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Cardinal's *familia* as a Network in the 13th Century A Case Study of Cardinal Stephen Báncsa's Family in the Mid-thirteenth Century

The present paper aimes to examine the first Hungarian cardinal, Stephen Báncsa's family. It uses the term familia in a large sense involving both bood relatives and members of the court being in official relations with the cardinal as well. The paper presents the composition of the family, its functioning as a personal network which had a several influence on beneficiary policy and university studies as well.

Key words: cardinals, Papacy, family, social relations, papal curia, 13th century, Hungary, Orvieto



Stephen Báncsa was elected cardinal-bishop of Preneste in December 1251. He was the first Hungarian prelate who was involved directly in the highest level of the Church government. His career was shortly mentioned in the western historiograpy, in Hungarian, however a well-based biographical outline and a recent monography dealt with him.¹

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¹ Western scholars interested briefly to him, they registered only the creation. His career shows a certain lack of curiosity in the historiography concerning the college of cardinals in the thirteenth century. Apart from the linguistic difficults what occur in relation to his activities in Hungary, the possible reason is that Báncsa was not the most powerful among the cardinals, he stayed generally in the background of the most important events of the Church government (i. e. struggels of investiture, vacancies and elections of popes) during his years of cardinalate

Western scholars dealt abundantly with the medieval papal representation not only from a theoretical point of view and establishing a canonical typology of the representatives of the popes,² but the prosopographical approach and methodology elucidated many details and help to identify its personnel.³

² The following list is not an exhaustive roll of the works dealing with those questions: Karl RUESS: Die rechtliche Stellung der päpstlichen Legaten bis Bonifaz VIII. (Görres-Gesellschaft zur Pflege der Wissenschaft im katolischen Deustchland. Sektion für Rechts- und Sozialwissenschaft 13. Heft). Padernborn. 1912; Stephan KUTTNER: Cardinalis: The History of a Canonical Concept. Traditio 3 (1945), p. 129–214. (reed. in: Stephan KUTTNER: The History of Ideas and Doctrines of Canon Law in the Middle Ages. London, 1980. p. 129–214.); Michel ANDRIEU: L'origine du titre de Cardinal. In: Miscellanea Giovanni Mercati. V. Storia ecclesiastica – diritto. Ed. Leo Cunibert MOHLBERT. Città del Vaticano. 1946. p. 113-144; Carl Gerold FÜRST: Cardinalis. Prolegomena zu einer Rechtsgeschichte des römischen Kardinalkollegiums. München. 1967 (hereafter: Fürst 1967); Klaus GANZER: Das Römisches Kardinalkollegium. In: Le istituzioni ecclesiastiche della "societas cristiana" del secolo XI-XII. Papato, cardinalato ed Episcopato. Atti della quinta settimana internazionale di studio: Mendola 26–31 augusto 1971. Milano. 1974. p. 153-184 (hereafter: GANZER 1974); Pierre BLET: Histioire de la Représentation Diplomatique du Saint Siège des origines à l'aube du XIX^e siècle. Città del Vaticano. 1982; Robert C. FIGUEIRA: The Canon Law of Medieval Papal Legation. Penn Arbor. 1980; IDEM: The Classification of Medieval Papal Legates in the Liber Extra. Archivum Historiae Pontificae 21 (1983), p. 211-228; IDEM: Legatus apostolicae sedis. The Pope's alter ego according to Thirteenth Century Canon Law. Studi medievali III/27 (1986), p. 527-574; Clifford Ian KYER: The Papal Legate and the "Solemn" Papal Nuncio 1243-1378: The Changing Pattern of Papal Representation. Toronto. 1979; Richard Antone SCHMUTZ: The Foundation of Medieval Papal Representation. Los Angeles. 1966; IDEM: Medieval Papal Representatives: Legates, Nuncios and Judges-delegate. In: Studia Gratiana post octava decreti saecularia collectanea historiae canonici XV. Ed. Joseph R. STRAYER - Donald E. QUELLER. Roma. 1972. p. 441-463.

³ Emmanuele CERCHIARI: Capellani papae et apostolicae sedis auditores causarum sacri palatii apostolici seu sacra Romana Rota ab origine ad diem usque 20 septembris 1870. Relatio historica-iuridica. I–III. Romae.

^{(1251/1253–1270).} Agostino PARAVICINI BAGLIANI: Un frammento del testamento del cardinale Stephanus Hungarus (†1270) nel codice C 95 dell'Archivio del Capitolo di San Pietro. Rivista di storia della Chiesa in Italia 25 (1971), p. 168-182 (hereafter: PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1971); IDEM: Cardinali di Curia e "familiae" cardinilazie dal 1227 al 1254. I-II. Padova. 1972. (Italia sacra 18–19.) (hereafter: PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972), here: p. 349–357; IDEM: I testamenti dei cardinali del duecento. Roma. 1980. (Miscellanea della Società Romana di Storia Patria 25.) (hereafter: Paravicini Bagliani 1980), here: p. 18–19, 127–132; Andreas FISCHER: Kardinäle im Konklave. Die lange Sedisvakanz der Jahre 1268 bis 1271. Tübingen. 2008. 107–117; Andreas FISCHER: Die Kardinäle von 1216 bis 1304: zwischen eigenständigem Handeln und päpstlicher Autorität. In: Geschichte des Kardinalats im Mittelalter. Hrsg. Jürgen DENDORFER – Ralf LÜTZELSCHWAB. Stuttgart. 2011. (Päpste und Papsttum 39), p. 155–224, here: p. 180; Werner MALECZEK: Das Kardinalat von der Mitte des 12. Jahrhunderts bis zur Mitte des 13. Jahrhunderts (mit besonderer Blickrichtung auf die Iberische Halbinsel.) In: Das begrenzte Papsttum. Spielräume päpstlichen Handelns. Legaten – delegierte Richter – Grenzen, Hrsg. Klaus HERBERS – Frank ENGEL – Fernando López Alsina, Berlin – Boston, 2013. p. 65-82. here: p. 68: L. TÓTH: 'Bancsa (Étienne)'. In: Dictionnaire d'histoire et de géographie ecclésiastiques. VI. Paris. 1932. col. 479; Tibor Almási – László Koszta: Báncsa István bíboros (1205k. – 1270). Életrajzi vázlat [Cardinal Stephen Báncsa (ca. 1205 – 1270). A Biographical Outline]. Acta Universitatis Szegediensis de Attila József nominatae. Acta Historica (Különszám a III. Nemzetközi Hungarológiai Kongresszus tiszteletére). Szeged, 1991. p. 9–17. (hereafter: ALMÁSI – KOSZTA 1991); Gergely Kiss: Dél-Magyarországtól – Itáliáig: Báncsa nembeli István (1205 k. – 1270) váci püspök, esztergomi érsek, az első magyarországi bíboros életpályája [From Southern Part of Hungary to Italy: A Biography of Stephen Báncsa (ca. 1205 – 1270), Bishop of Vác, Archbishop of Esztergom, the First Hungarian Cardinal]. Pécs. 2015. (hereafter: KISS 2015).

