

# The Period of Composition of Kierkegaard's Published Works

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As research on Kierkegaard's writings grows more precise and scientific it becomes increasingly important to fix their period of composition as accurately and completely as possible. The main text of this paper reports these dates in the briefest possible way. Though the necessary preliminary investigations have yielded many fascinating details concerning the composition and relation of these works to each other and to the *Papirer*, these matters are mentioned here only insofar as they contribute to this immediate purpose. Nor is there here any discussion of the significance of these generally neglected or, more accurately, little known facts. This is not because we think such matters uninteresting or unimportant; rather, it is because we believe our first responsibility is to make these dates available in the simplest and clearest possible form.

The various periods of composition here cited are based upon a close and intensive examination of all the available sources including, of course, the A, B, and C groups or sections of the published *Papirer*<sup>1</sup> (hereafter *Pap.*). In all possibly doubtful cases reference has also been made to 'Kierkegaard Arkivet'<sup>2</sup> which contains further collections of drafts, elaborations of themes, fair copies, and various manuscripts ready for the press. Reference has also been made to Kierkegaard's *Samlede Værker*<sup>3</sup> (hereafter *SV*) and, occasionally, to his *Breve og Aktstykker*<sup>4</sup> (hereafter *Br. og Akt.*). In certain cases particular attention has been paid to Kierkegaard's many comments upon contemporary events and persons the dates of which can be or are already well established. These include reviews of his own books,<sup>5</sup> reactions to the newly published work of others,<sup>6</sup> responses to the appearance of various newspaper articles,<sup>7</sup> and events in his own life and in that of others (for example, P. M. Møller's passing away,<sup>8</sup> the death of his own father,<sup>9</sup> his engagement to Regine,<sup>10</sup> the break with her,<sup>11</sup> her engagement to F. Schlegel,<sup>12</sup> the death of her father,<sup>13</sup>

his journies to Berlin,<sup>14</sup> etc.). In several cases the dates of his purchase of a particular book has been taken as contributory evidence; such dates are often preserved in bills<sup>15</sup> from different booksellers which still exist in 'Kierkegaard Arkivet' and some of which now appear as footnotes in the *Pap.*

In most cases it was possible to proceed in the following obvious way. The manuscript material (chiefly the B group but frequently also 'Kierkegaard Arkivet') was first consulted to see if it provided sufficient evidence to fix the beginning and end of the period of composition of a particular work or, failing that, some part thereof. If this proved insufficient the Diary (the A group) was then searched for the entry or entries in which Kierkegaard first discussed the central idea of the work<sup>16</sup> or, better, actually mentions the beginning of the work itself.<sup>17</sup> The beginning thus established, the *Pap.* as a whole were then searched for signs of the elaboration and refinement of the main theme and motifs of the work in question.<sup>18</sup> In some, though not in all cases, it was actually possible to trace the work from beginning to end; this included such things as the original expression of the central idea, the elaboration of the work, its polishing and final completion, the internal and sometimes almost endless debates concerning publication, details of delivery to the printer, the relationship of the book to others already published or in preparation, his reactions to various reviews, etc. Entries containing such material have been constantly compared and considered together with the other kinds of information already mentioned above. The following very brief account of our dating of two volumes illustrates the application of this method and gives some hint of the great light which the various papers can shed upon the development and elaboration of the published works.

In certain cases it was possible to establish the actual date of composition in a relatively simple and straightforward way. Though it was not published until some years after its composition, the sermon *GU* is a case in point. We know that it was preached in Citadellets Kirke on May 18, 1851<sup>19</sup> and, since Kierkegaard always wrote such discourses in advance, must have been originally composed prior to that date. By examining a number of other documents we have also been able to establish the later history of this work. These include the form in which it was originally preached;<sup>20</sup> the Preface to the original manuscript together with a following note both of which Kierkegaard has dated "d. 5<sup>te</sup> Mai 1854.";<sup>21</sup> the page containing the present dedication written on paper of another quality and kind and bearing the date "i Aug. 1855";<sup>22</sup>

the manuscript ready for the press;<sup>23</sup> and, in some ways most remarkable of all, the cover of the blue package containing this manuscript which exists in 'Kierkegaard Arkivet' and which is reproduced below.<sup>24</sup>

Opids Ufvaarsdygt

Teil (18/5.1851)

1855.  $\frac{27}{8}$

Ranfriift (?)

