

## ABSTRACT

This material describes the foundation of the Czechoslovak Church and especially the life of its first patriarch Dr. Karel Farský.

The huge amount of archive materials, newspapers from the relevant period and books with connecting topics were collected. The sources of both major churches concerned – the Catholic Church and the Czechoslovak Church - were used. The pure facts were borrowed excluding the political and subjective approaches of the authors.

However Dr. Farský is either celebrated as the founder and the patriarch of the Czechoslovak Church (by its members) or condemned as the subverter (by the Catholic Church), the reality is far more complex. Dr Farský was a honestly believing priest never following his personal benefit. He worked extremely hard on the improvements of the church. He was very charismatic, well educated, deeply considering all his steps before taking them. On the other hand his attitude to the Czech and world history was a bit romanticizing. Furthermore he was a person full of conflict, unable to make any compromise. His ingenuous idea, that all his proposals of the reforms will be immediately accepted, is quite surprising in comparison with his generally responsible approach. When he did not succeed to improve the Catholic Church in a short time, he founded the new one. He fought for his truth even though he confused and made trouble to a lot of innocent people. He did many things well, many wrong, but to judge him is beyond the scope of the material.

### **Priest Karel Farský and foundation of the Czechoslovak Church**

#### *Key words*

The Union of Czechoslovak Catholic Clergy

The Club of Reformistic Priests

Reformative demands

Democratization of the Church

The Czechoslovak Church