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# **Synody czasów upadku i przemiany Imperium Rzymskiego na Zachodzie**

## **Synodical Activity and Social Changes**

### **in Western Roman Empire in Hard Times of Decline**

#### **Summary**

The article tries to describe the new situation of the Roman Empire in the West produced by Germanic invasions in the IV and V centuries. The main question is, how the Church in her synodical activity worked, when barbarians took the political power over and created new kingdoms. How the relations with Rome, from one side, and the relations with many different kings of small new countries, effected or changed the organising of synods? The article is divided into eight sections: synodical practice in the early Church; historical and political background in the V and VI centuries; synods in Italy in the V and VI centuries (especially in Rome and in Ravenna); synods in Gallia in the V and VI centuries (especially in Arles, Orange, Orlean and so called royal synods); synods in Spain from the V till VI century (especially in Toledo); synods in Africa in the V and VI centuries (especially in Carthage); synods in Ireland and Britain from the V till the VIII century; and the last part summarizing the synods in the Western Roman Empire and the further progress of European countries and the synodical structures.