SUMMARIES

BOHEMIAN OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC LITERATURE IN THE 10TH AND 11TH CENTURIES

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In the early medieval Bohemian “Slavonic” liturgy one must distinguish between the kernel of the Mass, that is the celebration of the Eucharist, and the non-sacramental part (the pericopes). Whereas according to contemporary sources the use of Slavonic was not allowed for the sacramental part, it was actually required for the marginal sections of the liturgy and other edifying purposes. This mainly oral usage led to the rise of a sparse Slavonic literature. This is evidenced by philological enquiry and a few extant texts. As a comparison with the contemporary German Empire shows, the period we are dealing with was extremely unfavourable for the evolution of vernacular writing. In Bohemia conditions were particularly unpropitious for its survival (eg. the absence of libraries). For these reasons the original dimensions of Bohemian Old Church writing, which died out in the eleventh century, are impossible to gauge.

ROYAL FESTIVALS IN MEDIEVAL BOHEMIA

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In medieval Bohemia, as in neighbouring countries, royal festivals not only represented a public expression of a ruler’s majesty but also an exclusive and unforgettable experience for contemporaries. Firstly, the festival strengthened social connections and, secondly, by interrupting the rhythms of everyday life, fulfilled a constant need for spectacle in human existence. The author considers these two aspects of royal festivals and at the same time offers an overview of questions and answers for a broad comparative study. With the exception of the regulations governing the Bohemian coronation ceremony, the *ordines* have not survived, a gap one can bridge with the help of other sources. The close geographic proximity between Bohemia and Germany exercised a strong influence on the entire spectrum of royal festivals in the thirteenth century but later French, Hungarian and Polish stimuli are also evident. Prague and its environs constituted the focal point of most royal festivals, although they were occasionally celebrated in other larger Bohemian and Moravian towns (for example, Jihlava in 1436, Olomouc in 1469 and Kutná Hora in 1471). While the coronation