

The main theme of this bachelor's work is the variety of potential explanations for the existence of ordeals (also known as a *Judicium Dei*) within the medieval justice system.

First two chapters are dedicated to the definition of an ordeal as well as a short introduction into the historical context of an ordeal with an emphasis on Europe. The next part analyses various legal sources from the areas of Bohemia, England and Ireland and compares them. It shows both differences in kinds of ordeal which had been used and circumstances within which it can be found in legal texts. The last part demonstrates possible reasons behind the use of ordeals and tries to look at them from the point of view of a relation between them and an oath as another kind of medieval proof.