activity of amateur genealogists. Below is a presentation of the development of genealogy in each country.

### Genealogy in Poland

Three stages can be clearly outlined in the history of genealogy in Poland. During the First Republic of Poland it was a practical genealogy, focused on providing proof of the nobility of families which had a bearing on their social and legal status, wealth, and position. It was only with the March Constitution of 1921 that genealogical appanages were deemed void and the division into social classes was abolished and all Poles were considered equal in status.

The second stage of the development of was initiated after World War II. Enthusiasts call this stage the shameful genealogy, because in the communist system descent from nobility was unwelcome, if not dangerous. The authorities of the People's Republic of Poland would persecute attempts to discover genealogical identity, assuming that it was only those with noble origins who would seek out their ancestors, which was frowned upon by the officials, as the government regarded the families of workers and farmers as far more 'noble'.

After the political transformation of the 1980s, when the borders were opened and it was declared that numerous secret documents were to be made public, the third stage of the development of genealogy began. This was amateur genealogy, conducted by enthusiasts. Since that time all Poles have had the right to inquire about their ancestry and family history. Although genealogists would originally focus on their own lineage, they would soon form associations and cooperate in a number of projects aimed at facilitating access to all types of data, from noting down information contained in parish registers to the digitalization of official documents. These amateur enthusiasts began with oral accounts of family members and simple genealogical trees, would, and later developed great, scientifically documented works on the histories of families, communities, and regions, leading to the formation of professional and social genealogy.

### Genealogical associations in Poland

First, the Genealogical and Heraldic Association in Poznan [Towarzystwo Genealogiczno-Heraldyczne] was established by Rafał Prinke in Poznań in 1987.

Next, the Silesian Genealogical Association was created in 1992. The members of this association focus on the genealogy of the families of townsmen, peasants, farmers, and workers, and they cooperate with and participate in research projects, including consultation during the Learning Tree Project, as well as other didactic and scientific endeavors as a result of cooperation with researchers at the University of Wrocław and representatives of the local administration and regional institutions.

Currently the Polish Genealogical Association [PTG - Polskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.genealodzy.pl](http://www.genealodzy.pl)) is active in Poland. It encompasses the entirety of the country and coordinates the works of Polish genealogists. It works mostly through the Internet. Additionally, there are 22 active regional genealogical associations: see Fig. 1.

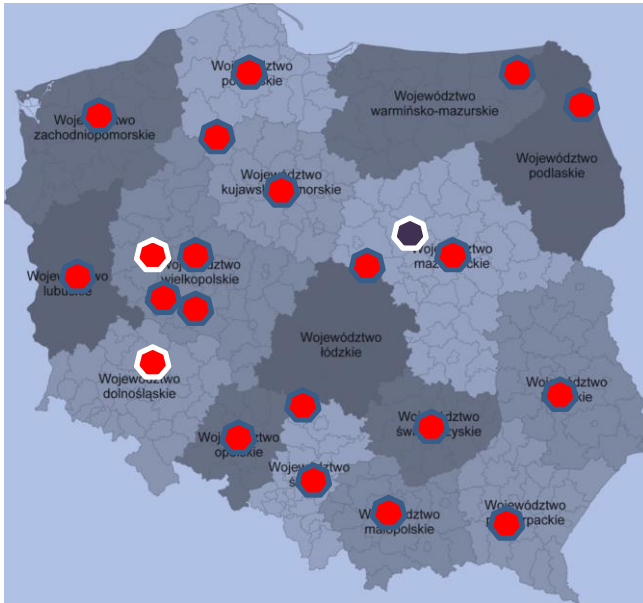


Fig. 1. The genealogical associations in Poland: The Bydgoskie Genealogical and Heraldic Association [Bydgoskie Towarzystwo Heraldyczno-Genealogiczne]; The Galician Genealogical Association in Przemyśl [Galicyjskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne – Przemyśl] 1998 ([www.slucki.republika.pl/gtg.htm](http://www.slucki.republika.pl/gtg.htm)); The Uppersilesian Genealogical Association "Silus Radicum" [Górnśląskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne „Silus Radicum”] (<http://siliusradicum.pl/>); The Kujawsko-Pomorskie Genealogical Association [Kujawsko-Pomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.kptg.pl/](http://www.kptg.pl/)); The Kaliskie Genealogical Association "KALISIA" [Kaliskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne „KALISIA”, Kalisz 2010] (<http://genealogia.kalisz.pl/>); The Lubelskie Genealogical Association [Lubelskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.ltg.pl/](http://www.ltg.pl/)); The Lubuskie Genealogical Association [Lubuskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.ltg.zg.pl/](http://www.ltg.zg.pl/)); The Malopolskie Genealogical Association [Małopolskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.mtg-malopolska.org.pl/](http://www.mtg-malopolska.org.pl/)); The Opolskie Genealogical Association "Genealogists from Opole" [Opolskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne "Opolscy Genealodzy"] ([www.genealodzy.opole.pl/](http://www.genealodzy.opole.pl/)); The Ostrovia Genealogical Association [Ostrowskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.otg.net.pl/](http://www.otg.net.pl/)); The Pomeranian Genealogical Association [Pomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.ptg.gda.pl/](http://www.ptg.gda.pl/)); The Suwalskie Genealogical Association [Suwalskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] ([www.mem.net.pl/stg/](http://www.mem.net.pl/stg/)); The Silesian Genealogical Association [Śląskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] 1992 ([genealodzy.wroclaw.pl/](http://genealodzy.wroclaw.pl/)); The Świętokrzyskie Genealogical Association "Świętogen" [Świętokrzyskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne „Świętogen”] ([www.genealodzy-kielce.pl/cms/index.php](http://www.genealodzy-kielce.pl/cms/index.php)); The Central-Poland Genealogical Association [Towarzystwo Genealogiczne Centralnej Polski] ([www.tgcp.pl/](http://www.tgcp.pl/)); The Częstochowa-land Genealogical Association [Towarzystwo Genealogiczne Ziemi Częstochowskiej] ([www.genealodzy.czystochowa.pl/](http://www.genealodzy.czystochowa.pl/)); The Sokółka-land Genealogical Association [Towarzystwo Genealogiczne Ziemi Sokólskiej]; The Genealogical and Heraldic Association in Poznań [Towarzystwo Genealogiczno-Heraldyczne w Poznaniu] 1987 ([www.gen-her.pl/](http://www.gen-her.pl/)); The Warsaw Genealogical Association [Warszawskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] 1993 ([wtg.org.pl/](http://wtg.org.pl/)); The Wielkopolskie Genealogical Association "The Nest" [Wielkopolskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne „Gniazdo”] ([www.wtg-gniazdo.org/](http://www.wtg-gniazdo.org/)); The Westpomeranian Genealogical Association - Szczecin [Zachodniopomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne Pomierania - Szczecin] (<https://ztpomerania.pl/>); The Zagłębiowski Genealogical Association [Zagłębiowskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] (<http://genealodzy.sosnowiec.pl/>).