The 'family' (familia)

This personnel constitutes itself a society by virtue of its number and functions, thus it induced researchers to consider it as an interpersonal network, a special community of ecclesiasticals being responsible for the highest government of the Church.

The first step to face this challenge was the determination of the staff and the functions starting with the papal government. It was, however, not only an institutional reconstruction of the papal court, but the application of a sociological approach. In a more limited sense, the papal chapel got into the focus of the research, which had the most intimated relations with the popes. In the present paper I would like to start with a general presentation of the formation of the cardinals' court, and then to examine its properties through the concrete example of Cardinal Stepehen Báncsa's curia.

It seems to be an evidence to say that the highest rank of the Church government was equal to the papal court in a functional sense. Nevertheless, despite of the institutional aspect, the court constituted of human staff which had closer or looser links with the popes themselves. The connection had primarly a liturgical character and function, e. g. papal chaplains helped the popes to fulfill their liturgical duties, obligations. But, they gained gradualy new, additional tasks, espcially administrative functions. Thus, they entered into the community of clerc officers of the papal court. It is not suprising, however, that the procedure from the liturgical to the administrative (or the merging of those) functions turned back: administrative staff obtained e.g. the title of papal chaplain. This phenomenon flashes a beam of light on an economical aspect. In the mid-thirteenth century the provision by the title of papal chaplain – in the manner of 'payment' – became more and more usual.

^{1919–1921;} Heinrich ZIMMERMANN: Die päpstliche Legation in der erste Hälfte des 13. Jahrhunderts. Vom Regierungsanstritt Innozenz' III. bis zum Tode Gregors IX. (1198-1241). Pademborn. 1913. (Görres-Gesellschaft zur Pflege der Wissenschaft im katolischen Deustchland. Sektion für Rechts- und Sozialwissenschaft 17. Heft); Werner MALECZEK: Papst und Kardinalkolleg von 1191 bis 1216. Wien. 1984; IDEM: Das Kardinalskollegium von der Mitte des 12. Jahrhunderts bis zur Mitte des 13. Jahrhunderts. In: Pensiero e sperimentazioni istituzionali nella "Societas Christiana" (1046–1250). Atti della sedicesima Settimana internazionale di studio, Mendola, 26-31 agosto 2004. Ed. Giancarlo ANDENNA. Milano. 2007. p. 237–263; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972; IDEM: I testamenti dei cardinali del duecento. Roma. 1980. (Miscellanea della Società Romana di Storia Patria 25.) (hereafter: Paravicini Bagliani 1980); IDEM: Il personale della Curia romana preavignonese: Bilancio e prospettive di ricerca. In: Proceedings of the Sixth International Congress of Canon Law Berkeley, California, 28 July – 2 August 1980. Ed. Stephan KUTTNER – Kenneth PENNINGTON. Città del Vaticano. 1985. (Monumenta Iuris Canonici Series C. Subsidia 7) p. 391-410. (hereafter: PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1985); IDEM: Prosopographie et élites ecclésiastiques dans l'Italie médiévale (XIIIe-XVe siècles). Réflexions et perspectives de recherche. In: Prosopographie et genèse de l'État modernte. Actes de la Table ronde organisée par le Centre national de la recherche scientifique et l'Ecole normale supérieure de jeunes filles, Paris 22–23 octobre 1984. Éd. Françoise AUTRAND. Paris. 1986 (Collection de l'École normale supérieur de jeunes filles 30) p. 313–334; IDEM: Pour une approche prosopographique de la cour pontificale au XIII^e siècle. In: Medieval Lives and the Historian. Studies on Medieval Prosopography. Ed. Neithard BULST - Jean-Philippe GENET. Kalamazoo (MI). 1986. p. 113-121.

The use of the term 'honorary chaplain' underlines this new economical character. In addition, the papal court became more residential in the first half of the thirteenth century, and due to the much deeper involvement of the papacy into political-dynastic conflicts, it was transformed into a more crowded and complex institution.⁴

The cardinals themselves followed a similar way of development. As it is generally known, the expression 'cardinalis' comes from the word 'cardo' ('heart') which explains the intimate relationship of those clerics with the pope. They helped originally the Bishop of Rome to accomplish his liturgical obligations in the main Roman churches. Outside of the Eternal City other cardinals, called 'externals', represented the highest rank of the given church. Later, in the first half of the thirteenth century, the cardinalate suffered several changes: it became more institutional and residential. In this period the cardinals developed their own court, their personnel, created buildings and necessary infrastructure. They used naturally the model of the papal court.⁵

The cardinals' court based on one hand on their own revenues, and on the other hand on those that they gained by the re-distribution of the papal incomes. Concerning the staff of the cardinals' court, it followed the papal model, this society occurred in the written sources as 'familia cardinalis', its member was called 'familiarius'. However, this term was not consequently used, other persons who were never called 'familiarius' can be considered as distant members of the 'family'.

This notion was used to describe people giving different services to the cardinals. In the mid-thirteenth century the family became more populous and structured. In parallel with the growing tasks of the cardinals – their liturgical obligations were more and more outshined by admisitrative duties – the number of their staff increased considerably. The cardinals financed this numerous people by the re-distribution of their own incomes in form of payment of money, or, more generally by providing in naturalia or with ecclesiastical benefices. In this period appeared the so-called *mensa*, its purpose was to aliment this staff. Nevertheless, in the mid-thirteen century this *mensa* suffered a certain restriction and began to mean a limited circle of 'family' members having a closer, more intimated relation with the cardinal (*commensalis*). In addition, the similar results, the lack of money and the nearness of the papal court very often resulted an interconnection between

⁴ Karl JORDAN: Die Entstehung der römischen Kurie. Zeitschrift der Savigny–Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte. Kanonistische Abteilung 28 (1939), 97–152 – it is useful especially for the 11th–12th centuries; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1985; IDEM: La cour des papes au XII^e siècle. Paris. 1995; Edith PÁSZTOR: La curia romana. In: IDEM: Onus Apostolicae Sedis. Curia romana e cardinalato nei secoli XI–XV. Roma. 1999. p. 1–14.

