

richiesto, e tanto meno incoraggiato, il potere statale ad intraprendere azioni ingiuste nei confronti della popolazione slovena, a differenza di quanto è stato asserito dalla storiografia comunista. Finora, gli storiografi hanno sempre trattato questo tema in modo parziale, basandosi sull'appartenenza nazionale o ideologica. Sarebbe necessario superare questo tipo di distinzioni. La valutazione storiografica oggettiva della figura e dell'opera del vescovo Antonio Santin dovrebbe rispettare alcune precondizioni e alcuni obblighi, tra cui il principale è la conoscenza di tutte e tre le lingue, croata, italiana e slovena.

Historiographical differences concerning bishop Antonio Santin

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Summary

From the 1950's, some, especially left oriented historiographers, started accusing Antonio Santin of being too close to Mussolini's government during episcopacy in Rome and Trieste and thus he was partly responsible for denationalisation of Croats and Slovenians. Some elements of that critique are still repeated today by Croatian and Slovenian secular and sacral historians. The article gives us an overview of Italian, Slovenian and Croatian secular and sacral historiography. Based on the archives of Archdiocese of Rijeka, the article reveals new data about the administration of the Church in Rijeka and gives us new historiographical understandings after 2006 opening of the Vatican archives concerning the pontificate of Pio XI. In Santin's case, as well as other bishops of multinational dioceses in this area, one has to carefully distinguish free decisions of Church authority from decisions of public (or military) administration. In some cases one will find fascist influence on Church, however, it should be emphasized that Catholic hierarchy did not demand of, let alone entice, government authority to behave unjustly towards Slavic population as the communist historiography claimed. So far, historiographers wrote about it only partially, based on their national or ideological feelings. These divisions should be overcome. Historiographic objective evaluation of the life and work of Bishop Antonio Santin would have to comply with certain requirements and obligations, including the knowledge of all three main languages, Croatian, Italian and Slovenian.