

Christianity and Oral Literature of Križevci Region

The work demonstrates that Christianity is an essential part of the identity of Croats in a particular locality, the town and region of Križevci and the region of Križevci, which is best demonstrated in the oral literature formed among the folk. The study of a set of fifteen manuscript collections, compiled in the 19th century, the period when the majority of oral literature records in Croatia had been collected, uncovered Christian content in numerous instances, not limited only to the characters, symbols and motifs, but also as a confirmation of living Christian values and Christian morality as key determinants of identity. Such affiliation with the Christian worldview was observed in all the analysed manuscript collections, regardless of the time of their recording, the various literary genres and the many recorders doing the work, and who had all come from different social and educational backgrounds.

Keywords: Christianity, identity, oral literature, records and recorders of oral literature, Križevci and Križevci Region, 19th century