

Abstract

The objective of this Master's thesis is to reflect personal memories of the folklore group members on ethnographic Chod festivals, which circle around the period from the fifties till the present day. As well as putting the emphasis on comparison between the memories made before and after 1989, I also focus on the component spheres of interpretation, such as topics about traveling of the Chod folklore groups before the year of 1989 or about music careers of each of the narrators. Furthermore, I observe the changes in political situations and its potential influence on Chod Festivals and its organization and the relationship of local folk groups. The primary sources of this thesis consist of interviews conducted by oral history method with former and current members of local folk groups. The text also derives from archived materials, period press and memoir literature. During the reflection on ethnographic festival the text observes not only historical and political aspect, but the musical and social aspect as well. The biggest contribution of the thesis is therefore the presentation of the topic from different points of view.

Key words: Chod Festival, Folklore, bag pipers music, communism, traveling, Oral history.