

Annotation

The aim of this diploma thesis is to describe the library of Augustinian canons in Roudnice nad Labem (Raudnitz in German) and assess its place in late medieval culture in Bohemia.

The first chapter surveys the history of the monastery. It was founded by the bishop of Prague, Jan IV. from Dražice, in 1333. The monastery flourished and was supported by the highest ecclesiastical officials, but it was destroyed in 1421 during the Hussite wars; the canons escaped to Germany (Erfurt) and to Poland (Wrocław, Żagań/Sagan). There is substantial evidence on the history of the monastery in Roudnice; several important documents of the monastery have survived, especially monastic statutes, the necrologium of the monastery and also its cartulary.

Then the monastic library is explored. In addition to the manuscripts themselves, there are notes on the books in the necrologium of the monastery and several other indirect sources. Unfortunately it is impossible to reconstruct the entire content of the library of the Augustinian canons in Roudnice; nevertheless, over one hundred manuscripts that used to be kept in the library have been identified. These manuscripts are today deposited mainly in the Library of the National Museum and in the National Library of the Czech Republic in Prague.

The library of the monastery in Roudnice had had an impressive collection of texts of various types and topics; however the majority of the manuscripts was of theological content. Some of the authors who lived in the monastery of Roudnice and whose works became the part of the library are known – for example Stephanus of Roudnice, the author of the famous work *Quaestiunculae*, Mattheus Beran, the author of (among many other texts) the *Confundarius maior* and *Confundarius minor*, or Peter Clarificator, the biographer of the archbishop John of Jenštejn. The monastery in Roudnice also became the centre of the religious movement *devotio moderna*, the modern devotion.

The library of the Augustinian canons in Roudnice is one of the most important medieval libraries in our country and the study of this library would certainly require deeper and extended research.

Key words

medieval Latin, medieval manuscripts, Augustinian Canons, medieval literature in Bohemia, medieval library, Roudnice