Source: own research.

All of the associations mentioned above are officially registered as Non Governmental Organization (NGO) in Poland. There are also a number of other private organizations, associations, and clubs.

### Milestones in Polish genealogy

1989. The political transformation in Poland. The possibility of starting NGO activities and setting up new associations appears. Additionally, the new government agreed to free access to official archive information, which made genealogical research much easier.

1997. The Internet appeared as a great tool for research, and genealogists quickly started to use it.

1999 - Jacek Kubis presented his genealogical activity on the portal GeoCities and set up his first genealogical website [http://www.oocities.org/yaki\\_/ancest.html](http://www.oocities.org/yaki_/ancest.html) (It is still functioning!);

2001 - The first discuss group [pl.soc.genealogia](http://pl.soc.genealogia) on the forum [free.pl.hydepark](http://free.pl.hydepark);

2002 (February 24) - Jacek Kubis created POLGEN - The first official Discussion List for Polish genealogical researchers on the portal Yahoo.

2003 - Tomasz Nitsch created GenPol - the website The Polish Genealogy [Genealogia Polska]. Polish genealogists celebrate March 3rd as the anniversary of the creation this website. They have also awarded the prize 'Genealogists of the Year' since 2007.

2005. Małgorzata Nowaczyk published the book "Searching for ancestors - Genealogy for everyone" ["Poszukiwanie przodków - genealogia dla każdego"].

2006. (1) The Polish Genealogical Association [Polskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne] was set up. (2) The website [genealodzy.pl](http://genealodzy.pl) was set up. (3) The project Geneteka (created by Jacek Młochowski) started.

2008. Integration of Polish regional genealogical associations and cooperation with the Supreme Directorate of State Archives.

### Genealogical activities in Poland

**Projects.** Genealogists and some Associations conduct interesting, generally available, non-commercial genealogy projects. Most of them involve scanning or photographing birth certificates, as well as indexing and entering them in various databases. There are also projects related to other documents invaluable to researchers in the history of their families, such as population records, parish registers, etc. Important examples are:

(1) The Poznan Project (<http://poznan-project.psn.pl/>) - indexing nineteenth-century marriages in the historical Wielkopolska region. The project has been in operation since 2000 and its aim has been to index marriage certificates from the Wielkopolska region and Kujawy region for the period 1800-1899. At the end of March 2017 there was 1,634,981 records. The coordinator of the project is Łukasz Bielecki.

(2) BaSIA (<http://www.basia.famula.pl/>) - [Baza Systemu Indeksacji Archiwalnej] The Database of the Archival Indexing System. The project has been conducted by the Wielkopolskie Genealogical Association "Nest" [Wielkopolskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne „Gniazdo"]. The creator of the project is Piotr Skąlecki. There are 3,896,981 records from the Wielkopolska region.

(3) Geneteka (<http://geneteka.genealodzy.pl/>) - The database of the Polish Genealogical Association, created by Jacek Młochowski in 2006. There are currently 23,258,719 records from the whole of Poland. This database consists mainly of parish registers from church archives, but some material from other archives is also included.

(4) Metryki (<http://metryki.genealodzy.pl/>) [Birth Certificates] - this project is connected with previous one, also conducted by the Polish Genealogical Association, but in cooperation with the Supreme Directorate of State Archives. The records which are entered in the database must have the appropriate photographs attached, which were available in the State Archive. There are 5,305,629 photos available in the database.

(5) Lubgens ([http://registry.lubgens.eu/viewpage.php?page\\_id=766](http://registry.lubgens.eu/viewpage.php?page_id=766)) - this is a database of the of births, deaths and marriages from the Lubelszczyzna region. There are 6,370,255 records from 705 parishes in the Lubelszczyzna region (including 3,139,830 births, 884,962 marriages and 2,345,463 deaths).

(6) PomGenBaza (<http://www.ptg.gda.pl/index.php/ptgnews/action/basesearch/>) - The database of the births, deaths

and

marriages information from the Pomeranian region. The project is conducted by the Pomeraniam Genealogical Association [Pomorskie Towarzystwo Genealogiczne]. There are five subdatabases: the Index of Baptisms (2,447,709 records), the Index of Marriages (596,307 records), the Index of Deaths (1,498,159 records), the Index of Cemeteries (44,774 records) and the Index of Monuments (7,088 records).

(7) Ziemia Dobrzyńska (<http://www.szpejankowski.eu/index.php/metryki-wykazy-osob/102.html>) [The Dobrzyńska Land] - a database created by the descendents of the Marcin Szpejankowski (who was born in 1773 in the Strzygi parish). There are 645,416 records in this database.

(8) The Polish Declarations of Admiration and Friendship for the United States project. Thanks to cooperation between the Polish Library in Washington and the Library of Congress, 111 volumes were created in 1926 in Poland and sent to the White House in the United States to celebrate the 150 anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The volumes, which include over 30,000 pages, was digitalized and published on the Library of Congress website (<https://www.loc.gov/collections/polish-declarations/about-this-collection/>). The aim of the project was to index the names of Poles, who had signed this Declaration. The results are available on <https://deklaracja.genealodzy.pl/>. The project coordinator is Wiktor Trybulski.

