

This presentation is devoted to the life and work of Barbora Hoblova, a significant figure of the region of Mlada Boleslav who was at the end of 19th and the beginning of 20th century an important social and ethnographic pioneer and an activist in women's movement and in the field of female education of this region.

She was born in 1852 in Nymburk where as 20 years old she was credited with the foundation of a female reading society Lada in which she participated until her wedding in 1879. After the wedding together with her husband, a gymnasium professor, she moved to Mlada Boleslav. During first years in this city she was devoted to the education of her son until in the middle of eighties she became involved in ethnographic activity and few years later she participated in the birth of Mlada Boleslav's Society of Ladies and Maidens where she was active until her death.

Thanks to her activities several important social institutions grew up in this city; such as nursery, a home for unemployed women, evening school of sewing etc. She participated also in the collection of materials for the Ethnographic Czecho-Slavic Exhibition which was held in 1895. For her contribution in organizing this exhibition she and her husband were rewarded with a diploma and a medal which made her known among professionals in this field. She became a real authority of her area which she demonstrated in countless publications devoted to Czech people. She presented a proof that the area of Mlada Boleslav is ethnologically very valuable which was not appreciated until her time. She demonstrated that ethnographic value of this area was not yet discovered.

She died August 15 1923 in the presence of the family circle in Kokorín and until her last days she was actively involved in cultural and social movement of her region.