



NATIONAL ARCHIVES
OF ICELAND



THE DANISH DELIVERY OF 1928

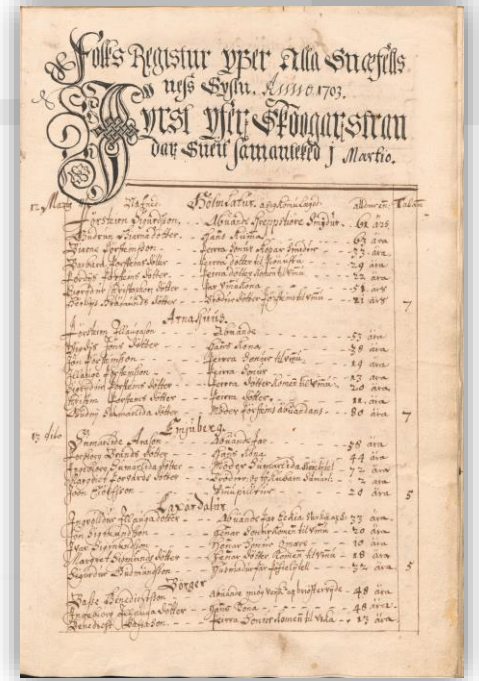
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THE DANISH DELIVERY OF 1928

- In 1928 documents and records concerning Iceland were transferred from Denmark to Iceland
- Contains many of the Iceland's most valuable documents and basic sources on the country's history in previous centuries
 - Including the Census of 1703

The screenshot shows the UNESCO Memory of the World website. The top navigation bar includes categories like Education, Natural Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Culture, Communication and Information, and Media Services. The main header features the UNESCO logo and the 'Memory of the World' title. The page content is titled '1703 Census of Iceland' and describes it as a documentary heritage submitted by Iceland and recommended for inclusion in the Memory of the World Register in 2013. It provides a brief history of the census, its significance, and key details such as the year of submission (2012) and inscription (2013). A sidebar on the left offers navigation options like 'Register', 'Full list of Registered Heritage', and 'Access by region and country'. A 'RELATED INFORMATION' section on the right includes 'NOMINATION' and 'MULTIMEDIA' links. A small thumbnail image of a census document is visible in the upper right of the main content area.



POLITICS AND CULTURE

- In the 19th century
 - A peaceful struggle for the reconstruction of the parliament, Althingi, and Iceland's position within the Danish State and later the nation's independence from Denmark
 - Increased interest in Icelandic culture
 - The attitude towards Denmark became the focus of the political debate
- In this atmosphere, the first archival claims Denmark were submitted



FIRST ARCHIVAL CLAIMS IN 1907

- Althingi, the parliament, passed a resolution
 - The archival claims demanded that Denmark would return to Iceland all documents and manuscripts from public offices that Árni Magnússon, an Icelandic scholar and a manuscript collector, had borrowed and transferred from Iceland to Denmark in the 18th century
- Why did the first archival claim merge in 1907?
 - National Archives of Iceland established in 1882, first employee (national archivist) in 1900
 - Specially designed archival premises in 1908
 - Home rule from Denmark in 1904 and the emphasis on building up the infrastructure of the society



WHY ARCHIVAL CLAIMS?

- Jón Þorkelsson, first national archivist of Iceland, in 1905:
- English:
- Icelandic:

"... and it is important that people do not forget that here we are trying to protect property rights in the country and preserve for the foreseeable future the remnants and memory of our own people and ourselves. - the memory of our own nation. "

„... og er áriðandi, að menn ekki gleymi því, að hér er verið að reyna að vernda eignarrétt í landinu og varðveita um ókomna tíma menjar og minning vorra eigin manna og sjálfra vor - minning vorrar eigin þjóðar.“



ARCHIVAL CLAIMS IN 1924

- No results in the archival claims in 1907
- The case was reopened in 1924 and the parliament agreed on a new archival claim
 - This time Icelanders did not only want to have documents and manuscripts from the Arnamagnæan Institute, as the claim in 1907 was about, but also documents regarding Icelandic matters from the National Archives and the Royal library
- Archival claims were better received than before, the reason:
 - The position of Iceland and Denmark had changed with Federal Treaty and Iceland's sovereignty in 1918
 - A channel had been created to continue working on such matters as archival claims - the Danish-Icelandic Advisory Committee
 - Norway's archival claims against Denmark at the same time had also affect
 - Denmark had received documents and artefacts from the German state concerning North Schleswig, which Denmark took over in 1920



