Summary

THE SECOND OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC LIFE OF SAINT WENCESLAS AND ITS RELATION TO THE LATIN ORIGINAL

The paper deals with the Second Old Church Slavonic Life of Saint Wenceslas and its Latin original, the so-called Gumpold’s legend. It arises from a detailed comparison between the Old Church Slavonic text and the Latin versions. It confirms and deepens the findings of the previous literature that approximately one-third of the Old Church Slavonic text was not translated from Gumpold’s legend, but from other extant Latin sources, especially the Czech redaction of Crescente fide, or it is based on the oral tradition or texts of nonextant legends. The Legenda Christiani should also be mentioned in this context, although the parallels between the Second Old Church Slavonic Life and this Latin legend are not as close as in the case of Crescente Fide. It can be assumed that Legenda Christiani and the Second Old Church Slavonic life had one common source. It is evident that the Old Church Slavonic translator worked with more than one hagiographic text, which resulted in both a stylistically and grammatically inconsistent Old Church Slavonic text. The frequency of apparent citations from at least two Latin Wenceslas legends, also stylistically very different, serves to contradict the hypothesis of the existence of the so-called Slavic Gumpold. The Second Old Church Slavonic Life of Saint Wenceslas is a very interesting text, which is at least partial proof of the intensive blending of Old Church Slavonic and Latin culture in the tenth and eleventh centuries in Přemyslid Bohemia.

Keywords: Old Church Slavonic Text of Czech Origin; Gumpold’s Legend; The Second Old Church Slavonic Life of Saint Wenceslas; Crescente Fide; Legenda Christiani

Kateřina Spurná
Slovanský ústav AV ČR, v. v. i.
oddělení paleoslovenistiky a byzantologie
Valentinská 1, 110 00 Praha 1, Česká republika
spurna@slu.cas.cz, katerina_spurna@nm.cz