

The presented thesis interprets works by Karolina Světlá on the background of Czech literary critical discourse in the second half of the nineteenth century. It focuses on the period approaches to the forms and functions of national literature. It is aimed at problems of tasks set on a Czech writer. Karolina Světlá's prose raises a question - in what extent such "political order" might have influenced individual writing style. We are interested in the issue of both author's and reader's reflection of patriotic-educational influence on literary output. Such period acceptance of this intention of given kind as a factor that in desirable (but in no manner restricting) way pre-sets the formation of the sense of artwork, is understood as an expression of heritage of early revival idea (belief in a nonsubstitutable power of national literature the task of which is to arouse intellectual life of a nation and to guard its independence and uniqueness is a part of this heritage in the process). It is understood as an expression of movement in myth about a nation raised from the dead – a movement that under the terms of a generally accepted patriotic-educational communication code is shared by both readers and their writer.

An answer to the question of how the basic aspects of the discourse of Czech literature then relate to a writer's work and in which ways Karolina Světlá was taken to a position of personified ideal of a national literary author is found in the second part of the thesis. Considering the basic position of the time period reception to work by Karolina Světlá the author tries to phrase his own understanding of the author's expression of art (in the third part of the thesis).