⁵ FÜRST 1967; IDEM: I cardini non romani. In: *Le istituzioni ecclesiastiche della "societas christiana" del secolo XI-XII. Papato, cardinalato ed Episcopato. Atti della quinta settimana internazionale di studio: Mendola 26–31 augusto 1971. Milano. 1974. p. 185–198; GANZER 1974; IDEM: Die Entwicklung des auswärtigen Kardinalats im hohen Mittelalter. Ein Beitrag zur Geschichte des Kardinalkollegiums vom 11. bis 13. Jahrhundert. Tübingen. 1963.*

popes' and cardinals' *familia*. It means that in several cases the staff of the papal chapel gave services to the cardinals in their administrative duties.⁶

Problem of the reconstruction of the 'family'

Three main types of sources are disposable to identify the members of the familia. Above all, it is to be emphasized that the main information proceeds from charters, even if those are not numerous, which deal especially with the staff. Certain charters issued on occasaion of a beneficial act, could contain some information about the personnel network of the beneficiary. Secondly a special subtype is constituted of jurisdictional act, in this case those that cardinals issued as auditores, judges authorized by the popes to judge litigations. In those sentences the personnel of the cardinal's family is very often mentioned because it take part in the proceeding or assist to it bearing witness. It occurs frequently that the cardinal's court serves as a scene of the process, in those case the charters relate to the exact place of the jurisdictional session (e.g. in hospicio nostro apud Urbemveterem⁷ – as in the case of cardinal Stephen Băncsa). Thirdly, cardinal's testaments can give more detailed information about the members of the *familia*. The presence of a given person in those last wills is due to the close relation with the decedent, his service, duty is generally mentioned and the brought value by means of the testament contains the information about the nature of the cardinal's and of his familiarius's relationship.8

Nevertheless, this information could be contradictory in many cases. The clearest is that the source mentions *expressis verbis* the given person within his duties, then man can precise his exact status and functions (e. g. *familiarius capellanus, seneschalus* etc.). In other cases the form uses the simplies way stating the person as *'familiarius'* without any further details. Those can be called 'ordinary' or 'simple *familiarius'*. The two above mentioned cases operate with the term of 'familiarius', however, there is a large number of staff which participate apparently in legal processes (delegated persons, witnesses) who are never qualified expressly as 'member of the family'. In addition, not only jurisdictional act, but several sources relate that they live in the cardinals' court. Thus, despite being directly mentioned, it is to be stated that they are the complement of the family *in stricto sensu*, they can be attributed to the 'halo', the 'neighbouring zone' of the *familiarii*. We use

⁶ See: PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. p. 1–9.

⁷ For exemple: Archivio Segreto Vaticano, Regestra Vaticana (hereafter Reg. Vat.) 29. fol. 3^{v-5^x}, nr. 5, fol. 264^v–264^v, nr. 1398; *Les registres d'Urbain IV (1261–1264), recueil des bulles de ce pape*. I–IV. Ed. Jean GUIRAUD. Paris. 1899–1929. (hereafter: RUIV) nr. 957, 2349.

⁸ For Báncsa's testament see: Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana, Archivio del Capitolo di S. Pietro, cod. C 95 fol. 1^v-2^r [A]; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1971. p. 179–182; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1980. p. 18, nr. 13, p. 127–132, nr. V; KISS 2015. p. 204–208.

henceforth the term 'family' in this large sense, with all of the staff the 'neighbourg zone' included.⁹

Structure of the familia

The cardinals' family was not a homogenous population. Its structure can be detailed by means of the use of different criteria. One of them is the status of the given person. The sources reveal generally whether the people belongs to the clerics or the laymen. Usually they precise it by mentioing the 'profession' (chaplain, priest or seneschalus, marshal for instance), in other cases the activity or the received benefice elucidate about the status.

The sources relate also, in most case, to the functions in which liturgical and administrative duties are combined. The problem occurs when the person is qualified 'familiarius' in the given source without any concrete task. It is very often in testaments. Fortunately, there is more precise information in the case of the staff which is not mentioned as 'familiarius'. Here, as we have seen, their functions are inferred to enumerate them among the member of the family, as for their activity refer expressly to their duties.

Another question is whether one can differenciate among the functions in the scope of the relation with the cardinal himself. In other word, is it possible to determinate the distance of the members of the family from the cardinal. I refer here to the phenomenon that most of the mid-thirteenth cardinals separeted a closer circle of *familiari*, they created their own *mensa*, and this type of *familiarius* was mentioned hencforth *commensalis*; he was the closest member of the houshold. In a second circle we can place the *familiares* with a special task, then follow the 'ordinary members of the family'. The specified duty refers, in my opinion, to a higher level of confidence than in the case of the 'simple members of the family'. Last but not least, the staff of the 'halo' or 'neighbouring zone' had a much looser relation with the cardinals, that is why they were not qualified explicitely '*familiari*', although their functions ranked them among the members of the family.

The example of cardinal Stephen Báncsa's family

Above all, it seems necessary to present shortly the first Hungarian cardinal. Báncsa was born in around 1205. He started his ecclesiastical career in the cathedral chapter of Bács (Bač, Serbia), in 1238, he is mentioned as provost of the chapter. In the same year he moved to the collegial chapter of Titel (Titel, Serbia) and he served there as provost for two years. Meanwhile he entered into the service of the King Béla IV (1235–1270), from 29 January 1238 until 21 March 1240, he issued the royal charters as chancellor of the king.¹⁰

Bertween 1240 and 1242 he was the bishop of Vác, this period remains still unclear because of the lack of sources. In 1242, he rose in the highest position

⁹ See: KISS 2015. p. 68-102.

