

In Germany, Friedrich Ludwig Jahn is said to have been a national hero and as a founder of the Turnverein organization he is usually called “Father of gymnastic”. His glorification goes sometimes so far that his acts are hardly to believe. On the other hand, the Czech historiography did not pay enough attention to him, although there are some connections between him and the Czech society (great influence on the Czech sport movement “Sokol”, a great deal of his monuments in the former Sudetenland-country). According to these two initial facts, the aim of this paper is:

Firstly, to introduce this person to the Czech readers.

Secondly, to point out the development of stereotype formed in the biographies.

Such a definition of my topic was too large to cope with in one and a half years, thus I concentrated primarily only on ten years of his life when his activity became extremely intensive. As far as the structure is concerned, there are applied some untraditional methods in dividing the whole text not chronologically, but thematically after Jahn’s fields of activity.