

Abstract

The subject of this master thesis is the tradition of creating human – made water springs and caring for them in the research area of protected landscape areas Kysuce (in Slovakia) and Beskydy (in Czech Republic). Both areas are characterized by the occurrence of numerous natural springs of water. People from both places have been enhancing surroundings of these springs for a long time. The creation and care of these objects have become over time a form of tradition, coupled with respect for water and nature as a whole. The aim of the thesis is to identify the shift in this tradition and what it signalizes to people. It is also about bringing the context of changes in traditions with global climate change and with changes in the human relationship and management of landscape. In order to analyze this problem, the methods characteristic for the qualitative type of research were used, such as interviews and observation, which were subsequently evaluated by means of a framework analysis. The work is a kind of microethnographic study that deals with a close group of people who are caring for such water springs in mentioned research areas.

Key words: water springs, landscape memory, invention of tradition, global climate change, nature protection, thick description, Beskydy, Kysuce