¹⁰ KISS 2015. p. 19–21.

of the Hungarian church government, he became the archbishop of Esztergom.¹¹ In December 1251 Innocent IV appointed him as cardinalbishop of Preneste. Nevertheless, he occupied his office at the end of 1252, and shortly after he tried to return to Esztergom, apparently for personal reason. After this period of transition (June-December 1253) he got back to Italy.¹² After more than one and a half decades he finished his cardinal activity in 1270, he died in Viterbo on 9 July in the same year.¹³

Reconstruction of the cardinal Stephen Báncsa's family

The *familia* of the first Hungarian cardinal fits into the general trends of the mid-thirteenth century. The number of its members is not high, several other cardinals had largely more populous family, however it was relatively well documented and structured. First of all it is to be stated, that this family enumerated in total 70 people, 57 persons who were qualified familiarii and 13 others who are to be added as parts of the 'halo'. The first group (Figure 1) is composed of two main parts: clerics (39) and laymen (18). The first constitutes the double of the second, it underlines the high importance of ecclesiasticals in the family. Inside the clerics, the most populous subdivision is reserved to the chaplains (20), and the other 'functionaries' follow far behind. It is to be emphasised that a chaplain is to be found very close to the cardinal, a commensalis, namely Andreas Ungarus. Facing the clerics mentioned with a concrete function, others are qualified just as 'familiarius', this is the subdivision of the 'ordinary familiaris', in number 15 people, it constitutes nearby the half of the clerics. The laymen constitute the minority of the family with usual tasks.14

¹¹ KISS 2015. p. 22–29.

¹² "metuens postmodum aeris intemperiem inexperti et nonnulla impedimenta, multasque necessitates exponens". KISS 2015. p. 32–44.

¹³ Bibliothècue Nationale de France. MS Latin 15707. fol. 170^s: "Nota auod bone memorie Dominum Penestrem anno Domini .Mo. .CCo. .LXXo. vrima die iulii et fuit in die martis in octavis beati Iohannis Bavtiste vost vrandium arrivuit febris continua aue sibi duravit usaue ad diem Mercurii vost octavas Apostolorum qua die videlicet ipso sumpno dicti patri in Domino obdormivit." See: KISS 2015. p. 103–106. ¹⁴ KISS 2015. p. 91–92.

Cardinal's familia as a Network in the 13^{TH} Century ...

Function	Nr	Name					
		Familiares					
clerics							
chaplain commensalis	1		Andreas Ungarus				
	19	Alfonsus Vitalis; Aprilis; Bartholomeus; Bentivegna;					
		Eventius; Fernandus Velasci; Gerardus de Parma;					
chaplains		Gratia; Guidobonus; Guillelmus de Placentia;					
Chapitalits		Innocentius; Johannes; Johannes Pelagii; Nicolaus					
		de Eseio; Petrus; Raimundus; Robertus; Ivo;					
	_	Octavianus					
clerics	2	Gerardus de Nivella; Jacobinus					
priest	1		Ungarus?				
instructor	1		Mathias Bissenus				
	15	15 Albertinus; Ancherus de Canossa; Antonius; Gerardus de Miressa; Grassus; Huguicius;					
ordinary familiares							
oren ur y junuareo		Martinus; Nolanus; Paulus de Reate; Petrus; Petru					
		Paganus; Raynalducius; Salvucius; ?; ?					
Clerics total:			39				
		laymen					
notary	3		ombardus; Thomasi				
chamberlain	3	Simon U	Jngarus; Timotheus	s; U (?)			
door-keeper	1		Albertinus				
senescalus	1		Benedictus				
marshall	1		Guillelmus				
serviens	2	Jacobus Ungarus; Ungarus ?					
cook	2	Johannes; Lucius					
cook-boy	1	Gerardinus					
barber	1	Rogerius					
baker	1	?					
physician	1+		?				
nursing staff	1+		?				
Laymen total:		18					
	Ne	eighbouring zone					
		clerics					
		Carulus (nepos), Giroldus de Owad, Gometius					
		Petri, Guido Jacobini de Lonardino, Stephanus					
chaplain (?)	12	Báncsa (nepos), Martinus Gometii, Michael,					
		Orbatius (nepos), Paulus, Petrus de Lambertinis,					
		Rolandus, Thomasinus de Bueves					
		laymen	4 33				
notary	1	1 Albert					
Total			70				
Origin		nr %					
unknown origin		30 52,63					
known origin		27 47,37					
Hungarian		12	44,44	21,05			
Italian		7	25,93	12,28			
Spanish		5	18,52	8,78			
French	3		11,11	5,26			

Figure 1. Composition, staff of cardinal Stephen Báncsa's family

The proportion of the origin of this staff is particular in comparison with other cardinals' family. The high level of the Hungarians is not suprising, it is, however, to be emphasized that this ratio did not discrease with time, it remained in the same level even in the mid-1260's a decade after the cardinal left the Kingdom of Hungary. It shows the same result in comparison with the family *in stricto sensu* or within the staff of the neighbouring zone (Figure 2).¹⁵

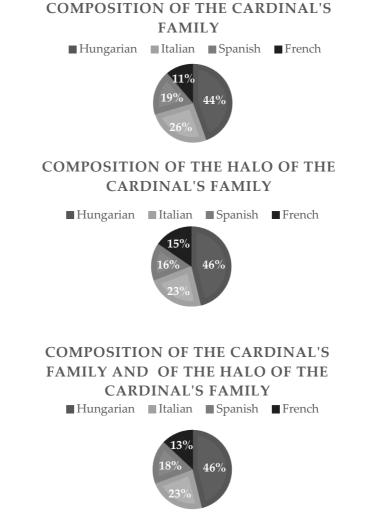


Figure 2. Composition of the Cardinal's family

To sum up, we can state that the cardinal's family comprises four circles. The first is his direct neighbourhood with 1 *commensalis*, Andreas Ungarus. The

¹⁵ KISS 2015. p. 92.

second is composed by a larger number of people (41), both clerics (23) and laymen (18) as well. The third circle is filled by the 'ordinary familiares' (15) and finally, the halo or neighbouring zone constitutes the last one (Figure 3).¹⁶

Reconstruction of the cardinal Stephen Báncsa's family

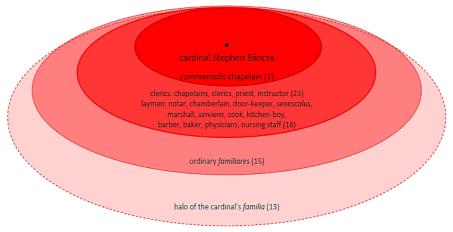


Figure 3. Reconstruction of the cardinal Stephen Báncsa's family

Recruitement

All of the cardinals needed to constitute their own family. It is naturally supposed that the base of this family was composed by an 'own material', i.e. by the existing suite of the given prelate. In the case of Cardinal Stephen Báncsa, several data approve this hypothesis. He gathered staff even in the time of his appointment among the former personnel of the archbishopric of Esztergom and he made efforts to ensure the financing of the new court from the incomes of his former station.

