

The main objective of the work is to expand the state of knowledge on the early contacts of the Czech lands with the area of SE Asia, e.g. the missionary Georgius Josephus Camel. In the introduction of the work, the author evaluates the current state of knowledge of the topic. A brief historical excursion follows into the more general issue of the European presence in SE Asia and the history of the Society of Jesus in the Lands of the Bohemian Crown and in the Philippines. Other chapters deal with the significance of the mission itself, the requirement of everyday mission activity and using archival materials come closer to the milieu in which the missionaries lived. A brief introduction to the history of botany with a look at the area of SE Asia then concludes the first part of the work. The second part of the work is devoted to the figure of G. J. Camel, a missionary from the Czech provenance of the Society of Jesus, who at the turn of the eighteenth century worked in the Philippines. A detailed biography informs on the important events of his life and predominantly then on his botanical, pharmacological and ethnobotanical interest. Other chapters describe Camel's contacts with preeminent scientists of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the importance of his work in the period context and also a complete treatment of the preserved legacy localised in many European institutions. In the conclusion of the work, the author presents documentation of one of Camel's pictorial convolutes preserved in the Natural and History Museum in London and has been the first to attempt a botanical determination of the drawings of the plants contained in them. The result of this effort comprises the part of the textual appendix of the work. Throughout the work, the author has utilised authentic, many times as

.