

ABSTRACT

The main objective of my bachelor's thesis is to introduce the history of books as bearers of all knowledge of our ancestors, whom by using such tool hoped to preserve their wisdom to their ofsprings. The point was not only to bring the technical knowledge to ease the life of the future generations, but also to pass on the spiritual substance such as the ideas of the great philosophers of old Greece or later eras. One of the objectives is to provide an insight of books' history from the times of our ancestors till now even to a lay person. After all, every avid reader at one point starts to wonder, when perhaps was the first book 'born' and who was the person bringing it to life.

Whether it was an educated man or just an ordinary individual who put together few written pages. The question also is, what is the future holding for books? The typical book, as we know it, is slowly being taken over by the phenomena of an electronic book. However, such a book can hardly compete with a classical book freshly smelling with ink. A book is not only made of its contents, but it is also a form of art. This fact was especially correct during the Middle Ages when the books were results of work of several craftsmen and artists. Such manufacture then took months or even years to complete.

The aim of this bachelor's thesis is to publish overall information about the history of books and about the benefits which were brought to us by their invention. Emphasis is also given to books as the art forms which they truly are. After all, when we randomly take a book from a library's shelf, we are first drawn to its cover, its colour, decoration and the quality of craftsmanship. After this, we finally open the book and start with its contents.

Key words

- the book, the bookbinding, the production of paper