On 11 November 1252 he had a papal authorization to enjoy the tithes of the *cultellus* of Csallóköz.¹⁷ On 20 December he was nominated *administrator in spiritualibus and temporalibus* of the archbishopric of Esztergom.¹⁸ Besides the financing, Báncsa recruited one part of his staff from the former colleagues. On 26 November 1252 and on 22 January 1253 he procured the

¹⁶ KISS 2015. p. 102.

¹⁷ Reg. Vat. 22. nr. 227, fol. 218⁺; Regesta pontificum romanorum inde ab anno post Christum natum MCXCVIII ad annum MCCCIV. I–II. Ed. August POTTHAST. Graz. 1957. (hereafter: POTTHAST) nr. 14769; Les registres d'Innocent IV. I–IV. Ed. Élie BERGER. Paris. 1881–1919. (hereafter: RIIV) nr. 6085; Monumenta ecclesiae Strigoniensis. I–III. Ed. Ferdinandus KNAUZ. Strigonii. 1874–1924. IV. Ed. Gabriel DRESKA – Geysa ERSZEGI – Andreas HEGEDŰS – Tiburcius NEUMANN – Cornelius SZOVÁK – Stephanus TRINGLI. Strigonii – Budapestini. 1999. I. p. 514.

¹⁸ Reg. Vat. 22. nr. 308, fol. 226v; POTTHAST nr. 14816; RIIV nr. 6165; Vetera monumenta historica Hungariam sacram illustrantia. I–II. Ed. Augustinus THEINER. Romae. 1859–1860. (hereafter: THEINER) I. p. 214.

reservation of benefices for Gerard, his chaplain and on 13 January for another chaplain, Innocent. $^{\rm 19}$

Beside those auhtorizations, the cardinal took over also the staff of the papal curia. It is very hard to determine whether the given personnel started their career in the papal or in the cardinal's court. A possible hypothesis is that the foreigners (French, Italian and Spanish people) fund their 'secondary employment' in the cardinal's family and the Hungarians came originally with Báncsa. The data are not sufficient to decide in this matter. Most of the case are not clearly evident because the sources mention a given person as papal and cardinal's chaplain at the same time. This case occurs very often as a certain parallel is approved in other cases: the same person held the same office in both sides (notary, chamberlain, chaplain, see the list below). Fortunately, the transition from the papal to the cardinal's family is justifiable in many cases concerning both family members and neighbouring staff as well.

familiares

- Andreas Ungarus
 - before 1263: chaplain of the pope and the cardinal
 - 1263: cardinal's commensalis²⁰
- Aprilis, canon of Salamanca, papal/cardinal's chaplain (1263)²¹
- Fernandus Velasci: papal subdeacon, cardinal's chaplain (1260)²²
- Guilelmus de Placentia: papal chaplain, nuntius, cardinal's chaplain (1263)²³
- Thomasinus de Podio: public notary of the pope, cardinal's notary (1263)²⁴
- Raimundus: canon of Paphos, papal collector, cardinal's chaplain²⁵
- Robertus: papal subdeacon, cardinal's chaplain (before 1264)26

¹⁹ 1252: Reg. Vat. 22. fol. 224^v–225^r, nr. 287; Potthast nr. 14783; RIIV nr. 6144; *Codex diplomaticus Hungariae ecclesiasticus ac civilis*. I–XI. Ed. Gerorgius FEJÉR. Budae. 1828–1844. (hereafter: FEJÉR) IV/2. 131; 1253: Reg. Vat. 22 fol. 294^v; POTTHAST nr. 14846; RIIV nr. 6710; Reg. Vat. 22, fol. 230^r, nr. 352; POTTHAST nr. 14838; RIIV nr. 6209.

²⁰ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 85^{E-V}, nr. 225, RUIV nr. 1172; KISS 2015. p. 69–70, nr. 5.

²¹ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 6^L–7^v, nr. 7; POTTHAST nr. 18760; RÚIV nr. 959; THEINER I. 255–258; Codex diplomaticus Arpadianus continatus – Árpád-kori új okmánytár. I–XII. Ed. Gusztáv WENZEL. Budapest. 1860–1873. (hereafter: ÁÚO) III. p. 65–70. Cf. Hierarchia catholica medii aevii sive summorum pontificum, S.R.E. cardinalium, ecclesiarium antistitum series. I. [1198–1431]. Ed. Conrad EUBEL. Münster. 1913. (hereafter: HC) I. p. 509; KISS 2015. p. 70–71, nr. 7.

²² Reg. Vat. 25. fol. 250^v–251^t, nr. 82; *Les registres d'Alexandre IV*. I–III. Éd. Charles BOUREL DE LA RONCIÈRE – Joseph de LOYE – Auguste COULON. Paris. 1901–1953. (hereafter: RAIV) nr. 3142; KISS 2015. p. 74, nr. 13.

²³ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 6--7^v, nr. 7; POTTHAST nr. 18760, RUIV nr. 959, THEINER I. 255-258; ÁÚO III. p. 65--70. Cf: HC I. p. 509; KISS 2015. p. 78, nr. 22.

²⁴ Reg. Vat. 26. fol. 35^v, nr. 72, RUĪV nr. 1023; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 264^u–264^v, nr. 1398; RUIV nr. 2349; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. 353; Kiss 2015. p. 87–89, nr. 47.

²⁵ PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. p. 356; KISS 2015. p. 86, nr. 41.

²⁶ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 17^v, nr. 26, RUIV nr. 978; THEINER I. p. 258–260; KISS 2015. p. 86–87, nr. 43.

