Abstract

This master thesis, The reform movement and the normalization of relations in Jihlava (1960–1971), maps the course of that period in Jihlava, the capital of the region Vysočina.

The first part of this work includes a brief introduction into the atmosphere in Czechoslovakia in 1960s and the historical development in Jihlava in the same period. The second chapter describes the course of events from the beginning of year 1968, colloquially called “The Prague Spring”. New politicians ascended to the politic power and established a new theory, which was called “Socialism with a human face“. The third part deals with the invasion of the Warsaw Pact army of Czechoslovakia on 21st August 1968. The text focuses mainly on Jihlava.

The fifth chapter describes the course of events in Czechoslovakia since the second half of year 1968 to April 1971. This period is called normalization and is characterized by retreating from the post-January policy, personnel changes, restoring censorship, etc. The last part of the thesis concerns itself with Evžen Plocek. He was an active reform politician in Jihlava and committed suicide in April 1969. He burned himself to death due to the consequences of the Warsaw Pact army invasion of The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in 1968.