



## **Grand Commandery "King Ferdinand I" of the Knights Templar of Romania**

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### **Iancu Hunyadi The defender of Christianity Part 2**

Of course, the information is inaccurate and it was impossible to make a genealogical tree of Hunyadi from ancient times, but the reason why the Bomfinii "fabricated" this information was to emphasize the noble-superior (Roman) origin of Matei Corvin. The only correct part of the Italian chronicler's words is related to its origin, being known the fact that the Romanians from Transylvania were considered descendants of the former Roman colonists from the province of Dacia Augusti. In fact, a foreign traveler through Transylvania would say that the bravery shown by Hunyadi would increase the glory of the nation of which he was a part, namely the Wallachians. (Holban 1968, 269)

A lesser known aspect that is based on the oral tradition finds Iancu's origins right in Wallachia in the Argeș area. Even if this theory is not taken into account at the official level, it might give us food for thought. If we were to fit this hypothesis into Gilbert Garraghan's American historical research methodology, which said that oral

tradition can be accepted if it is based on an uninterrupted series of testimonies, then we should take this information as historical truth; there is uninterrupted evidence from people who assert this fact: testimonies passed from father to son that have been recorded over time.

Another argument of this hypothesis is supported by the fact that Marina, Iancu's sister had possessions in Argeş and even married a boyar named Manzila from Argeş. A lesser known thing is related to the fact that at the aristocratic court of Stanciu, son of Marina and Manzila (Rezachevici 2001, 192) grew up Petru de pe Argeş (*Ibidem*), none other than the lord of Muntenia who took the name of Radu Paisie who was the great-grandfather of Mihai Viteazul. In fact, in Radu Paisie's letter discussions with Nicolaus Olahus, he said that he was from Iancu de Hunyadi. Of course it was not so, but as Petru de pe Argeş was the flower son of Radu cel Mare with the wife of that boyar who was the son of Maria and grew up in Stanciu's "yard" he appropriated these origins.

The fact that the Wallachian lords found their origins in the Hunyadi family is a consequence of the honor that Iancu enjoyed at the time (or maybe he was really from Muntenia) and a consequence is given by the heraldic insignia of Wallachia that was changed from Eagle to Crow (the heraldic insignia of the Corvinists). In order to reinforce the statement that the Wallachian lords often said that they came from Hunyadi, we can also mention the inscription from an inscription of a church in Venice where it is specified that Mihnea (see note 2) comes from Hunyadi (Rezachevici 2001, 303). The reason why Mihnea supported this is also because Hunyadi was known all over Europe and he made a title of glory from this association.

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Grand Commander in the Near Past