DISCUSSION ABOUT THE ARCHIVAL CLAIMS

- Iceland's point of view:
 - Icelanders had every right to receive manuscripts and documents that Árni Magnússon had borrowed at the time
 - This was part of Icelandic culture
 - The manuscripts and documents were in danger in Copenhagen
- Denmark's point of view:
 - Manuscripts were a gift or bought and therefore they were the property of Denmark
 - Better access to the material in Copenhagen than in Reykjavík
 - The manuscripts and documents were in danger in Reykjavík



ARCHIVAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT IN 1927

- In all the negotiations, the Danes were of the opinion that documents that were equally important to both countries would not be handed over
 - only documents that concerned Iceland altogether or partly should be transferred to Iceland
- No manuscripts were returned
- An agreement was reached in 1927 on mutual exchange of documents between Iceland and Denmark



THE AGREEMENT

- Iceland received (approx 120 shelfmeters of documents):
 - From the National Archives of Denmark: a total of 830 books and archives packages concerning Iceland and Icelandic issues, mostly from the 16th century to the middle of the 19th century
 - From the Royal Library: Books of Althingi and other official books, a total of about 20 volumes
 - From Arnamagnæan Institute: about 700 Icelandic parchments and three parchments books.
 - From the Danish Supreme Court: 26 archival boxes of court documents in Icelandic cases 1802-1921
- Denmark received:
 - From the National Archives of Iceland: 79 volumes from the Icelandic Government Department 1848-1904



AGREEMENT IN 2003

- The 79 volumes from the Icelandic Government Department were returned to Iceland with a special agreement in 2003
 - Including the original of the first Icelandic constitution from 1874, which is preserved among royal decrees on Icelandic affairs 1849-1903, found their way to Iceland again in 2003.

MORGUNBLAÐIÐ, KRINGLUNN 1, 103 REYKJAVÍK. Sími 569 1100, Símarélf 569 1181, Póstbúlf 3040, ÁSKRIFTARFRÉTSILA 569 1122, Netfang: MITS@MVL.IS, ANGLEYRE: KAUPVAGSSÍÐA.EDI 1

FIMMTUDAGUR 10. APRÍL 2003

Stjórnarskráin frá árinu 1874 aftur á Íslandi

FRUMRIT fyrstu stjórnarskrár Íslands, stjórnarskráin um hin sérstaklegu mál-efni Íslands frá 1874, var afhent við háttíðlega athöfn í Þjóðmenningarhúsinu í gær. Davíð Oddsson forsætisráðherra tók við henni úr hendi Anders Fogh Rasmussen, forsætisráðherra Dana, sem er hér á landi í sinni fyrstu opinberu heimsókn.

Rasmussen minnti á hversu mikilvæg stjórnarskráin væri í íslenskri sögu og hún ætti heima hér á landi. Davíð þakkaði honum hjartanlega fyrir og sagði að nú væri nærfellt 100 ára flökkusögu stjórnarskrárinnar lokið. Hún kom fyrst til Íslands árið 1904 þegar Stjórnarráð Íslands var stofnað en var aftur flutt til Danmerkur 1928 en er meðal þeirra skjala úr danska Ríkisskjalasafninu sem Danir hafa samið um að afhenda Íslendingum. Stjórnarskráin frá 1874 verður til sýnis í Þjóðmenningarhúsinu fram yfir páska ásamt stjórnarskránni frá 1920 og 1944.

Í dag mun Rasmussen ásamt eiginkonu sinni, Anne-Mette Rasmussen, m.a. heim- sækja Svartsengi, Bláa lónið, Vest- mannaeyjar og Þingvelli. Þá sækja þau hádegisverðarboð hjá forseta Íslands og kvöldverð snæða þau í sumarbústað for- sætisráðherra á Þingvöllum.

■ Engin vandamál/4



Morgunblaðið/Árni Sæberg

Forsætisráðherra Dana afhendir Davíð Oddssyni frumrit stjórnarskrárinnar í Þjóðmenningarhúsinu.



DANISH DELIVERY OF 1928

- In 2018 National Archives of Iceland published a broacher about the Danish Delivery of 1928 (in Icelandic and Danish)

- Short introduction
- Examples of documents

- Available here: https://heimildir.is/wp-content/uploads/Unorganized/danska-sendingin-1928_web.pdf



Thank you!



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