(9) "Let's save the parish registers together project" [Uratujmy wspólnie księgi parafialne]. The aim of the project is to save the parish registers which are for sale on various auction sites and antique book shops. Genealogists buy these books, scan them and return to the appropriate archives.

**Conferences.** Conferences are different but also an important type of activity for Polish Genealogists.

2006. The first conference took place in the 2006 (June 27) in Wrocław, and was connected with the final of the first action of the "Let's save the parish registers together" project.

2008. The conference - called 5th Castle Meeting of the Genealogists from Poland and Abroad - took place in 2008 (June 12-14) in Racibórz.

2013. The Polish Nationwide Genealogical Conference took place in April 5, 2013 at the State Archives in Wrocław. It was organized by the Silesian Genealogical Association.

2014. The First Polish Nationwide Genealogical Conference took place in October 11-12, 2014 in Brzeg. The main aim of the conference was the exchange of information about the achievements and plans of organizations, institutions, and companies which are used by passionate amateur genealogists and researchers. The representatives, members or volunteers of the genealogical and noble, regional and national associations, state and church archives, libraries (traditional and digital), software producers and databases, publishers, internet portals, companies, etc. were all invited. This conference has become a cyclical event, and is organized every year in autumn in Brzeg.

**Books.** Writing about genealogy is not yet popular in Poland. There are a lot of scientific publications, but they are connected with the history of the Polish nobility. Below is a short list of books about genealogy in a wider context:

- (1) Włodzimierz Dworzaczek (1959), *Genealogia* [Genealogy]. Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN: Warszawa.
- (2) Rafał T. Prinke (1992), *Poradnik genealoga amatora* [The amateur genealogist's guidebook]. Zysk i S-ka: Warszawa.
- (3) Małgorzata Nowaczyk (2005), *Poszukiwanie przodków: Genealogia dla każdego* [Searching for ancestors: Genealogy for everyone]. Państwowy Instytut Wydawniczy: Warszawa.
- (4) Małgorzata Nowaczyk (2007), *Rodzinne drzewo zdrowia: genetyka dla każdego* [Family tree of health: Genetics for everyone]. Państwowy Instytut Wydawniczy: Warszawa.
- (5) Elżbieta Dębicka (2012). *Genealogia psychiczna* [Psychological genealogy]. Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego: Wrocław.
- (6) Grażyna Rychlik (2015). *Praktykowanie genealogii. Pieniążkowie z Jedlińska XVIII-XIX w.* [Practicing

genealogy. Pieniążkowie from Jedlińska 18th-19th centuries]. GGSP Grażyna Rychlik.

(7) Jan Rzymelka (2016), Sztambuch rodzinny, czyli w poszukiwaniu własnych korzeni [The Sztambuch Family: in search of one's own roots]. Wydawnictwo Sonia Draga: Katowice.

### Journals & series.

Geneologia. Studia i materiały historyczne [Genealogy: Studies and historical materials]. Marek Górny (Ed.). 18 volumes published 1991-2006. Wydawnictwo historyczne: Poznań.

Zeszyty Śląskiego Towarzystwa Genealogicznego [The Silesian Genealogical Association Studies]. Grzegorz Mendyka (Ed.). The Silesian Genealogical Association: Wrocław.

More Maiorum. Alan Jakman (Ed.). An e-journal which has been published since 2013, available on the website: <http://www.moremaiorum.pl/>.

There is also a lot of information about genealogy on the internet in blogs, vlogs, social media, and internet forums, but this is such a wide subject that it should be discuss separately.

### The development of genealogy in Turkey

Today, there are six independent Turkish countries: Turkey, Azerbaijani, Kazakistan, Kirghizistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan). Besides these, there are another 15 autonomous republics: Sincan, Altay, Balkar, Başkurtistan, Çuvaşistan, Dağistan, Gagavuzya, Kırım, Hakasya, Karaçay, Karakalpakistan, Tataristan, Tuva, Yakutistan).

When we combine the geographical borders of these countries we have a very large map which covers one third of Asia. And if we calculate the population of these countries and republics, we have the second most crowded population in the world. Then ,the outlines of genetical and biological structure of these communities give out;

The science of genealogy, emerging during the 1950's and constantly becoming more important and effective ,is now at a level that can explain the connection of people with their ancestors who lived 70 thousand years ago. So we can now follow how communities had a special relationship by uniting and with which communities they had united (Yüce, Hem Aso, 2018). For example:

**Table 2**

**Stands for the genetical mutation of people with Turkish roots.**

|              | R    | C    | N   | O   | P   | Q   | I   | E   | F    | J    | G    | DE  | K    | L    |
|--------------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Türkiye      | 24   | 1,3  | 2,8 | <1  | 1,3 | 1,4 | 8,3 | 8,7 | 3    | 28,7 | 9,4  | 2,4 | 2,8  | 3,1  |
| Azerbaycan   | 21,9 | <1   | <1  | <1  | <1  | <1  | 3,7 | 1,2 | 11,6 | 31,7 | 14,1 | 4,3 | 10,9 | <1   |
| Türkmenistan | 44,9 | 3,1  | 0,4 | <1  | 8,7 | <1  | 1,6 | 0,7 | 11,6 | 15,8 | 0,2  | <1  | 0,9  | 10,9 |
| Kazakistan   | 27,1 | 35,6 | 9,3 | 6,9 | 3,7 | <1  | 7,7 | 1,6 | 2    | 2,6  | 0,7  | <1  | 0,8  | 0,3  |
| Kırgızistan  | 51,2 | 16,2 | 4,3 | 6,5 | 3   | <1  | 3,8 | 1,2 | 3,7  | 5    | <1   | <1  | 2,2  | 1,5  |
| Özbekistan   | 35,9 | 14,1 | 1,9 | 5,4 | 4,1 | <1  | 2,5 | 2,9 | 7,7  | 13,6 | <1   | <1  | 5,1  | 3,2  |

|                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>İÇ ASYALI</b>    | R, C, I, N, P, Q Toplamı 39,1 |
| <b>GÜNEY ASYALI</b> | K ve L toplamı 5,9            |
| <b>SEMİTİK</b>      | J, E, F 40,4                  |
| <b>FARSI</b>        | DE ve G 11,8                  |

Kaynak; FamilyTreeDNA

Note: R, C, I, N, P and Q= stands for the genetical mutation of people lived in the middle Asia, real ancestors of Turks, K ve L = Sothern Asia, India Pakistan, J,E,F= Arabian peninsula; araps, Armanian and Jewish people, DE,G=Farsi and Persian races.

