

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to analyze the nature of persecution of Christians in Japan between 1614 and 1873 and to examine the practices of professing and hiding faith by the Hidden Christians of this era. The first part of this thesis is focused on explaining the reasons that lead to the anti-Christian attitude, on methods used by the persecutors and on psychological nature and the consequences of the persecution. It also addresses the important events connected to the persecution of Christians and their meaning to the Christian community of that era. The second part is dedicated to the Hidden Christians. It illustrates their methods of professing and hiding their faith and analyzes the differences between their practices and the Christian dogma. It also deals with their discovery and fate after the arrival of Western missionaries to Japan.