

Theses of the DLA doctoral thesis

Eszter Göbölösné Gaál

Nyomtatott protestáns temetési gyűjtemények Magyarországon

[Printed protestant funeral hymnals in Hungary]

Supervisor: Anette Papp, DLA

Liszt Academy of Music

Doctoral School no. 28.

in art and the history of civilization

and music

Budapest

2024

I. Previous research

Both the historical melody research and the literary history dealt with the funeral hymns in expansive monographies, such as the volumes of *Régi magyar dallamok tára* [Old Hungarian Melodies] by Kálmán Csomasz Tóth and Géza Papp and the series of *Régi magyar költők tára* [Old Hungarian Poets]. Gabriella H. Hubert presented the history of hymnals, and the funeral hymnal separately amongst them in her book *A régi magyar gyülekezeti ének* [The Old Hungarian Congregational Hymn]. Kálmán Csomasz Tóth researched in detail the melodies of the funeral hymns in his papers *Halottas énekeskönyveink dallamai* [The melodies of our funeral hymnals] and *Halotti énekeink és a gyülekezeti éneklés* [Our funeral hymns and singing in the congregation]. The above-mentioned works dealt in a great depth with the funeral material of the 16—17th century, however the later history of the hymnal type continuously used by the Reformed Church up until the 20th century was only partially researched. Kálmán Csomasz Tóth presented in detail the 1841 funeral hymnal of the Transdanubian Church District, while explaining the aspect of cultural and church history, which led to a great change and relay of the previous repertoire.

II. Sources

The main source of the research were the editions of Imre Újfalvi's *In exequiis defunctorum. Halott temetéskorra való énekek* [Hymns for burying the dead], whose first known edition is from 1602 and was printed in enlarged and revised editions until the turn of the 18—19th century. The 16—18th-century records of the Transibiscan Church District, now kept in the Archives of the Transibiscan Church District, also uncovered some new information regarding the history of funeral hymnals. The hymnals of Michael Weisse and Wolfgang Ammon served as an important source for the hymns with foreign origin in the chapter on the history of individual hymns. The chapter on liturgy used the agendas of Gáspár Heltai and István Mílotai Nyilas besides the collection of Imre Újfalvi with the addition of the sources published by Áron Kiss in his book *A XVI. században tartott magyar református zsinatok végzései* [Synodal Decisions of the Reformed Church in Hungary in the 16th century]. The Calvinist and Lutheran agendas and textbooks on service kept in the National Széchenyi Library were the source for the chapter's second half regarding the 18—20th century.

III. Methodology

The research methodology was based on the examination of primary sources following the changes made by the editors both in the volume of hymns and their sequences. In the chapter on liturgy, I aimed to not only present the order of the funeral services, but to put them in the context of the contemporary church and secular regulation.

IV. Results

The choice of research field for this thesis was primarily driven by personal interests. By knowing the academic background, it seemed worthwhile to further investigate the early history of the hymnal type and to get acquainted with its yet lesser researched life after the 18th century. The thesis sums up the early history regarding the former research and presents some new findings on the last stages of the funeral hymnals of Debrecen. This assessment also characterizes the chapter on the individual hymns, in some cases creating a new link between parallel sources or giving new information to their stories. The chapter regarding the liturgy is notably enlarged compared to the previous research, it presents the topic not only in a bird's eye view but gives a deep insight into its history.

V. Documentation of activities related to the topic of the thesis

Publication: *Korai protestáns temetési liturgia Újfalvi Imre halottas gyűjteményének tükrében.*

[Early protestant funeral liturgy regarding the funeral hymn collection of Imre Újfalvi] In:

Kiss, Gábor (szerk.) *Fiatalkutatók és Doktoranduszok X. Nemzetközi Jubileumi*

Teológuskonferenciájának Tanulmánykötete. Budapest, Doktoranduszok Országos

Szövetsége, 2020. 202—210.

Presentations: *Korai protestáns temetési liturgia Újfalvi Imre halottas gyűjteményének*

tükrében. [Early protestant funeral liturgy regarding the funeral hymn collection of Imre

Újfalvi] *Fiatalkutatók és Doktoranduszok X. Nemzetközi Jubileumi Teológuskonferenciája.*

Eger, 2020.02.28—03.01.

Az 1780-as debreceni halottas. [The 1780 funeral hymn of Debrecen] *Fiatalkutatók és*

Doktoranduszok XI. Nemzetközi Teológuskonferenciája. Debrecen, 2021.03.05.

Református temetési énekeskönyvek. Rövid áttekintés. [Funeral Hymnals in the Reformed

Church. A short overview] *Tudományos ülészak Csomasz Tóth Kálmán születésének 120.*

évfordulóján. Budapest, 2022.12.02.