

**SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS (PHD CANDIDATE, ROBERT KOVACS)**

**CONTENTS**

1. Agrarian condition of the Romanian people in Transylvania in the second half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, until the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century
  - a) Medieval premises of the establishment of the federal fund
  - b) Imperial orders and laws
  - c) The agrarian issue from the point of view of the scholars of the time
2. Maintaining feudal bondage in Transylvania in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century
  - a) Feudal relations or modernity
  - b) Urbarial laws in Transylvania between 1847-1848
  - c) The agrarian project in Transylvania
3. The agrarian issue after 1848, realities and controversies
  - a) The Imperial Patent of June 21<sup>st</sup> 1854
  - b) Has serfdom really been abolished?
4. Conclusions
5. General references

**KEY WORDS**

Transylvania, selion, serfs, corvée, property, allodium, words, conscription, diet, patent, laws, redemption, apportionment of property, noblemen, urbarium, diet, services

**Synthesis of the main parts**

Chapter I. Urbarial relations in the Medieval Period are strained by a property regime where federal landlords become a higher political entity which is fully authoritarian. The end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century do not record a significant change of the serfdom and dependence condition of the urbarial serfs. The legal activity and the conscriptions occurred during this period have not brought any changes to this state of things. Chapter II. The conscription of 1819-1820 as well as the debates in the Diet of 1834-1847 confirm the necessity of legal reforms in the field of urbarial relations. The Diet of 1847-1848 accomplishes a partial completion of land, so that peasants get insufficient land and at the same time, low quality land.

The urbarial laws of 1848 establish partial abolishment of serfdom, because only a part of the peasants benefit from the provisions of the laws, namely urbarial serfs. Chapter III. The second half of the 19th century does not lack controversy, ample debates regarding the necessity of solving the urbarial issue and the apportionment of property to peasants. The cause of this situation resides in the shortcomings of the laws on the emancipation and abolishment of serfdom. Emancipation and apportionment of property was aimed exclusively at the urbarial serfs and cottiers while the allodial, curial, censuialist peasants were neglected and marginalized. The imperial patent of 1854 should have regulated the nature of lands, means of redemption. Shortcomings of the patent: only urbarial peasants were redeemed, complex procedures of the courts, allodialism of lots. Many uncertainties remain until the end of the century.