

Thus the free individual was born for free people, who are the *essence* of modern society. This implies also each person's responsibility for well-being of others.

*Key words:* Luther, university, disputation, Reformation, politics, ethics

UDC 274.5(497.4)'15':271/279

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**The *House Postil* of Primož Trubar (1595) – the first major narrative text in Slovenian literature and its contexts**

The final work by Primož Trubar (1508-1586), his translation of Martin Luther's *House Postil*, was published posthumously (1595). Along with Dalmatin's Bible (1584), this publication was the most extensive and richly illustrated book in 16<sup>th</sup>-century Slovenian Protestant literature, and until the sermon handbook *Sacrum promptuarium* (1691-1707) of Janez Svetokriški it constituted for almost an entire century the largest collection of prose texts in the Slovenian language – *the first extensive Slovenian prose corpus*.

Yet prior to this, the works *En regišter, ena kratka postila* (Primož Trubar, 1558, 8°, 256 pp.), *Postilla slovenska* (Sebastijan Krelj, 1567, 12°, 352 pp.) and *Postila* (Jurij Juričič, 1578, 8°, 980 pp.) had also appeared in the postil genre. The existence of these last mentioned works was denied at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century among Protestants in Carniola (A. Savinec, F. Trubar), and this involved a corpus of texts which as a translation/interpretation of the *Postille Deutsch* of Johannes Spangenberg (1543, I-II) was considerably larger than Trubar's early postil.

The article thus studies the development of the postil genre from its origin in the Middle Ages, the postil as a textual structure in the Reformed Church (including the texts of the Bohemian Hussite Reformation of the 15<sup>th</sup> century) and in particular the conditions in cultural and intellectual history for 1) the origin and early reception of Luther's/Trubar's *House Postil* and 2) the "erasure" of Krelj's/Juričič's postil from public memory as early as among Slovenian Protestants of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The author ascertains that the reasons for the rejection of the postil texts written by Sebastian Kralj and Jurij Juričič (at the same time also the *damnatio memoriae* of their author/authors) can probably be sought in: 1) the personal animosity between Trubar and Kralj; 2) the religious conditions in the Reich, where the Württemberg Lutheran Church with Jacob Andrea at its head probably understood Inner Austria to be its exclusive missionary domain; and 3) concern for Lutheran orthodoxy.

The author establishes that the likely textual basis for Trubar's Slovenian translation of Luther's house postil is either the Augsburg edition of the German original of 1545 or the Nürnberg edition of 1549, or perhaps reprints of the latter from the years 1554, 1561 or 1564.

*Key words:* Martin Luther, House postil (*Hauspostille*), Primož Trubar, postil (genre), Sebastijan Krelj, textual criticism.