

# **The phenomenon of pilgrimage at the dawn of the Czech reformation**

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Dissertation examines the phenomenon of pilgrimage in the Czech lands in the Middle Ages, in particular during the reign of Charles IV from the House of Luxembourg and his son Wenceslas IV. The issue is researched in a broad theological, ideological and political context, putting all findings into general context of religious life of the period. Even though the examined period is continuous in terms of time, it poses an era of certain historic turn. Because of that it was possible to explore the issue of pilgrimage in connection with fundamental social and religious changes and gradually rising ideological conflicts. Boom of religious life forms was distinctive to the era of reign of Charles IV. Spectacular religious ceremonials were an integral part of his monarchical representation. Pilgrimage also had a crucial role in this ideological concept.