

Abstract

The object of this diploma thesis is an octalingual dictionary from 16th century from the collections of the Pedagogical Museum J.A. Komenského in Prague. The title page of this dictionary is missing and therefore the origin, the author and the range of users, who the dictionary was intended for, are not known. The aim of this diploma thesis was to confirm or disprove the hypothesis that the dictionary should have served tradesmen and travellers. The methods used were translation, language analysis of the phrase-book and the thematic analysis of the contents of the dictionary.

The theoretical part of the diploma thesis deals with lexicography. It introduces the definition of a dictionary and various types of dictionaries with the most attention paid to translational dictionaries. Thereafter, the development of Czech lexicography from its beginning until nowadays is presented. The theoretical section also contains some facts about phrase-books. Furthermore, the time of 16th century is described with the aim to present the period when the dictionary was produced.

Regarding the hypothesis mentioned above, the linguistic analysis has brought these results. The dictionary should have served not only tradesmen but a wide range of users because of the general vocabulary and because it is partly mentioned in the introduction for readers. Additionally, it is assumed that it was intended mainly for tradesmen because of the choice of topics in the phrase-book.