

Summary

Political Trials of 1950s in Czechoslovakia – Babice Case

The goal of this thesis is to describe political trials in wider context and discuss in detail about one of the greatest trials- Babice trial. In the present thesis is mapped political-history development in postwar Czechoslovakia until the revolution in 1948, analysis of key legal norms adopted after the February based on which was possible to hold political trials, classification of political trials and detailed analysis of Babice trial.

The thesis is systematically divided into three chapters. The first chapter splits into two subheads. In the first subheads is discussed the political situation in postwar Czechoslovakia, formation of the first postwar government and gradual take-over by Communist Party which culminated into coup d'état in February 1948. The second subhead is dedicated to major changes in legal order and justice where was the most important that norms which was the basis for holding of political trials.

The second chapter contains the characteristic of political trials, description of generation mechanism, incl. authority which has crucial impact on their actions, followed by the division of political trials according to involved groups of people.

The most extensive part of whole thesis is third chapter where is analysed particular trial- Babicky trial. The chapter is divided into eight subheads. In the first chapter is mapped the causes of babicky tragedy. The following chapter is mainly dedicated to formation of anti-state groups. The thirds subchapter describes the case of shooting in the Babice school based on oficial historical sources. In following subchapter is polemized about this version and considered the obscurities. Furthermore is shown the way of investigation and preparation of the show trial itself. In the trial were big amount of persons convicted wrongfully and that's why is important to mention also rehabilitation efforts at the end of 60's. This chapter is closed up by reflection and polemics about the main character of whole case, Mr. Ladislav Malý, and about the influence of StB on whole case.

The master thesis is finished by conclusion where are summarized the most important evidences about the main character of whole case and about the influence of state power on prepration and development of the case.