



Trade cities of north Germany 1158-1211 Recreational search of Dissertation

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Abstract: At the beginning of the thirteenth century, many change had took place where trade witnessed a new dramatic change. From 1200 till the middle of the thirteenth century, trade had been developed and in the twelfth century, this may due the increase in population during the twelfth century and increase demand for the food stuff and raw material all these reasons loads increase trade and enabled merchants of lower Germany to joined the north and Baltic traders later on, they became competitors with Scandinavia , Flemings, Frisians, The basis of joining this trade resulted from lobar foundation in 1158-1159 since the new city was located only 20 K.m a way from Baltic sea. It became the starting point for the expansion of lower Germen traders towards the stable trade in the region.

Keywords : trade, cities, Lubeck

I. INTRODUCTION

Economy is the prominent factor that motivates the historical events, trade, by its role, is the main branch of economy, trade had undergone different stages across the history, especially in the middle and modern history of Europe as Germany have headed for commercial and economical expansion in Europe as well as political expansion in cities and Europe where as they had a big desire in expending towards the east .German fought with swords to control Baltic sea coast beside, finding ways for intra trade, therefore they controlled over the country.

This study has based on a set of problems that needed to be answered within this research:

1. Did Henry TheLione (1129-1195) Dute of season and Bavaria, fellow a certain steps in establishing a profitable and successful trade in Baltic sea?
2. Did the missionary have a big effect on the trade of north Germany in thirteen century?

The research is based on two main pillars the first one is the establishing a commercial city on the Baltic coast, and growth of Germany's trade in north of Germany and the second pillar deals with the significant barriers that faced by traders in Baltic sea are in addition to the structural changes of trade.

First :Commercial trade of Lubeck city in (1158)

Lubeck had been established in 1158 on Baltic sea coast, it was established by Adolf II (1128 - 1164)(1)count Holstein(2) after a long series of discussions and consultation with his government, with study and close security, Lubeck became the first city in Germany trade in the north. Since they were only beginners, they obliged to work with other trade structure, traders and people of Germany were not granting privileges in main trading centers wither in east or west(3).

Traders used to gathered in Lubeck, its establishment wasn't by chance, Whereas all traders were conscious of its significance(4).

Inspite of the big competition among the trading cities in Germany and Baltic yet, the German prince of Holstein, Adolf II had set up a certain reasons to make Lubeck the first trading city in Germany. Henry the lion (1129 - 1195) (5)have put many difficulties in the city path but Lubeck was able to be the first trading city in Europe trade in Germany north since the med of the twelve century.

Population of new Lubeck increased as many people from various cities arrived and joined the old people in Lubeck in addition to the Germany traders from Schleswig and people from Bardowick to enhance the commercial position of new Lubeck(6).

Many sponsors from countries and cities have settled down and turned their path to the modern cities like Gotland Sweden, at that time Henry the lion made his best to prove the significance of Lubeck in trade field, and granted Lubeck protection to the Russia and Scandinavians who regularly visited it. In addition to that, he freed them from duties in Ducky of Saxony (7).

Henry made many contributions to progress the modern city and to chance its commercial position. He put an end to the pagan raids on Holstein. In 1160 Obotrites were completely subjected to his power in 1160(8).

Henry the lion took steps for establishing a successful and profitable trade in Baltic sea, he sent envoys to some countries, including Russia (9), and granted Gotlanders a free trade in 1161 and ratified on the granted privileges in Saxons Ducky of Lothar III. Henry followed a significant procedure in keep peace and strengthening the trading position of Lubeck. He sent envoys all over the countries; the north states Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Russia, offering peace and rights to practice free duty trade, and establishing market where many privileges have been granted and this led to increase the trading activity in the city (10).

Earlier, the archbishop of Cologne granted privileges to medebach in westphalia in 1165, gradually traders from new cities, that are established in the Slavic Lands, join the Russian trade (11).

The formation of North Germany trade in mid-Twelfth century

Traders started business in the form of association, which took the oath, and they have elected Oldoric as a leader and representative of Henry the lion and he was also granted legislative and judicial authorities. The association is considered as a start point the trade in north Germany, traders regularly visited Gotland (12). on the same vein, nearly twelve trading cities was established in 1170 on Baltic coast; Wismar, Restoc, Strealsund, Grypeswald, Ankam, stedin, Colberg, stolpe, Danzic, Elbing and Konisbery. These trading cities are united to form a trading organization. In order to protect the mutual trade, they agreed to hold association that was related to their trade and held meeting every 10 years for including or excluding members, it was an initial approval.(13), Henry the lion granted the original citizen the rights of authority and legislating laws of the trading association specially nobility(14).

