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Husabø – kongsgard i vikingtida

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Husabøgarden er ein av dei fem eldste gardane på Leikanger. Garden har hatt ein sentral plass i den norske rikssoga. Enkelte historikarar hevdar at Harald Hårfagre budde i Husabø då han starta prosessen med å samle Noreg til eitt rike på slutten av 800-talet. Harald Gullskjegg, som budde i Husabø, var den mest sentrale kongen i Sogn før landet blei samla til eitt rike. Dottera hans, Ragnhild, vart gift med Halvdan Svarte på Ringerike. Ragnhild og Halvdan fekk sonen Harald. Fleire historikarar meiner dette var riksamlaren Harald Hårfagre. Namnet Husabø tyder "bøen med husa", og er truleg eit sekundært namn som kom til i samband med at garden vart veitslegard. Alle gardar i Noreg med namn som Husabø, Husebø eller Huseby var delar av eit gammalt skattesystem som gjekk ut på at kongen og hirden (livvaka og hoffet til kongen) hadde rett til å bu på gardane i periodar. Desse kongsgardane var lokaliserte slik at dei vart naturlege utgangspunkt for kongen si maktutøving i dei aktuelle delane av landet. Systemet vart bygd opp alt før år 1000. Kongane hadde slike veitslegardar rundt om i dei områda dei rådde over. Dei flytte mellom gardane, som låg ei dagsreise frå kvarandre. Dei som dreiv veitslegardane var pålagde å halda kongeføljet med mat og drikke. Då den nye gravplassen i Husabø vart opparbeidd i 1995, avdekte Bergen Museum fleire graver og gravrøyser frå eldre jarnalder. To av roysene er rekonstruerte inne på gravplassen.



HUSABØ – ROYAL FARM IN THE VIKING ERA
The Husabø farm is one of the five earliest farms in Leikanger, and has held a key place in the Norwegian national history. Some historians believe that the king who unified Norway, Harald Hårfagre, was living in Husabø at the time when he embarked on his mission in the late 800s. King, Harald Gullskjegg, lived in Husabø and was the most significant king in Sogn before the unification of the kingdom. His daughter, Ragnhild, was married to Halvdan Svarte of Ringerike in Eastern Norway. Ragnhild and Halvdan had a son who was named Harald. Several historians believe this son to be Harald Hårfagre, who became famous for gathering several smaller kingdoms into a single kingdom. The name Husabø means "the farm with houses", and is most likely a secondary name which was created as the farm was turned into a veitslegard, meaning that the king or a dignitary with company could eat and sleep for free. All farms in Norway with names such as Husabø, Husebø, or Huseby were part of an old taxation system, implying that the king and his retainers (such as body guard or his court) had the right to stay at the farms at their request.

These royal residences were localized so that they were natural starting points for the King's power exercise in the relevant areas of the country. The system was arranged as such before year 1000. The kings had these farms located in every area of the country they dominated. They moved between the farms, which were a day's journey apart. The people running the "veitslegard"s were required to keep the royal retinue with food and beverage.

When the new cemetery in Husabø was earned in 1995, Bergen Museum revealed several tombs and burial mounds from Early Iron Age. Two of the mounds are reconstructed inside the cemetery.

1 Leikanger / Hanehaug
Leikanger Fjord Hotel

2 Hårfagreparken

3 Husabø Kongsgard

4 Baldersteinen

5 Gravrøyser

6 Helleberget

7 Baldergrov
Baldergrov

8 Frækaland

9 Kleppa