



## POSUDEK VEDOUCÍHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

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Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk a literatura (dvouoborové studium)**

Název práce: ***Liberty in Byron's Childe Harold's Pilgrimage***

Autor práce: **Jan Rillich**

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Ph.D. et Th.D.**

Oponent bakalářské práce: **Doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D.**

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### Short characteristics of the thesis

Jan Rillich's BA thesis analyses the concept of freedom in G. G. Byron's *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* (1812-1818). After a short introduction, he distinguishes different aspects of the concept of freedom in Byron's life and work, namely *equality*, *freedom of expression* and *freedom of individual destiny*. In the following chapter, he moves on to the tension between Byron's libertarian ideals and societal norms in his time. The actual analysis of the text can be found in chapters 4-7. The results of the analysis are summarised and evaluated in the conclusion.

### Overall assessment

The thesis is written in good English, and the topic is relevant to our understanding of Byron's work and Romanticism in general. *Childe Harold* is a famously complex work, semi-autobiographical, with a huge amount of contextual references and Jan did his best to peel the multiple layers of its meaning, both in terms of explaining the political and social issues at stake, but also quoting extensively from primary and secondary sources.

As in all BA theses, the limitation of the discussion sometimes creates shortcuts and open questions. Indeed, some of the themes and motifs could have been elaborated upon even more thoroughly, especially the distinction between "negative" and "positive" freedom, the link between individual freedom and political freedom (i.e. independence) or between revolution and utopian thought.

If Jan chooses to pursue this topic further in his M.A. thesis, such issues may be worth looking at.

However, I **do** recommend the thesis for defence and suggest the following grade: **excellent (výborně)**.

31.5.2020

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Datum

Podpis