Traders elected the president of the association every year and took the oath on mutual exchange and obedience, the earlier form of the Lubeck seal appeared in the beginning of the thirteen century; in which a picture of two men taking the oath. The seal image represented basis of croup trade in the thirteen century, four presidents were elected by the traders of Lubeck and visby, Soest and Dortmund in addition to that, the seal also had a symbol of royal protection, This subject appeared in Henry seals with the same symbol(15), electing Alderman was an individual and significant privileges that are granted to Lubeck traders(16) This position referd the local council members in city management, this privilege was ratified by (Barbarossa) Friedrich I (1122 - 1190) (17) in 1188 (18).

Most Germany traders settled in Visby on the western coast which but had been a Scandinavian settlement earlier in the mid twelve century, it got many churches, for this reason, a new German city was built sharing the same seal of German traders with additional inscription(19).

The Swedish Visby was centre of trade. It was the main market of traders, settlers, missionaries, crusaders supplying them with food before leaving to Russia and Sweden. This rapid growth was not in trade only but it extended to politic Where the city worked hard to replace Cortland as a protector and leader of Germanic trade in Russia(20).

This growth didn't last for a long time since some of Germanic traders approached Swedish Cotland and others followed Scandinavian toward Russia and them to Novgorod which was a market of eastern goods like wax and fur (21).

Gotlanders continued in the trading growth in Baltic sea in Novgorod across the twelfth century. German traders had an important role as well as traders from Novgorod who transported their good around the Baltic sea in Gotland, Sweden, Denmark, and northern Germany, this subject leads to frequent Conflict between two parts along the twelve century, at the beginning of 1188, when Novgorod traders were arrested in Cortland and Sweden, the two parts had separated their trades away from each others(22).

German united with Cotlanders and signed at a Russia - Cotland Germany treaty in (1191 - 1192) (23) that asserted the old peace between Cotlanders and German and as a result of the negotiations that were set by Russia envoy, the treaty focused on an equivalent privileges should be granted to the Russian traders, prince Jaroslv(24) granted German and Cotlanders protection for their members and goods as well as legal security. The treaty also contained a special parts for German in details. The treaty was considered as earlier one between German traders and foreign prince (25).

Before the treaty, there was a strong conflict between Novgorod traders and Cotlanders and Russians wanted to defeat Novgorod against Cotland and at the same time Varangianas Scandinavians(26) were sent out the country, then, German and Novgorod became familiar with danger of trade affairs(27).

King Richard I (1157 - 1199)(28) granted cologne traders privilege in London in 1194 and they were able to buy and seal freely in England and also free from payment of taxes beside they were free in practicing their habits inside London, all this privileges were offered in turn of helping Cologne archbishop(29).

Second/ Penalties trading expansion in Baltic in the thirteen century

Traders progress on the Baltic coast is closely connected with coastal invasion and settlement by nobles and farmers, who acted according to the coercive missionary of Slavic people, In the thirteen century, missionary came up to Prussia people on the form of crusades in which traders actively participated in,

Denmark, German and Sweden carried out the crusades, Yet German traders continued in trading with Scandinavian peacefully (30).

Peaceful and coercive missionaries were carried out in Slavic cities according to the people and circumstances but missionary was carried out in Scandinavia peacefully only.

German trading progress in Baltic was not as rapid as the older traders till the beginning of the thirteenth century as compared with the older traders who were more consistent and firm, Lubeck traders lacked the privileges of the most important trading regions in Europe as; London whereas the traders of Cologne and Denmark were the dominant there as well as the significant position of Gotland(31).

German traders couldn't expand trade as had been set up by Henry the Lion and this might be due to several reasons; one of them was that traders' lack of experience as compared with predecessors in Cologne and Novgorod who were in control trade in Europe not only this, but they depended on their good intention and weak experiences in trade, they used to cooperate with traders from Cologne and Novgorod before control trade in Baltic besides they didn't get any privileges and even no rights of their own till the thirteenth century.

Many developments took place that changed Lubeck economy forming the basis of successful German traders, Although the trade activities were not rapid and suitable with their plans and ambition yet this trade was considered as a basic pillar for exchanging salt with Lüneburg (the salt was for Herring in Baltic sea), at this point, many developments took place that raised the economy of Lubeck and they were as follows.