Source: Family Tree DNA, n.d..

The above chart provides much information on Turkish ethnicity and communities. In the authoritative FamilyTree DNA project in 2014, approximately 700,000 people were researched and linked to their ancestors of 70,000 years ago. Thus main ethnicities of people were outlined according to country.

As can be seen, almost 40% of Turks in Turkey originated from middle Asia, 40% from the middle East, 12% Fars, and 6% Southern Asia.

Of course all these numbers can not be enough or so reliable as to define the genealogical map of a race clearly, as it has been conducted on a research sample of only one thousand people. However, it is a scientific investigation and can be accepted appr. True (Yüce, Hem Aso, 2018).

In short, division of main Turkish races (190 m).

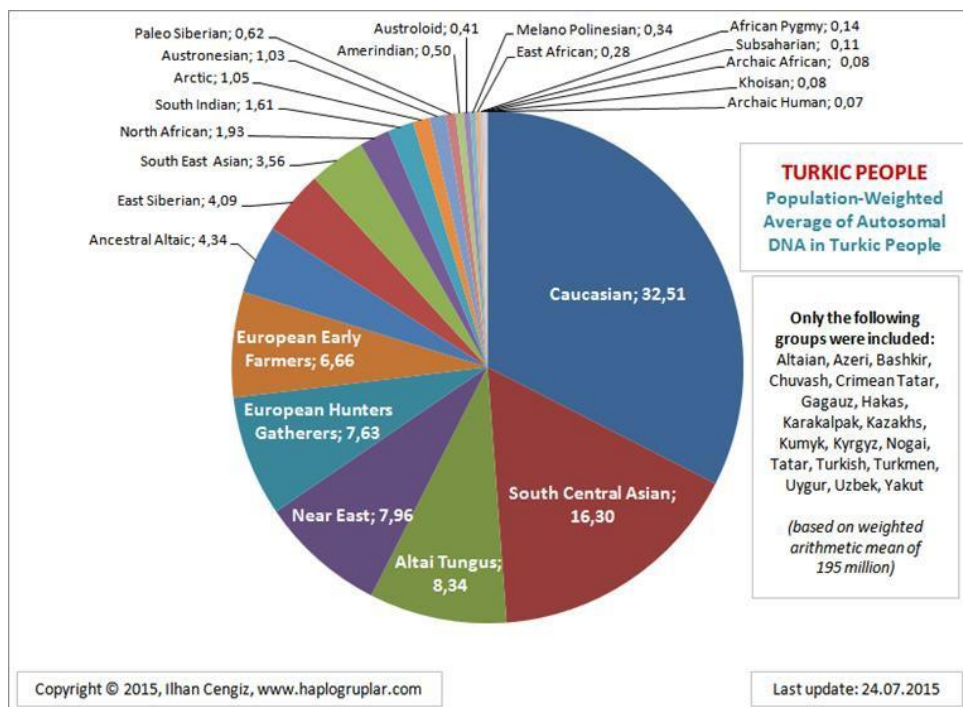


Fig. 2. Population of Turkish people, based on autosomal DNA.

Source: Cengiz, 2015.

### Genealogical associations and research in Turkey.

Unfortunately, there are not enough institutions in Turkey to carry out very reliable genealogical research. Only websites and some historians provide some options, but they are not very popular or fully used. Since the 1950s, a governmental organization TUIK has attempted to determine data relating to origin, but because of some political and safety problems in the country these researches are not widely spread or shared with the community.

**Miles stones in the development of genealogy in Turkey.** A new ministry was founded in Turkey in 2010. - the ministry of Turks Living Abroad (<https://www.ytb.gov.tr/>). This institution supports all types of activity that will be carried out in order to trace relatives living abroad. They support the projects of NGOs (Yüce, Hem Aso, 2018).

### The development of genealogy in Italy



Italian heraldry, nobility and genealogy - all three fields depend upon genealogical research. In common parlance, heraldry (Italian *araldica*) refers to the study of coats of arms. Historically, the term referred to the functions of heralds, royal court officers responsible for maintaining records of coats of arms and titles of nobility. Although such officers are still attached to royal households in the United Kingdom and Spain, the Italian monarchy was abolished in 1946. Titles of nobility and coats of arms are not recognized by the government of the Italian Republic, but neither is their use illegal. A few private organizations in Italy recognize nobiliary titles, the "Corpo della Nobiltà Italiana" and the "Sovereign Military Order of Malta" being the best known today (such recognition requires extensive genealogical proof of patrilineal nobility.)

In the middle of the twelfth century, during the Norman rule of much of Italy, coats of arms developed as distinctive insignia painted on the shields of knights and other nobleman. In combat, friend and foe could identify the fully armored knight, whose face was concealed by a helmet, according to the colourful design on his decorated shield. The same design appeared on his surcoat - hence the term "coat of arms." With time, the right to use certain (blazons), as well as feudal titles (i.e. count, baron, etc.), passed from father to son. Since these insignia and titles are incorporeal property of particular families, it is obvious that unrelated families which by mere coincidence share their surnames (whether Ferrar, Rosso, Smith or Jones) cannot claim these coats of arms or titles of nobility as their own. To do so would be like Mr. Johnson of Wales claiming the estate of the late Mr. Johnson of New York simply because he happens to have the same surname.

The hereditary nature of coats of arms and titles of nobility is readily apparent if their historical development is considered. So closely linked is heraldry to genealogy that the Italian word for coat of arms, *stemma* is the Latin for family tree. In most countries, including Italy, a coat of arms is an indication of nobility (i.e. hereditary aristocracy). Genealogical research is the only means of demonstrating this.