- Simon Ungarus: papal chaplain, cardinal's chamberlain (1266), cardinal's chaplain (1270)²⁷
- Urtanus: papal chaplain, cardinal's chamberlain (1263)²⁸ halo (neighbouring staff)
 - Stephen (nephew): papal chaplain (1254-1261)²⁹
 - Martinus Gometii: papal chaplain (1263)30

Familia and network of relatives

Another question is whether the *familia* operated as a network of the relatives. In other words, if they could profit from the kinship in this field. Báncsa had four nephews, John, Carulus, Stephen and Orbas (figure 4). All of them pertained to his family, two of them were mentioned expressly *familiaris* (John, Carulus), the two others belonged to the 'neighbouring zone' of the *familia*.

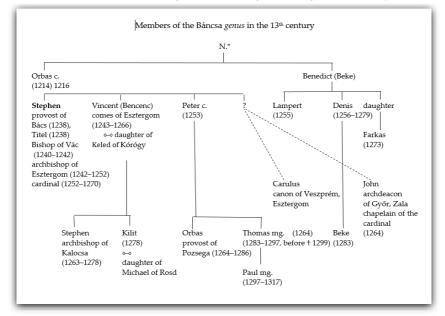


Figure 4. Members of the Báncsa genus in the 13th century

²⁷ PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. 357; KISS 2015. p. 87, nr. 46.

²⁸ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 6⁻⁻⁷, nr. 7, POTTHAST nr. 18760; RUIV nr. 959, THEINER I. p. 255–258; ÁÚO III. p. 65–70. Cf.: HC I. p. 509; KISS 2015. p. 90–91, nr. 49.

²⁹ Reg. Vat. 28. fol. ³^v, nr. 10, POTTHÀST nr. 18657, RUIV nr. 407; Codex diplomaticus regni Croatiae, Dalmatiae et Slavoniae – Diplomatički zbornik Kraljevine Hrvatske, Dalmacije i Slavonije. I–XVI. Ed. Tadija SMIČIKLAS et alii. Zagreb. 1904–1976. (hereafter: SMIČIKLAS) V. nr. 757; KISS 2015. p. 96–99, nr. 63.

³⁰ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 6–7^v, nr. 7; POTTHAST nr. 18760; RUIV nr. 959, THEINER I. p. 255–258; ÁÚO III. p. 65–70. Cf.: HC I. p. 509; KISS 2015. p. 99–100, nr. 64.

The sources attest without any doubt that the uncle took part actively in the beneficiary policy in favour of his nephews. John³¹ gained the office of archdeacon of Zala in 1264 directly from his uncle who invested him by another member of the family, the notar Thomasinus de Podio.³² It is extremely possible that Carulus³³ owed the prebend of canon of Esztergom to Stephen Báncsa, and even more, in 1264 he obtained the same benefice in the chapter of Verona due to the uncle's intercession.³⁴ In the case of Stephen³⁵ and Orbas³⁶ the same process is to be found: the uncle interceded in favour of his nephews for different benefices. Stephen gained the prebend of canon of Fenton by his own uncle, the cardinal.³⁷ In 1263 he was postulated bishop by the chapter of Zagreb.³⁸ Although it failed, because he was not enough old to be bishop, some years later he was elected achbishop of Kalocsa.³⁹ Orbas received also ecclesiastical benefices and rents with the cardinal's help.⁴⁰ In those cases his uncle's intercession determinant.

³¹ See: Kiss 2015. p. 80, nr. 27.

³² "Stephanus, miseratione divina Penestrinus episcopus, dilecto nepoti suo Johanni, archidiacono Jauriensi, domini pape cappellano, salutem in Domino. [...] archidiaconatum Zaladiensem, canonicatum et prebendam quos venerabilis pater Timotheus, Zagabriensis episcopus, promotionis sue tempore in Vesprimiensi ecclesia obtinebat, vacantes per promotionem ipsius episcopis tibi cum omnibus juribus et pertinentiis suis conferimus et providemus de ipsis, dilectum notarium nostrum Thomasinum, tuo nomine, investientes per nostrum anulum de eisdem". Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 33^r, nr. 66; POTTHAST nr. 18821; RUIV nr. 1017.

³³ See: KISS 2015. p. 95, nr. 59.

³⁴ "[...] Carulo canonico Strigoniensi, nepoti venerabilis fratris nostri episcopi Prenestini [...]." Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 141^v, nr. 544; RUIV nr. 1494.

³⁵ See: KISS 2015. p. 96–99, nr. 63.

³⁶ See: KISS 2015. p. 100–101, nr. 66.

³⁷ "[...] dilectus filius noster O[ctavianus], sancte Marie in Via Lata diaconus cardinalis, canonicatum et prebendam de Fentono, quos idem archiepiscopus in Eboracensi ecclesia tempore sue promotionis habebat, dilecto filio Stephano, nepoti venerabilis fratris nostri ... episcopi Penestrini, auctoritate felicis recordationis Alexandri pape, predecessoris nostri, sibi ab eodem predecessore in hac parte commissa, conferre ac assignare curavit [...]." Reg. Vat. 26. fol. 34^r, nr. 127; RUIV nr. 129.

³⁸ "[...] Sane Zagabriensis ecclesia episcopi solatio destituta, dilecti filii prepositus et capitulum ipsius ecclesie convenientes in unum Spirita Sancta gratia invocata, dilectum filium Stephanum capellanum nostrum, nepotem venerabilis fratris nostri episcopi Penestriensis, prepositum ecclesie Pozoniensis patientem in etate defectus in Zagabriensem episcopum unanimiter et concorditer postularunt [...]". Reg. Vat. 28. fol. 3^v, nr. 10; POTTHAST nr. 18657; RUIV nr. 407; SMIČIKLAS V. nr. 757.

