

# On the epigraphic self-presentation of Bohemian towns at the turn of the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period

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## Abstract:

*In Bohemian municipal inscriptions, various forms of epigraphic self-presentation can be observed from the Middle Ages to the beginning of the Thirty Years' War. They are interesting also in the Central European context, which must always be taken into consideration. Nevertheless, the terms of "municipal inscriptions" and self-representation and the research method can be defined with various breadth. Special attention of the paper is devoted to Prague's Old and New Towns. In this context, the most important is the group of inscriptions the commissioner or subject of which is the town as an institution, or its self-governing bodies. The paper further deals with large groups of inscriptions of the municipal corporations (especially guilds) and inscriptions of individual commissioners, which are mainly of a private character. The self-representation can be perceived both in the presentation of the actual significance of the town generally and in relation to its historical, political and confessional attitudes and engagement, but also to the ethics and jurisdiction, construction and donor activities as well as property management, personal representation, etc.*

**Keywords:** *epigraphy, inscription, self-presentation, town, Bohemia, Prague, 13th–17th centuries*

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