

CZECH TRANSLATIONS OF LATE-15TH-CENTURY
GERMAN TRAVELOGUES

The Publications *Traktat über das Heilige Land* and *Das Leben Mohammeds*

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The present contribution deals with the fate of two translations of German-language, printed travelogues from the late 15th century. Whereas *Traktat über das Heilige Land* [Treatise on the Holy Land] was taken from the book *Die Reise ins Gelobte Land* [A Voyage to the Promised Land] by the Nuremberg citizen Hans Tucher senior, *Das Leben Mohammeds* [The Life of Muhammad] represents an adaptation of part of a best-selling travelogue by Bernhard von Breydenbach, a canon regular from Mainz. Both Czech versions were published at the same time in Plzeň by the printing shop of Mikuláš Bakalář, who probably is also the author of both translations. The present contribution deals mainly with the content of both publications in comparison with the respective original, the manner of translation, and the wilful alterations made by the Czech translator. These corrections represent one one hand a reflection of the specific set of religious denominations active in Hussite Bohemia, on the other hand they shed some light on the readers aimed at by the publisher of the Czech versions, and on contacts between Nuremberg and the Bohemian Lands as they existed in the late 15th century.