

Abstract

This thesis is devoted to the detailed description of activities of the municipal court in Říčany in the course of its historical existence. The court had been established probably in the half of 16th century. The court disposed with the capital jurisdiction, which lost by the Theresian act in 1765. Although an entanglement of patrimonial establishments had been common in many municipal courts in the course of the 16th century, the preserved historical records did not confirm this praxis in the court of Říčany in the 16th century, as well as in the course of Thirty Years' War.

The universalism of capital punishment had been typical in this earlier period. The capital punishment was applied in offenders of almost all offences. Similarly, a torture had been used in interrogation of all criminal offences. Jural restrictions of torture application had been completely missing in this period. From 1580 the jural directive for court processes and punishment of offenders had been represented by the Municipal Laws by Paul Koldín or by the Land Constitution. From the sixties of the seventeenth century activities of the court had been described in details in jural records – „Manuals“. Typically, those records described contents of particular court processes in details, namely arrest, examination, confrontation, etc.

However, in this period the court had punished the convicted offenders less frequently, because these acts had been more often conducted by the Prague Appellate Court. The new legal code *Constitutio Criminalis Josefina* issued in 1707 regulated the inquisitional process. Evidently, it continued the Municipal laws, however court practices have been quite different. The Appellate Court, which in the course of the first half of 18th century took control over majority of criminal offences, developer fixed judicial decisions. On the basis of these fixed judicial decisions the Appellate Court assigned capital punishment only exceptionally for offences against human living, incendiarism, and extensive thefts, as well. Forced works of various durations (from several weeks to 3 years) or various forms of reverses had been prevailing. The municipal court in Říčany came to its end in December 31, 1765 as the consequence of the above mentioned Theresian act. The municipal court in Říčany represented atypical, small municipal court. Importantly, it has been only one municipal court with capital jurisdiction in the large dominion Uhřetěves ruled by important aristocratic family of Liechtenstein. Namely, the municipal court in Říčany was atypical by a high number of recorded law processes.