

## **ABSTRACT**

The thesis gives basic information about spreading of Buddhism and Hinduism in the Czechia. The first part of the thesis shows the main characteristics of these two world religions and their distribution in the world. It monitors the way they spread from Asia to the Western Europe and the Czechia. The second part of the thesis focuses on Buddhist and Hinduist societies in the Czechia; it enumerates some basic groups and their centres. Using the data of the Czech Statistical Office based on the census in 2001, the thesis evaluates the demographic structure of Buddhists, Hinduist and members of the Hare Krishna Movement in the Czechia.

A special attention is given to an ecological farm of the Hare Krishna Movement in the village of Městečko (the Benešov region). Based on a field survey, the thesis gives an analysis of the demographic and social structure of the inhabitants of the farm as well as their relations with other centres of the Hare Krishna Movement in the Czechia. A questionnaire helped to determine the impact of this Hare Krishna centre on their neighbours.

The thesis also includes pictures, tables and maps. The main theme is followed by supplements presenting the number of Buddhists and Hinduists in both the Czechia and the world. The last part of the thesis consists of photos.