Unfortunately, there exist in Italy and elsewhere various firms, some of which conduct genealogical research, that have deceived thousands of clients into believing themselves to be in genuine possession of coats of arms or even titles of nobility. To bolster the credibility of such fraud, these agencies cite historical sources and sometimes attach familial lineages to their wares. Replete with ornate seals, these seemingly "official" documents provide the customer with little more than an expensive fantasy. The majority of Italians who believe themselves entitled to coats of arms are victims of such fraud. In many cases, they are the children or grandchildren of the deceived, since some vendors of fraudulent heraldry have been in business for generations!

Some family historians appropriate for themselves (or their ancestors) coats of arms or aristocratic lineages drawn from references discovered in public libraries. The researcher probably shares no more than a surname with the famous family whose history he has claimed. Thousands of ordinary families coincidentally bear such famous surnames as Medici, Este, Grimaldi, Visconti, and Savoia, having no kinship whatsoever to the ancient dynasties which also bear these names.

Onomatology, the study of proper name origins, must be approached with caution. Any native speaker of Italian knows that Ferraro derives from the word for blacksmith, and that Rosso meant redhead; the origins of toponymic names (Veneziano, Calabrese, Milano) seem equally obvious. However, the origin of a less frequent surname may depend greatly upon the dialect of the region in which the family originated. In other words, the same surname might have a particular derivation in Sicily, but another root in Piedmont. Unless the researcher knows the regional origin of the family, he might attribute the Piedmontese etymology to the Sicilian surname, or vice versa. Because Piedmontese is as distinct from Sicilian as Romanian is from French, onomastologies can vary considerably. While onomastic research is more likely to be accurate when the family's region of origin is known, most firms conduct such research without this knowledge. Furthermore, onomastologies attributed to certain surnames by some authors are flawed.

Onomastic conclusions are often flawed where patronymic surnames are concerned. The surname Di Cesare for example, derives from the ancient Latin root Caesar, but this etymology has little to do with the familial use of this name in Italy today. In actuality, the Italian families who bear this surname descend from medieval ancestors who bore Cesare as a given name, having no descent from the Julian emperors of ancient Rome. By way of analogy, not every Frenchman named Louis descends from the Bourbon kings of France.

The accuracy of heraldic, nobiliary and onomastic knowledge depends upon genealogy; and objective interpretation of these topics can spell the difference between real family history and fanciful family folklore.

Mistakes in genealogy are also common among men of culture and the common belief of its exclusive link with nobility is pure invention. The fact is that there is huge disinformation on this topic, a lack of expertise and specialists such as a good

coordination of them and bad condition of archival sources (Sarno, 2018).

### **Milestones of Genealogy in Italy**

1500s: Bologna Firenze Milano Venezia were the big centres of genealogy studies production. In those cities there was an oligarchic or republican government in which lots of families had the power, so the ancestors' representativeness had crucial importance. Famous authors were: Francesco Sansovino, Scipione Ammirato, Alfonso Ceccarelli, although the latter is also infamous for creating fake archivist sources. for which he was condemned to death by Pope Gregory XIII. In fact, this was the Century in which for the first time genealogy starts to be considered as discipline of study, and Vincenzo Borghini archbishop of Florence was the precursor of genealogy as theory.

1800s: This century is characterized by a big development of genealogic production, thanks to new system of historic research in which sources are analysed with rigorous critical methods. Some famous Italian names are Natale Battilana, Felice Cerretti, Felice Chiapusso, Luigi Cibrario, Luigi N. Cittadella, Attilio Zuccagni Orlandini, and especially Pompeo Litta (as well as other famous names). Also, this period encounters the first publications as the "Giornale araldico, genealogico, diplomatico (1873-1905) but unfortunately linked to the concept of nobility.

First definitions of the discipline and specialized bibliography at local level were also established during this period.

1900s: The 20th century saw a decline in the genealogic discipline due to the suspension of the concept of nobility with the abolition of "Consulta Araldica".

At the beginning of the century There is still a lack of scientific method and a lack of coordination among specialists and organizations.

Among the publications we have "la Rivista del Collegio Araldico" then changed in "Rivista Araldica" from 1903 to now, the "Elenco Ufficiale della Nobiltà Italiana"(1922-); and famous authors Giacomo C Bascapè, Carlo A. Bertini Frassoni, Gelasio Caetani, Ildebrando Coccia-Urbani, Francesco, Guasco Gallarati di Bisio, Piero e Guelfo Guelfi-Caimani and the namesake Nephew, Carlo Sebregondi, Mario Tagliani.

However, scientific research with bibliographic sources and manuscripts and manuals started to appear. Since 1929 periodical international congresses and official courses have been held (Sarno, 2018).

### **Italian records**

Since much has been written about various notary, census and military records, even if some of it is in serious error, it is necessary to clarify the extent to which the genealogists should rely upon these documents. The primary records to be consulted in Italian genealogical research are acts of birth, baptism and marriage. Acts of death, though they may be considered "primary" records, are less reliable than acts of birth and marriage; and other acts related to extraordinary events, such as delayed registration of births. In most southern regions (the former Kingdom of the "Two Sicilies"), vital statistics acts date from the early 1800s, and this is also true of certain northern localities (such as Parma). Elsewhere (in most of the former Kingdom of Sardinia, the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, the Papal States, etc.), such civil records were instituted only around 1860. Civil (vital statistics) records are invaluable; as they typically include professions, approximate ages, and other information unavailable in the older primary records consulted by the genealogist - namely, parochial records.

However, the absence of vital statistics records means that we must, in any event, rely upon parochial records for periods before 1800. Parochial census records ("stato delle anime") rarely exist, local census records (stato di famiglia), when these exist, usually relate only to the late nineteenth century. Under most conditions, secondary records serve to provide particular details which might be lacking elsewhere, or to explain familial lifestyle (assets, professions, etc.). Secondary records (land and census assessments, military service records, heraldic-nobiliary records, notarial acts, etc.), when these exist, should be viewed as "primary records" only when the aforementioned parochial and vital statistics records do not exist, have not been preserved, or are otherwise unavailable for consultation.

