

Summary

THE DIPHTHONGIZATION $\acute{Y} > EJ$ IN THE BOOK OF TESTIMONIES OF BUCHLOV CASTLE

The article deals with the diphthongization $\acute{y} > ej$ in The Book of Testimonies of Buchlov Castle from the period of 1562–1654. The scope of the court comprised the area now dialectologically described as the western periphery of the East Moravian dialect group lying at the borderline with the Central Moravian dialect group. As books of testimonies were legal documents and had to be written with a minimum time lag and as faithfully as possible, they represent a specific source for understanding the lower-style language, although the scribes' influence has to always be considered. The article presents a detailed analysis of the penetration of the new diphthong into the spoken and legal language. The distribution of diphthongization is described pursuant to selected linguistic and non-linguistic variables. The analysis thus presents diphthongization in nouns proper in comparison with the rest of the vocabulary, the word-stem and word-ending cases and also semantic classes. In addition to chronology, the roles of the individual scribes and the differences between the testimonies proper, the scribes' notes and correspondence are explored. Finally, the findings are compared with the results of previous research, and the place of the books of testimonies within the period manuscript and printed production is specified.

Keywords: Buchlov Book of Testimonies; diphthongization $\acute{y} > ej$; spoken language

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