

## Summary

### THE LANGUAGE OF (CZECH) BROADSIDE BALLADS

The aim of the article is to present the language of Czech broadside ballads and determine its position in the contemporary (language) context. The analysis of the language of the broadside ballads is carried out taking these two basic criteria as decisive: 1. whether the broadside ballad was published in the seventeenth or eighteenth century, and 2. whether the theme of the broadside ballad was spiritual or secular.

First, the article briefly outlines the current knowledge of the language of the broadside ballads and the language of the period. Based on the language material of about 254 broadside ballads and their careful analysis, it then discusses selected phonological and morphological phenomena previously interpreted as manifesting a particular “decay”. The aim of the analysis is to relate the phenomena to everyday language practice as described in grammar books and thus view them as common in the given period. Vocabulary and syntax are also focused on with a similar conclusion.

Keywords: broadside ballads; phonology; morphology; language of spiritual songs; language of secular songs

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