Gaining access to parochial archives in Italy is notoriously difficult, and comparatively few such records will ever be

microfilmed. In some cases, obtaining access to these archives is a bureaucratic exercise requiring months or even years of negotiation. Inundated with postal requests for free genealogical assistance, overworked Italian pastors are reluctant to spend their time entertaining the needs of researchers, or even responding to most letters.

In Italy, vital statistics and other records, for localities where these exist, may be consulted directly at a regional Archive of State, which is usually based in a provincial capital.

A number of publications can assist with research strategies and methods too detailed to be presented here. It is important to read these critically, considering also the information acquired in other sources because, for some of the reasons described earlier, few of these publications present the degree of absolute accuracy, advice which applies to every Italian family history project. Moreover, each research project is unique. Information regarding historical facts of peripheral interest to genealogists is best sought in specialized works dealing with the seventeenth century, the Risorgimento (Unification Movement), and so forth. Among the misnomers in certain books on this topic are references to "Napoleonic records" and various other documents.

The documents you will encounter in Italian genealogical research -- either in original or microfilm records -- vary by region and period. An act from a seventeenth-century Byzantine Rite Catholic baptismal register in Sicily might incorporate Greek, Latin and Sicilian elements. Most parochial records are written in Latin or Italian, and a degree of knowledge and practice is needed to render accurate transcriptions and translations.

Two formats are employed in the presentation of pedigrees. The traditional "agnate" (patrilineal) format concentrates on lineage through your father's father's father, etc. This may include collaterals (siblings) in some generations, but except for spouses every individual indicated will be of the same family and bear the same surname. In the "seize quartier" (multilineal) format, preferred by many American genealogists, every ancestral lineage is indicated in each generation; in other words, the father and mother of each ancestor, ad infinitum. Patrilineal genealogies are usually more profound than multilineal ones.

In some cases, it is possible to obtain certificates or photocopies of supporting documents such as acts of baptism or acts of birth. Often, however, this is either impractical or impossible, especially with original records in Italian archives. Why? A photocopier may be unavailable, or photography of archival materials may not be permitted. Sometimes it is simply inconvenient for an overworked pastor or vital statistics registrar to write numerous certificates for a genealogical researcher's needs (Sarno, 2018).

#### **Archives:**

Data bases online from the State Archives:

State Archive of Benevento: On line

Research State Archive of Como: Search for your family

State Archive of Cosenza (which pertain to other State Archives): Portal of the history of Italian

State Archive of Cremona: Search for your family

State Archive of Gorizia: Military records

State Archive of Latina: The workers of the reclamation pontine

State Archive of Mantova: Search for your family

State Archive of Milano: Search for your

family State Archive of Padova: Military records State Archive of Treviso: Military records

State Archive of Udine: Friuli in prin. Historical registry of families in Friuli

State Archive of Venezia: Military records

#### **Books**

Carlo Tullio-Altan, *La nostra Italia*, Feltrinelli, Milano 1986

*Italia: una nazione senza religione civile. Le ragioni di una democrazia incompiuta*, Gaspari Editori, Udine, 1995

*Lacoscienza civile degli italiani. Valori e disvalori nell'istoria nazionale*, Gaspari Editore, Udine, 1995

Gli Italiani in Europa. Profilo storico comparato delle identità nazionali europee, Il Mulino, Bologna, 1999  
Luca Sarzi Amadè, come svolgere ricerche sui propri antenati, Ugo Mursia Editore, 1995  
Novaresio Mauro, Di Bartolo Marco, Mio albero genealogico, Gribaudo Editore, 2014  
Anastasia Miszczyzyn, Il potere delle radici, Urta Editore 2008  
Claudio De Dominicis, Lineamenti di Scienza Genealogica-Genealogia familiare e ricerca anagrafica in Italia, Gruppo archeologico romano, Roma, 1990.

#### **Publications, conferences, debates, seminars and other.**

-Archivi di Stato di Modena and Fondazione Family Search, Conference on Genetic Genealogy, 2013 [www.archiviando.org](http://www.archiviando.org)

-Associazione Genealogica Lombarda e Università di Milano, 2016, [www.associazionegenealogicalombarda.it](http://www.associazionegenealogicalombarda.it) "Ciclo di seminari di storia e antropologia delle alpi"

"Seminars on history and anthropology of Alps"

-Archivio di Stato di Udine and Società Filologica Friulana, Convention on genealogic tourism "Storia della popolazione, storia delle persone, ricerche genealogiche e dintorni, "History of the population. History of people-Genealogic research" 2016

-[www.focus.it](http://www.focus.it) magazine; [www.aranzulla.it](http://www.aranzulla.it) website and blog; different topics in the specific case for both the topic found is how to build a genealogic tree.

#### **Genealogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

##### **Development of genealogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina: The tradition of genealogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

In Bosnia and Herzegovina there is no long tradition of genealogy development, nor were there separate institutions dealing with genealogy. This does not mean that there was no genealogical research. However, it has been mostly organized and conducted on the initiative of individuals - researchers who in most cases investigated their own genealogy (family tree), ie, the origin of their own family and surnames. In some cases, they are experts - researchers who have not been researching their own genealogies, but the genealogies of other people and families who had ordered such researches. Separate monographs are published about it as well. Apart from that, the presentation of the development of individual genealogy and families in Bosnia and Herzegovina through history are also given in scientific works and books whose authors, dealing with other topics, also touched upon this issue. Some of these books and works are as follows: Smajlović, Ismet (1977) *Muslimanska imena orijentalnog porijekla u Bosni i Hercegovini* [Muslim names with oriental origins in Bosnia and Herzegovina], Sarajevo: Institut za jezik i književnost; Draganović, Krunoslav, Sudar, Pero, Pranjić, Pero (1981) *Komušina i Kondžilo* [Komušina and Kondžilo] Komušina: Župni ured; Imamović, Enver (1998) *Porijeklo i pripadnost stanovništva Bosne i Hercegovine* [Origin and affiliation of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina], Sarajevo: Art 7; Kamberović, Husnija (2003) *Begovski zemljišni posjedi u Bosni i Hercegovini od 1878. do 1918. godine* [Beys' estates in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1878 to 1918], Zagreb: Hrvatski institut za povijest - Sarajevo - Institut za istoriju; Suljić, Alija (2011) *Stanovništvo i naselja općine Srebrenica – Antropogeografska monografija: I, II, III tom* [Population and settlements of the Srebrenica municipality - Anthropogeographic monograph: I, II and III vol.], Tuzla: PrintCom; Janjatović, Đorđe (1993) *Prezimana Srba u Bosni* [Serb surnames in Bosnia], Sombor: Prosveta-trgovina d.d., Šabić, Indira (2017) *Antroponimija i toponimija bosanskoga srednjovjekovlja* [Anthroponymy and toponymy of the Bosnian Middle Ages], Dobra knjiga, Sarajevo; Hodžić, Ibrahim (2017) *Uvod u genealogiju i historiju familije* [Introduction to genealogy and family history], Sarajevo; Šabić, Indira (2018) *Prezimana militarnoga porijekla u Bosni i Hercegovini* [Military origins of surnames in Bosnia and Herzegovina: semantic approach], DHS 2 (5) (2018), 113-138.

