

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with the person of Joseph Chamberlain, significant radical politician of the second half of 19th Century and early 20th Century. Main task of this thesis is find out, which events formed his political development from the supporter of free trade to strict protagonist of Tariff Reform and which factors led to the failure to his tariff reform campaign. On the basis of studying especially foreign, british, literature and academic articles, I analysis the topic fixed by this bachelor thesis. The campaign for gain support to tariff reform and economic protectionism was most pronounced at the turn of 19th and 20th Century and caused a dispute in the government and also in ruling coalition of Conservatives and Liberal Unionist. A failure of this campaign was at the end of political career one of the most influential politician of viktorian age. In tariff reform he saw an opportunity how could the government financed advanced social reform and esecially chance to strengthen bounds between colonies and the mother land. He trusted that the economic ties are the most inflintial ties of basis imperial federation. Joseph Chamberlain was a radical imperialist and an imperial factor was affected in all his political decisions. His political life takes place in age, when the British empire was in it's the biggest area, but Britain started to recess from world leadership in international trade and industry production. It was a term, when Britain had to leave a policy of splendid isolation and tryed to find and connect with allies in the international affairs, because of rise a new power states as USA, German and Japan.