1. Inter more assets in the trading system like establishing new Germanic cities on the Baltic coast, it was a profitable not for trading only but nobles too, they sold products and invested their money in trade (32).

2. At that time new kind of silver was discovered in Harz mountains, Black Forest and newly discovered silver mines in Freiberg in Saxony, European markets were reactivated.

3. The previous events led to infusion of funds and remarkable expansion in Lubeck trade, and control all over the trade in Baltic(33).

Lubeck and new cities were able to gather old traders, nobles, professional in cooperative task along Baltic sea coast and this was a good reason to enable Lubeck to connect Baltic with large markets in Germany, Westphalia and Saxonia besides the high average of profitable incomes(34).

The second influential event was realized by building more cities on the Baltic coast in 13th century the strong personal and economical relationships among these cities caused in weaken the other trading groups that had a less effect on the region (35), the strongest relation among cities, the less effect of trading groups a matter made them at the shade, First, the Scandinavians and the Russian traders had no role in trading and they considered as facilitators between western catholic and East Orthodox because the western traders established trade centre in Reval, Dorpat, Riga and Danzig, besides. Scandinavians achieved progresses against their partners in Russian markets specially upon Novgorod who replaced them later (36).

Second, under Lubeck leadership, markets developed in Swedish Skania and became the most important empire in Baltic trade and northern sea in 1200, at the beginning of 13th century, and in favor of transporting bulk goods inside and outside of Baltic sea, the focal point of trade changed from Gotland to Zealand, western and eastern traders were unified in one marketing system (37).

Structural changes in Germanic trade

This period witnessed establishing outposts that were distant from trading cities, there, German traveled for a long distance places and built their own cities (in the north), actually they didn't think of trade only but they wanted to achieve their aims in road safety (38).

Traders of Lubeck, Westphalia and Saxons travelled to Gotland since they are granted privileges and also travelled to Visby and Norway later (39).

Lubeck traders unified their central trading since its founding till 1201, when the Danish Empire was in the very prime of expansion, Lubeck became a Danish city and stayed for 20 years, eventually Lubeck traders welcomed this expansion for several reasons; Lubeck traders didn't have rights in Germany, therefore they had been approved on as small partners in north Europe, and it was possible to get foreign trading rights by Danish king's facilities and indeed, Lubeck traders exploited an important position and granted special privileges as well as people of London and kingdom of England Besides this, they got rights and privileges by Lubeck trader in Denmark specially in Skania markets, this was the real reason behind Lubeck approval of being joined to the Danish kingdom (40).

In parallel with the new position of Lubeck trader in 1201, they ensured roads safety and built new trading cities related to the German, trade involvement went hand to hand with transformational movement into Christianity and opening cities as well as building new commercial cities.

Initially, arrival to Novgorod was by crossing the river road only, in 1201 but later German traders arrived (41) by lands across Dvina river in eastern Europe and then Traders went ahead in Riga and Rival across Pskov in summer or winter ,they supported traders who practiced trading through the water (42).

German traders were eager to establish Lubeck and improve its trade toward Baltic cities, Novgorod wasn't the lonely target, actually they were imitating Scandinavian, but they aimed to extend beyond Baltic cities, starting from Dvina, Russian markets in Polotsk, Vitebsk till Smolensk (43), but the Baltic cities were inhabited by a pagan tribes at 13th century where Lithuanians (44) in the south, Livonian and Letts in down Dvina and Estonians on Finland's Gulf(45), These matters made trading adventure more serious in addition to this, the expansion of trade that paralleled with transformation to Christianity and elimination of paganism and establishing a cultural cities were the most prominent characteristics in that age.

Missionaries started their tasks at the end of the 12th century whereas some Livonian converted Christianity and built Church in south Divna, therefore it was easy to enter Christianity, then a crusader missionaries were carried out to ensure the Christianity spread all over the country (46).

Crusader were set up by bishop Albert (1199 - 1229)(47) and supported by innocent III (48) king Philip (1177 - 1208)(49) from Swabia and archbishop land and Lubeck. The actual support was done by Cotland city which supplied crusaders with equipment beside enabling them to move to Livonia, as a result of these events , mission succeed (50).

Albert established Riga (1201) (51) and resettled traders and protected city he also used the Visby law which replaced by Hamburg later, He built parish in the same year in the city (52).

King John (1166 - 1216)(53)easily and frequently gave protection to cologne traders but he didn't assert Richard I treaty till 1210 (54).