#### **Current state**

Interest in genealogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently growing. The number of publications showing family genealogies in different parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina is increasing. In 2009, the web portal [rodoslov.ba](http://rodoslov.ba) was launched, whose editor is Raif Čehajić. The first institutions, that is, genealogical centers, started to form. Also, several associations of citizens primarily engaged in genealogical research have been established. The book by Raif Čehajić *Naši korijeni: od rodonačelnika do savremenika* [Our roots: from the genus founders to contemporaries]" (two editions) has specific importance for contemporary genealogical research in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the first edition (Sarajevo, 2011) the

stories and genealogies of 56 Bosniak, Croat, Serb and Jewish families in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been elaborated. In the second edition (Sarajevo, 2014) the genealogies of another 20 families have been added.

Moreover, the increased interest for genealogical research in Bosnia Herzegovina is caused by the fact that a lot of Bosnian people moved to other countries around the world during the war at the beginning of 1990s. Members of many Bosnian families live in different countries in every continent. Besides this, many families were moved from their home villages and towns to other parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the war. All of this led to much private research in order to achieve the connections between members of families and relatives and to preserve memories of their origin. In this context, it is important to emphasize that much genealogical research related to Bosnian families is conducted in numerous different countries around the world. There are some publications on this published abroad.

Furthermore, there are some websites specializing in genealogical research, with tools for the creation of family trees, as well as forums for discussion and searching for members of families and relatives.

### Significant sources for genealogical research in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Throughout its history, Bosnia and Herzegovina was part of different empires and represents a bridge between east and west. Therefore, numerous documents and significant materials related to genealogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which represent the unavoidable sources for contemporary genealogical research, are found in large world archives outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina, such as those in Istanbul (Turkey), Vienna (Austria), Budapest (Hungary), Dubrovnik (Croatia) and others.

In addition, in various domestic archives in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the so-called "family collections" (funds) which represent a valuable primary source in genealogical research, are also preserved. These are the following archives:

- Arhiv Bosne i Hercegovine (<http://www.arhivbih.gov.ba/>)
- Arhiv Federacije Bosne i Hercegovine (<http://www.arhivbih.gov.ba>)
- Arhiv Republike Srpske (<http://arhivrs.org/>)
- Istorijski arhiv Sarajevo (<http://www.arhivsa.ba>)
- Arhiv Brčko distrikta ([arhivbrcko@gmail.com](mailto:arhivbrcko@gmail.com))
- Arhiv Tuzlanskog kantona (<http://www.arhivtk.com.ba>)
- Arhiv Unsko-sanskog kantona
- Arhiv Hercegovačko-neretvanskog kantona
- Županijski arhiv Široki Brijeg
- Arhiv Bosansko-podrinjskog kantona
- Arhiv Srednjobosanskog kantona

Furthermore, significant sources for genealogical research are the censuses from the period of the Ottoman rule (1468/9, 1477, 1485, 1489, 1519, 1533, 1548, 1600-1604, 1851, 1876), Austro-Hungarian rule (1879, 1885, 1895, 1910), the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (1921, 1931) and socialist Yugoslavia (1948, 1953, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991) as well as the last census in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2013. In this respect, particularly significant are the census records books (*deFTERler*) and judicial protocols (*sijil* – court book of records) from the period of Ottoman rule. Also, register books of births, deaths and marriages represent very important sources for genealogical researchers in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as various documents that are kept in Catholic and Orthodox Church, Islamic Community and Jewish Community.

### Selected books and publications as examples

Interest in genealogy research is currently growing. However, this remains individual research by amateur and professional researchers. Very little research is carried out by professional teams within professional and scientific institutions. Below are some of the publications which have emerged as a result of individual research:

Serdarević, Mevlida (2018) *Priče i legende bošnjačkih porodica – Mehmedbašići iz Stoca [Stories and legends of Bosniak families - Mehmedbašić family from Stolac]*, Sarajevo: Art7; Kurt, Ahmet (2017) *Porodica Kurt iz Mostara: historija i rodoslov [Kurt family from Mostar: History and Genealogy]*, Mostar: autor; Čehajić, Raif (2014) *Naši korijeni: Od rodonačelnika do savremenika [Our roots: from the genus founders to contemporaries]*, Sarajevo: Sejtarija; Ždralović, A. Dževad (2017)

