

The Name of The Thesis

Theological and Philosophical Background of the Ecclesiastical Funeral Rites and the Development of Legal Regulation Thereof in View of the Laws of the Czech Republic

Anotation

The thesis analysed three theoretical levels of finding starting criteria for the decision on the manner of disposal of a dead body and the way of its funeral in historical context:

-Professionally institutionalized level, which was focused on satisfactory, swift and quality funeral, very often in the crematorium.

-Philosophical and ethical level, which attempted to substantiate rationally moral qualifications of the behaviour of man and ethical obligation to take decision on pious manners of burial and celebration thereof.

-Theological and ethical level, which, moreover, used the criteria resulting from moral principles included in the system of religious doctrines and which are the object of the faith of members of a religious community.

After summing-up theological and philosophical background, the author commented on three following canon attitudes to the understanding and legal regulation of ecclesiastical funeral rites:

Cognitive attitude, which consists in such an understanding of ecclesiastical funeral rites as the source of magisterial practise of the Church for burial of its members.

Expressive attitude, which consists in such an understanding of ecclesiastical funeral rites as a source of spiritual assistance to the survivors.

Cultural and anthropological attitude, which consists in such an understanding of ecclesiastical funeral rites as a Christian principle of pious protections of human remains.

Key words in English

Ecclesiastical Funeral Rites, Canon Law, Liturgical Law, Popular Piety, Undertaking