³⁹ "[...] Colocensi et Bachiensi ecclesiis, pastoris solatio destitutis, dilecti filii, capitula earumdem ecclesiarum ad provisionem ipsarum per viam compromissi, unanimiter procedentes, dilectum filium Stephanum Colocensem electum, capellanum nostrum et prepositum Posoniensem Bononiae litterarum studio insistentem concorditer elegerunt in ipsarum ecclesiarum archiepiscopum et pastorem. [...]". Reg. Vat. 32/I, fol. 112^{E-V}, nr. 164; Les Registres de Clément IV, 1265-1268. Recueil des bulles de ce Pape. Ed. Édouard JOURDAIN. Paris. 1945. (hereafter: RCIV) nr. 407; POTTHAST nr. 20265 (1268!); FEJÉR IV/3. p. 360–364 (1266!); THEINER I. p. 291–292. See: József UDVARDY: A kalocsai érsekek életrajza (1000– 1526) [Biography of the Archbishops of Kalocsa (1000–1526)]. Köln. 1991. (Dissertationes Hungaricae ex historia Ecclesiae XI.) p. 156–157.

⁴⁰ In 1264 he gainen a prebend of canon in Padova, and in the same year he received the incomes of two churches in Hungary. "Urbacio preposito ecclesie de Possega, Quinqueeclesiensis diocesis, nepoti venerabilis fratris nostri episcopi Prenestini [...]. Non est inconveniens, si apostolice sedis benignitas, que sepe nonnullos extraneos et ignotos gratis attollit beneficiis, et acceptis, hiis provisionis munificas manus

Functioning of the network: beneficiary policy and nepotism

Those examples show clearly the importance of the family from the point of view of the beneficiary policy. Báncsa, as many other cardinals, was authorized to (re)distribute ecclesiastical benefices on his own rights. The case of his nephews was mentioned above. In 1263 and 1264 a few numbers of charters dealt with the so called 'Zagreb case'. Timoteus who was member of Báncsa's family gained the office of the bishop of Zagreb. Although the nephew of the cardinal, Stephen was postulated by the chapter, Timotheus was elected and confirmed. Báncsa, who was himself the propagator of Timotheus's election, obtained in return the right to re-distribute the former benefices of the new bishob of Zagreb. It is curious that Báncsa rejected his own nephew, Stephen because of his age. However, the cardinal endowed the members of his family with the benefices left by Timotheus. The following table (Table 1) shows that three of the cardinal's chaplains and one of the clerics obtained the different benefices. Stephen, Báncsa's nephew, had no reason to complain, he gained two years later the archbishopric seat of Kalocsa...41

Timotheus's benefices	redistribution	
prior to 1263		
canon of Zala (dioc. of Veszprém)	John, archdeacon of Győr, cardinal's chaplain	
archdeacon of Valko (dioc. of Pécs)	Robert, papal subdeacon, cardinal's chaplain	
canon of Zagreb	Eventius, cardinal's chaplain	
rector capelle (S. Laurentius de Files, S. Demetrius de Boreno, OSS de Nigwan, S. Martin /Eisenstadt/)	Giroldus de Owad, deric of Győr (familiaris)	
1263		
bishop of Zagreb	Stephen (Báncsa's nephew, postulated by the chapter) \rightarrow 1265/1266: archbishop of Kalocsa	

Table 1. Re-distribution of Timotheus's former benefices

laxet, qui ipsius beneplacitis per devotionis opera studiosius se coaptant. Hinc est, quod nos attendentes tue devotionis merita et per hoc et obtentu venerabilis fratris nostri ... episcopi Prenestrini volentes te prosequi benevolentia gratiosa, canonicatum ecclesie Paduanensis cum plenitudine iuris canonici ac prebendam nulli alii de iure debitam, si qua ibidem vacat ad presens, tibi conferimus, tibique providemus de illis, et te de ipsis per nostrum anulum investimus. [...]" Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 141^{r.v}, nr. 542; RUIV nr. 1492. See: Antal PÓR: Adatok a bolognai és pádovai jogegyetemen a XIV. században tanult magyarokról [Data about the Hungarians who Studied in the 14th Century at the Faculty of Law of the Universities of Bologna and Padova]. *Századok* 31 (1891), p. 769–795, here p. 781. "Orbacio preposito ecclesie de Posega, Quinqueeclesiensis diocesis, nepoti venerabilis fratris nostri episcopi Prenestini [...]." Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 163v–164^r, nr. 699; POTTHAST nr. 18854; RUIV nr. 1649, THEINER I. p. 267.

⁴¹ Reg. Vat. 28. fol. 3^v, nr. 10; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 17^v, nr. 26; RUIV nr. 40⁷, 488, 489, 959, 978, 979, 988, 1017, 1092, 1093; POTTHAST nr. 18657, 18783–18787; SMIČIKLAS V. nr. 757, 781–783, 785; FEJÉR IV/3. 224, THEINER I. 260–262; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. p. 357.

This beneficiary policy functioned as a good network for the other family members. The following table shows the persons who obtained ecclesiastical benefices due the intercession of the cardinal (Table 2).

1252/1253: Gerard (canon, Esztergom) ⁴²				
1253: Innocent (2 benefices) ⁴³				
1254: Santa Maria de Aurate (dioc. Toulouse)44				
before 1263 Gometius Petri (canon, Salamanca) ⁴⁵				
1263: Nicolaus de Eseio (canon, Le Mans) ⁴⁶				
1263: Alfonsus Vitalis (decanus, Avila)47				
1263: Martinus Gometii (canon, Salamanca) ⁴⁸				
1264: Robert (archdeacon, Valko, dioc. Pécs) – "Zagreb case"				
1264: Eventius (canon, Zagreb) – "Zagreb case"				
1264: Gerardus de Nivella (canon, Nivella)49				
1264: Petrus de Lambertinis (prebenda, Bologna) ⁵⁰				
1264: Johannes Pelagii (canon, Compostella) ⁵¹				
1264: Guido Jacobini de Lonardino (canon, Verona)52				
1264: Petrus Mathei (canon, S. Mercellus in Urbe)53				
1264: Giroldus de Owad (chapels) – "Zagreb case"				

Table 2. Persons obtaining ecclesiastical benefices by Báncsa's intercession

This network was very useful in other aspects too. First, sometimes it provided a good opportunity to continue the ecclesiastical career. For example, Raimundus, canon of Paphos was originaly a papal collector and the cardinal's chaplain at the same time, and he could entered later the papal chapel. Secondly, and it underlines particulary the importance of the cardinal, Báncsa's jurisdiction had a very frequent and effective component. In the case in which he officiated as *auditor*, there is a high proportion of the 'family cases'. He acted several times in the beneficiary litigation of his own nephews – it is to be called a real nepotism – or of the members of his family (Table 3).

