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Reception of the life and work of Janko Šafárik (1814 – 1876) in the Czech and Slovak cultural environment

The work of the prominent scientist Dr. Janko Šafárik (1814 – 1876) belongs primarily to the Serbian cultural space, but since he was of Slovak origin and had close contacts with the Czech national movement, similar to his uncle Pavel Jozef Šafárik (1795 – 1861), he belongs to the cultural history of all three nations. In contrast to the Serbian environment, where his work was the subject of remarkable reflection, in the Czech and Slovak context I record significant changes in reception processes. I define the first phase in time from his one-year stay in Prague in the period 1838 – 1839 and subsequently by his active presence in the scientific life of Serbia (from 1843), about which we find reports in contemporary Czech and Slovak magazines (*Časopis Musea království Českého*, *Lumír*, *Světobzor*, *Literární listy*, *Pešťbudínske vedomosti*, etc.). The second phase includes research mainly in the second half of the 20th century (with a few exceptions), where the authors focused on his librarianship (Miraš Klčovič, 1957), family ties and training at the Evangelical Lyceum in Bratislava (Zdenka Sojková, 1961), archaeological research (Milan Horňák, 2016) or overall work (S. Jovankovič, 2018). But despite several serious studies, as stated by several authors, Janko Šafárik and his work are insufficiently known in the Slovak and Czech scientific context. The goal of the article is to point out the transformations and constants, or rather changes in perspective in the view of the personality, work and legacy of Janko Šafárik in the Slovak and Czech cultural environment.

Key words: Janko Šafárik (1814 – 1876), reception, Czech and Slovak environment