

POLISH FOLK SONGS FROM SOUTH-EASTERN LITHUANIA

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Summary

The Polish folk songs, recorded in South-Eastern Lithuania (*Dzūkija* region) are published here. Twenty-eight samples of calendar songs, songs of labor, children rhymes, songs of youth and love, and family relations, also humorous folk songs, recorded in Polish language, represent traditional folklore of the local Polish national minority. All the Polish folk songs published here have parallels in Lithuanian folklore. Those parallels can be more or less clearly recognized in poetic texts or subjects, as well as in melodic structures of Lithuanian songs (from *Dzūkija* region) and local Polish folk songs.

The problem raised here concerns the national origin of these folk songs. Are the presented Polish folk songs known in any local folklore traditions in Poland? Are they originally Polish at all, or do they represent just Polish translations of Lithuanian folk songs? What about related Byelorussian folklore influences here? The author of this publication promotes idea of exhaustive comparative studies of Polish, Byelorussian and Lithuanian folklore, as the only way to find true answers to these questions.