

## ABSTRACT

The presented master's thesis deals with the *Epic of Zimrī-Lîm*, a text from the ancient city of Mari from the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century BC. The text of the epic is included in transliteration (based on the edition by Michaël Guichard from 2014) and in English translation. The epic has also been published online as the first entry of *NERE (Near Eastern Royal Epics)* project on *ORACC (Open Richly Annotated Cuneiform Corpus)*. In addition to the text itself, the thesis includes a broader historical-cultural commentary. There, selected elements of the ancient text are portrayed as well-set within the lived cultural-political environment of the ancient Near East, with particular attention to the time of Zimrī-Lîm. Most of the space is devoted to the religious aspect of the work, especially the role of the deities. Last but not least, the composition is discussed within the context of other royal epics of the ancient Near East.

## KEY WORDS

Zimrī-Lîm, Mari, Tell Hariri, epic, royal epics, Akkadian literature, narrative, royal ideology, religion, ancient Syria, ancient Mesopotamia, ancient Near East, Middle Bronze Age