



POSUDEK VEDOUcíHO BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

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

Název práce: ***Allegory in Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress: Spiritual and Psychological Journey to the Self***

Autorka práce: **Hana Pechová**

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

1. Short characteristics of the thesis

Hana Pechová's thesis analyses the allegorical mode in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. It starts with a comprehensive historical presentation of allegory as a literary genre. It mentions the obvious but also the possible sources of inspiration of Bunyan's work. Subsequently, it moves on to discussing the actual text in relation to the specific difficulties with allegory in the Protestant context. Having compared Bunyan with medieval moralities (or other forms of medieval literary production based on the strict understanding of the *ordo*), the author reaches a convincing conclusion that Bunyan created a new type of allegory, i.e., allegory as a flexible literary genre dealing with the intricacy of the early modern self. It can, therefore, be understood as a herald of the psychological complexity of the novel.

2. Overall assessment

The thesis is presented in a dutiful form; it is well-researched and consults a sufficient number of relevant works of secondary literature. Moreover, it is written in flowing and pleasing English which exceeds the average level of a B.A. student.

However, the work could have paid more attention to the tension between the psychological complexity of the characters and the rather static form of allegory. This is related to the vast topic of psychology and spirituality in the early modern period, or, indeed, to the extensive literature linking the rise of the modern self with the spirit of the Reformation.

However, these are just suggestions for the future, should the work be expanded upon in the years to come.

The work is a successful attempt, meeting the requirements for a B.A. thesis.

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

11.6.2013

Datum

Podpis