

1.01 Izvirni znanstveni članek

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Jurij Humar – nova spoznanja o njegovem življenju in delu

IZVLEČEK

Jurij Humar (1819–1890) je bil ljudski zdravilec in duhovnik ljubljanske škofije, ki se je ukvarjal s homeopatijo in magnetizmom. O njegovem zdravljenju je bilo objavljenih že veliko del, predvsem o njegovem zadnjem obdobju v letih 1876–1890, ko je deloval na Primskovem. Članek je v glavnem posvečen obdobju pred njegovim prihodom na Primskovo in s tem še neuporabljenim virom iz župnij Adlešiči, Črmošnjice, Sostro in Stara Oselica, ki ga kot človeka pokažejo v novi luči. Na novo so odkriti razlogi za njegovo dopisovanje z misijonarji, saj je tudi on želel v misijone v Severno Ameriko. Dokumentacija, ki kaže na težak značaj in samovoljnost ter težave s cerkvenimi in posvetnimi oblastmi zaradi zdravljenja, pa pojasnjuje, zakaj je duhovnik z obsežnim znanjem številnih jezikov, fizike, teologije, naravoslovja in astronomije živel odmaknjeno od izobraževalnih ustanov globoko na podeželju.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

Jurij Humar, duhovnik, ljudsko zdravilstvo, živalski magnetizem, homeopatija, misijonarji

ABSTRACT

JURIJ HUMAR – NEW KNOWLEDGE ON HIS LIFE AND WORK

Jurij Humar (1819–1890) was a folk healer and a priest of the Ljubljana Diocese practicing homeopathy and magnetism. Although many works have been published on his healing practices, most focused on his last period, 1876–1890, when he served in Primskovo. The article largely focuses on the period before Humar's arrival in Primskovo and hence on parish sources that have so far not been used and that now shed new light on his personality. It presents the newly discovered motives for his correspondence with missionaries, as he too wanted to join the missions to North America. Apart from revealing his difficult character as well as brushes with church and secular authorities over his healing practice, the documents also elucidate why a priest so well-versed in languages, physics, theology, natural sciences, and astronomy chose to live a secluded life in a rural environment away from educational institutions.

KEY WORDS

Jurij Humar, priest, traditional healing, animal magnetism, homeopathy, missionaries

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S U M M A R Y

Jurij Humar – new knowledge on his life and work

Jurij Humar (1819–1890) was a traditional healer and a priest of the Ljubljana Diocese practicing homeopathy and magnetism. Although many works have been published on his healing practices, most focused on his last period, 1876–1890, when he served in Primskovo. Humar's active service as a priest can be divided into two periods. The first one spans 1848 and 1858, when he worked as a chaplain in Adlešiči, Črmošnjice, and Sostro. In the second period, from 1858 until he died in 1890, he served as a parish administrator or parish priest in Stara Oselica, Črmošnjice, and Primskovo in Lower Carniola. Most of these were remote places, far away from major centres and important institutions.

Humar was a highly educated man; he spoke several languages and created an international language composed of 2000 words and 200 forms to facilitate communication among missionaries. He was

interested in philosophy, theology, natural sciences, and astronomy, all surpassing the knowledge of an ordinary priest from a rural environment.

The article largely focuses on the period before Humar's arrival in Primskovo and hence on parish sources that have so far not been used and that now shed new light on his personality. Whereas his difficult character was already revealed during his first office in Adlešiči, his healing practice became the source of his trouble in Sostro. Sought by many sick people and providing treatments without any official medical knowledge, he attracted the attention of the authorities, and carried on as a healer despite the imposed penalties. During his service in Črmošnjice, he corresponded with a missionary in North America Franc Pirc, as he wanted to join him, but without success. Humar did not get along with his frequently changing chaplains, and many believers complained over his neglect of his pastoral duty and his authoritarian nature.

Initially, Humar treated people by rubbing the ailed parts of the body and then began to magnetize various accessories, usually bread and water. Apart from possessing a vast knowledge of homeopathic remedies, he was reportedly also a clairvoyant. At first, the majority of patients that visited him were from rural and working-class backgrounds, and later also people from noble and official ranks who had given up on official medicine. Humar gradually built himself a growing reputation as an effective healer.

Much of Humar's success was also owed to Carniola's unfavourable statistics revealing that 10,000 inhabitants only had one physician who would charge large sums of money without any guarantee that one single visit would suffice. In exchange for his treatment, patients brought Humar gifts that they could afford, in addition to which other people's testimonies of being cured strengthened their belief in their own recovery.