Under the leadership, the prince of Polosk led a campaign by which the German rights of passing through Divna river had been ratified in 1211, traders enjoyed the privileges and continued in progressing till Vitebsk (in white Russia) and then to the Smolensk market that had strong relations with black sea and Novgorod, not only this but they also bought houses and built church and got rights to give credit but, lately, they were prevented practicing this as well as trading outside the city(55).

II. CONCLUSION:

In the first half of the twelfth century. The Germanic trade association or Hanseatic League was a union consisted of German traders in lower German outside the country and it had been originally formed for their safety and protecting interest. In the thirteen century, this union developed and became alliance of commercial lower Germany cities.

A set of political and economic processes had happened at the end of the twelfth century. Development of cities that are newly created and increased in population led to the growth of trade in medieval ages.

Population growth caused in increasing demands for food staff which led to density of commercial system, consequently, traders of lower Germany were able to join the north and Baltic sea and became rivals to Scandinavian, Franks and Frisians. When Lubeck had been established in 1158-1159, traders officially joined this trade. Since the new city located far from Baltic sea (nearly 20 Km), it became a start point of lower German traders in expansion their trade towards consistent trade roads.

III. SOURCES

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3. Phillippe Dollinger, The Emergence of International Business 1200-1800: The German Hansa, London, 1970,P.21
4. Since 805, Charlemagne made Bardowick as a main custom station on the borders between Saxony and Carolingian and Slavic lands. Salts is an essential material in Saxonia's exports traders used to exchange herring in Baltic for 38 years; Justyna Wubs – Mrozewicz and Stuart Jenks, The Hanse in Medieval and Modern Europe, Leiden, 2013, pp.44-45.
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- 6- Phillippe Dollinger, *Op.Cit.*, pp.21-22
 - 7- James Westfall Thompson, *United States of America Press*, 2nd, 1962, pp.541-542.
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 - 9- The word Russia wasn't used as now a days, it was known as Kievan Russia related to Kyiv city the capital of Russia since the tenth century and stayed till Mongol invasion in 1230, then Ducky of Moscow appeared as independent principality from Kievan Russia lands and in 1480, Russia revived after the weakness of Mongol power in middle of 14th century. Glenn E. Gurtis, *Kievan Ru's and Mongol Periods*, Excerpted from *Russia, Federal 1996*, pp.2-3.
 - 10- AnitSelart, *Translated: Fona Robb Livonia Rus, The Baltic Crusades in the Thirteenth Century*, Boston, 2015, P.38; Charles Arnold – Baker Obe, *The Companion to British History*, 2nd, New York, 2001, P.618
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 - 13- Cornilives Walford, *Op.Cit.*, P.88.
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 - 15- Phillippe Dollinger, *Op.Cit.*, pp.23-24.
 - 16- A Alderman means a member in council or governor running a realm or he was elected by city traders.
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 - 23- Ferdinand Feld Brugge, *A History of Russian Law From Ancient Times to the Council Code (Ulozhenie) of Teacher Aleksei Mikhailovich of 1649*, Vol.66, Leden, 2017., P.402
 - 24- Jaroslav; he was the prince of Novgred and Kiev, firstly he was prince of Novgared 1015 and then became a prince of Kiev in 1034. Established one of Estonia city and became a ruler he saved the authority and expended Russia trade and many other good deeds. For more information: Haki Antonsson, *St. Magnus of Orkney: A Scandinavian Martyr-Cult in Context*, Leiden, 2007, pp.115-119
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- 27- AnitSelart, *Op.Cit.*, P.38.
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- 32- *Ibid.*, P.46
- 33-*Ibid.*, pp.46.
- 34- *Ibid.*, P.46.
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- 37- *Ibid.*, P.47
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- 45- PhilipeDolliger, *Op.Cit.*, P.28.
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- 47-Bishop Albert (1199-1229), he also known as Riga Albert who made crusader missionary in Baltic following his uncle, he headed the missionary supported by innocent III, he built Riga and built Church 1201, he used to solve problem through Christianity providing a religious answers of questions related to marriage for more information.
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- 53-King John (1166-1216). The king of England in 1199. He lost Ducky of Normandy and most of his lands in France. This subject led to declining the empire and increasing the French expansion in 13th in 1202 he a achieved victories against France yet, the luck of military equipment beside his bad relations with nobles caused in declining his empire in 1204. He renewed the English lows and legal reforms, he was a rigid person and this led to his failure, he was dead during a campaign against France in 1216.
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