*Odžački begovat u Skopaljskoj dolini: bibliografija – genealogija [Odžak bey's estate in the Skopaljska valley: bibliography - genealogy]*, Bugojno: Planjax komerc; Arnautović, Eldar (2013) *Rodoslov porodice Arnautović [Genealogy of the Arnautović family]*, Tuzla: Zavod za zaštitu i korištenje kulturno – historijskog i prirodnog naslijeđa TK; Bakalović, Husein (2010) *Naša porodica iz priča i sjećanja [Our family from stories and memories]*, Tuzla: PrintCom; Buha, Svetko (2011) *Porodica Buha – Prilozi za porodičnu monografiju [Buha family - Contributions for family monograph]*, Venecija: Udruženje porodice Buha; Veselić, Niko (2004) *Špionica u prošlosti i sadašnjosti [Špionica in the past and nowadays]*, Lukavac: autor; Gazibegović, Hasan (2004) *Familija Gazibegović u prostoru i vremenu [Family Gazibegović in space and time]*, Gračanica: Grin; Maglajlić, Alija (2004) *Zapisi jedne loze Maglajlića [Records of one lineage of Maglajlić family]*, Sarajevo: MAG Plus; Duraković, Himzo (2003) *Durakovići iz Malešići – rodoslov [Duraković family from Malešići - Genealogy]*, Gračanica: Monos; Felić, S. Bejdo (2001) *Felić – Porodično stablo [Felić - Family tree]*, Bihać: Grafičar; Alaupović, pl. Vladimir (1997) *Šest stoljeća Alaupovića [Six centuries of Alaupović family]*, Kiseljak: HKD Napredak; Glumčević, Mehmedalija, Glumčević, Ahmed (2010) *Porijeklo prezimena Glumčević [The origin of the surname Glumčević]*, Tuzla; Hasanbegović, O. Safet (1994) *Stabla što ljube nebo – 300-godišnja genealogija rasta i stradanja porodica Hasanbegović i Pašić: Avtovac-Mulji-Gacko [Trees that kiss the sky - The 300-year genealogy of the growth and suffering of families Hasanbegović and Pašić: Avtovac-Mulji-Gacko]*, Sarajevo; Jeleč, Ibrahim (2007) *Porodica Jeleč [Jeleč Family]*, Sarajevo: Izdavački atelje Duga.

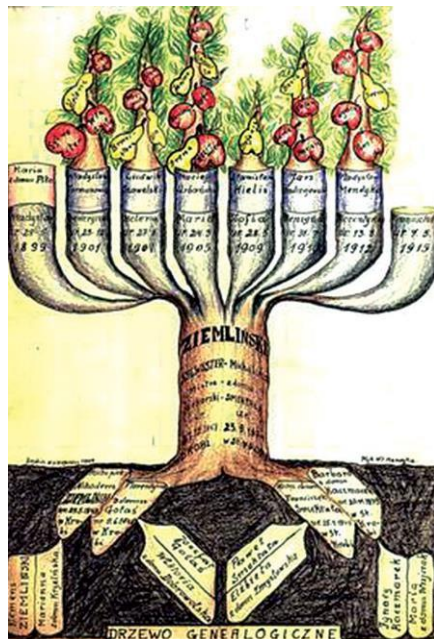
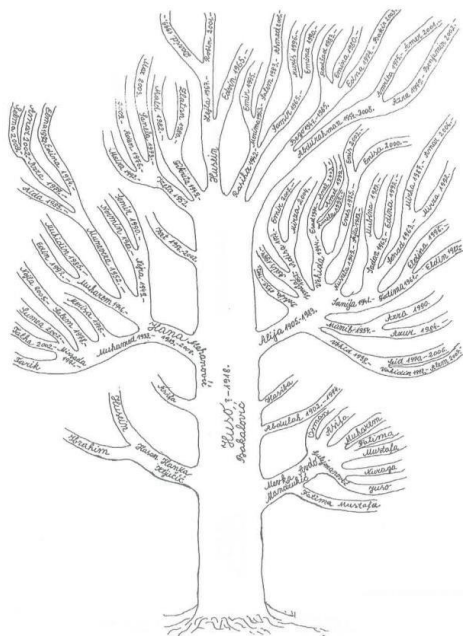


Fig. 3. An example of showing a family tree in one of the publications. Source: Bakalović, H. (2010) *Naša porodica iz privat archive of Mendyka's Family, Poland priča i sjećanja [Our family from stories and memories]*, Tuzla: PrintCom

### Summary

Genealogy and genealogical research have always been dependent on cultural - historical and civilizational - political circumstances in various countries. This can be said for the development of genealogy in the countries covered in this paper (Poland, Turkey, Italy and Bosnia and Herzegovina). It is possible, by comparative analysis,

to identify different developmental lines of genealogy in each of these countries. In Poland, there is a long tradition of genealogy research and genealogical work in general through several phases. This has led to the development of a large number of institutions dealing with genealogy. There are genealogical societies and private clubs in all regions of Poland. This developmental line of genealogy in Poland has had ups and downs, ie. in some historical periods these studies were socially stimulated, while in the others (eg the communist period) they were fettered in the context of a search for the noble origins of some families. In summary, it can be said that genealogy is very developed in Poland and this is reflected in a large number of books, papers and conferences on genealogy and genealogical research, as well as research methodology. The development of genealogy in Turkey was largely determined by research into the Turkish race and Turkish ethnicity. In the contemporary age, there is the problem of an insufficient number of institutions which would deal with genealogy in a professional manner, and one of the most important genealogical research projects is directed to Turks living abroad and connecting them to their relatives. In Italy, genealogy is closely related to heraldry and the tradition of nobility. The tradition of exploring some noble families and their crests as their most important feature, dates back to the end of the 15th century and extends to the present day, and genealogical conferences have been held periodically since 1929. This phenomenon of connection ie. some kind of equalization of the noble's crests and the family tree has caused the occurrence of quasi-noblemen and some kind of deception. Currently, many scientific books and publications in the area of genealogy are appearing. There is no long tradition of genealogical research in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Some genealogical research has so far been presented within other studies in the field of history, ethnology, linguistics, etc. Recently, the first genealogical researchers and genealogy organizations have appeared. Also, that interest in genealogy interest has increased is largely due to the large emigration of many families from Bosnia and Herzegovina to other countries and the displacement of the population within Bosnia and Herzegovina during the war at the beginning of 1990s, in order to preserve memories of origin. What can be perceived as common characteristics of the state of genealogy development in all four countries is the following: the problem of specialized institutions and organizations in the field of genealogy more or less present, insufficiently developed scientific methodology of genealogy researches, a large number of researches are conducted in individual, private, amateur and voluntary manner, the interests into genealogy and genealogical researchers, for various reasons, are continually increasing in each country. In conclusion it can be said that the transnational cooperation among experts and amateurs in this field would be very important for the development of genealogy and genealogical research in these countries. In this context, our intention in this article is to contribute to possible cooperation in the field of genealogy between these four countries and beyond

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