⁴² See: KISS 2015. p. 74–79, nr. 17; Reg. Vat. 22. fol. 224v–225^r, nr. 287; POTTHAST nr. 14783, RIIV nr. 6144, FEJÉR IV/2. p. 131; Reg. Vat. 22. fol. 294^v, nr. 850; POTTHAST nr. 1846, RIIV nr. 6710.

 ⁴³ See: Kiss 2015. p. 79, nr. 24; Reg. Vat. 22. fol. 230^v, nr. 352; POTTHAST nr. 14838; RIIV nr. 6209.

⁴⁴ Reg. Vat. 23. fol 171^r; RIIV nr. 8012.

⁴⁵ See: KISS 2015. p. 95, nr. 61; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 264^r, nr. 1398; RAIV nr. 2349.

⁴⁶ See: KISS 2015. p. 82, nr. 34; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 35^v, nr. 72, RUIV nr. 1023.

⁴⁷ See: KISS 2015. p. 95, nr. 61; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 264^r, nr. 1398; RAIV nr. 2349.

⁴⁸ See: KISS 2015. p. 99–100, nr. 64; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. 353; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 264⁻²⁶⁴, nr. 1398; RUIV nr. 2349.

⁴⁹ See: KISS 2015. p. 74, nr. 16; PARAVICINI BAGLIANI 1972. 354; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 302^v, nr. 1573; RUIV nr. 2521.

⁵⁰ See: KIss 2015. p. 101, nr. 68; Reg. Vat. 26. fol. 35^v, nr. 72; RUIV nr. 1023; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 144^v, nr. 567; RUIV nr. 1517.

⁵¹ See: KISS 2015. p. 80–81, nr. 29; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 300^v, nr. 1561; RUIV nr. 2509.

⁵² See: KISS 2015. p. 96, nr. 62; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 187^v, nr. 874; RUIV nr. 1824.

⁵³ Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 196^r, nr. 949; ŘUIV nr. 1899.

1263: Peter: archdeacon of Sopron ⁵⁴		
1263/1264: "Zagreb case" (Stephen, John)		
1263: Andreas Ungarus: canon of Corinthos ⁵⁵		
1264: Gerardus Blancus: archdeacon of St, Eulalia (Parma) ⁵⁶		

Table 3. The 'family cases' in Báncsa's activity as auditor

Third, the family network was very advantageous to obtain a higher level of knowledge, university studies. Fortuntely there are some clear evidences. In 1263 Mathias Bissenus was mentioned as an instructor of the cardinal's nephews.⁵⁷ Some years later other data confirm that two of them, Stephen⁵⁸ and Orbas⁵⁹ pursued university studies in Bologna and in Padova.

Conclusion

It is to be stated, that the example of the first Hungarian cardinal's court and family confirm the general tendencies. The formation of the *curia* and even more the familia followed the papal model. It became more and more structured, which can be demonstrated by the number and the complexity of cardinal Báncsa's family. It is also to be noticed that the familia contained different levels of relationship with the cardinal. It included not only the staff mentioned as *familiarius* (with or without a function), but other people who filled special duties in the cardinal's service, so they belonged to the *familia* too. Although its dimension was modest in comparison with those of other cardinals of the same time, it shows the same characteristics. One of them is the interconnection with the papal court and family. Several people held offices in both institutions, and it is possible to detect sometimes the transition from one to the other. The cardinal's family functioned well as a network. Four fields are to be noticed here. First of all, the family had a direct connection with the beneficiary policy. The appartenance to the family was extremely favourable to obtain benefices not only to the relatives but to the other members of the family as well. Secondly the cardinal's jurisdiction as

⁵⁴ See: Kiss 2015. p. 83–84, nr. 38; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 6⁻⁷, nr. 7, Potthast nr. 18760; RUIV nr. 959; Theiner I. p. 255–258; ÁUO III. p. 65–70.

⁵⁵ See: KISS 2015. p. 69–70, nr. 5; Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 85[⊾], nr. 225; RUIV nr. 1172.

⁵⁶ Reg. Vat. 29, fol. 302^{r-v}, nr. 1571; KUIV nr. 2519.

⁵⁷ See: KISS 2015. p. 81–82, nr. 33; "Mathias Bissenus clericus Vesprimiensis diocesis, doctor nepotum venerabilis fratris nostri ... episcopi Penestrini". Reg. Vat. 28. fol. 134^{*}, nr. 57; POTTHAST nr. 18711; RUIV nr. 939; THEINER I. p. 251–252; ÁÚO III. p. 59–60.

⁵⁸ 1266/1267, Stephen (nephew): "[...] Bononiae litterarum studio insistentem concorditer elegerunt in [...] archiepiscopum [...] et licet in huiusmodi examine in litteratura inventus fuerit et existimatus idoneus, nihilominus postmodum studio, moram ex tunc Bononie continuando, vacavit, [...] in studii labore transacti, non in otii corpore deducti, eius scientie plurimum accessisse". Reg. Vat. 32/I, fol. 112^{E-V}, nr. 164; RCIV nr. 407; POTTHAST nr. 20265 (1268!), FEJÉR IV/3. p. 360–364 (1266!); THEINER I. p. 291–292.

⁵⁹ "Datum per manus discreti viri magistri Wrbazi prepositi B. Petri principis apostolorum de Posaga, cancellarii nostri legis doctoris canonici Paduani domini pape capellani commessalis." Attila ZSOLDOS: Magyarország világi archontológiája. 1000–1301 [Lay Archontology of Hungary. 1000–1301]. Budapest. 2011. p. 119. See also: Reg. Vat. 29. fol. 141^{EV}, nr. 542; RUIV nr. 1492.

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auditor was extremly efficient in this beneficiary policy. In the same way the cardinal's service could influence the further ecclesiastical careers (Table 5).

Nr of benefices	Báncsa's family	endowed by Báncsa	%
Clerics in the	39	12	30,7
family			
Clerics in the halo	13	6	46,1
nephews familiaris	1	1	100
nephews in the	3	3	100
halo			
Total clerics	52	18	34,6

Table 5. Effectivity of Báncsa's family

And finally, the family had the opportunity to support university studies, however, it is a special experience in the 'Báncsa case', it was reserved to the blood relatives, which is a very special form of the nepotism existing in the thirteenth century.

(38)