Unlike a comparable entry published in the *Pap.*<sup>25</sup> this cover bears the date Aug. 29, 1855 in Kierkegaard's own hand. This is of great importance because it is, or so we believe, the day on which he finally completed the manuscript and delivered it to the printer. It would appear therefore that this sermon was actually written on or immediately before May 18, 1851; that Kierkegaard considered publishing it in May 1854; that he returned to the text in Aug. 1855; and that he put the final finishing touches on it on the 29th of that month. Certainly he had the manuscript in his possession until this date, i. e., five days before its actual publication (Modern publishers, please note!). Examination of the manuscript suggests however that work done at this time was restricted to final literary polishing.<sup>26</sup> We conclude therefore that the real period of composition of this work is a few days before May 18, 1851.

Of course the problem of dating some of the other works was much more complicated. *IC*, for example, consists of three separate parts each of which tends to surface and then disappear. A brief survey of some of the relevant evidence will give at least some idea of the complexity of the problem and of the way in which the *Pap.* can be used to trace a published work through its various stages.

The central idea of the first part ("Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest") appears for the first time in the *Pap.*<sup>27</sup> as one of many ideas for discourses of occasions from the period Oct. 1844 to Apr. 29, 1845.<sup>28</sup> It reappears at the beginning of Apr. 1848 (i. e., a few days before Apr. 19) after which time he is engaged in elaborating the various sub-sections which make up this part.<sup>29</sup> The "Invocation" ("Paakaldelse") was drafted about the middle of May<sup>30</sup> and a few days later he worked out a tentative plan for a book consisting wholly of these discourses.<sup>31</sup> About the same time, and in the same entry, he returned to the original and central idea of this part and drafted "The Pause" ("Standsnigen"). Two later entries<sup>32</sup> show that he is still working on this idea though the last of these appears to have been written after the completion of this part. In any event, an entry dated July 20th 1848<sup>33</sup> shows clearly that he has completed this first part by that date. Thus although the rough drafts, elaborations, and manuscripts ready for the press from the B group<sup>34</sup> are all undated, we can nevertheless be quite certain that this part of *IC* was composed during the period beginning a few days before Apr. 19, 1848 and ending not later than July 20 of that year.

The central idea of the second part is clearly expressed in the title "Blessed

is he who takes not offense at Me". This thought first appears in six entries from the period Oct. 21 to Oct. 24, 1847,<sup>35</sup> entries which in effect become a draft of "The Exposition" ("Fremstillingen") or B section of this part. In the next few months he touches upon this theme only in passing. However, in a Diary entry from July 20, 1848 he says that he will write "a smaller book" entitled "Blessed is he who . . ." and that this will be a companion piece to "Come to Me, . . ."<sup>36</sup> In this same entry he also gives a plan for this work and indicates its connection with his earlier expressions of this idea. He continues work on this part until the beginning of August when, as his Diary shows,<sup>37</sup> it is already completed. It is then clear that this second part of *IC*<sup>38</sup> was actually composed in its present form between July 20, 1848 and the beginning of August of that year.

The first draft of the third part of *IC* ("From on High He will draw all unto Himself") first appears in the Diary just before Oct. 21, 1837<sup>39</sup> as a "draft" for a "Friday sermon" (or discourse) and was actually preached by him in virtually this same form almost a year later in the Church of Our Lady on Friday, Sept. 1, 1848;<sup>40</sup> it is this "draft" which now appears almost unchanged as the first discourse of this part of *IC*.<sup>41</sup> The plan for the whole of this part is from just after Aug. 21, 1848<sup>42</sup> and is contained in a entry to which a marginal remark appears to have been added later.<sup>43</sup> Another B entry seems to indicate that this third part was being written during the time Kierkegaard was actually preparing the first two parts for the press.<sup>44</sup> In another entry from this period in which he is contemplating an overall plan for publishing these three pieces together with the present *SD* as the first part, he writes "... here may also be a third part, that one on which I am now writing"; this entry is undated but it would appear that it has been written after Nov. 26, 1848.<sup>45</sup> More decisively, he has written in the margin of the manuscript ready for the press "written in the beginning of 49".<sup>46</sup> It is therefore clear that this part of *IC*<sup>47</sup> was begun between the period Aug. 30, 1848 to early Dec. 1848 and completed at the beginning of the following year. This last is perhaps of particular interest in view of the uncommonly long interval between the completion of this work and the date of its eventual publication.

One could, of course, go into much more detail concerning Kierkegaard's writing and final compilation of this work as a whole. One could, for example, report his various plans for the publication of these parts either separately or as elements within one or other of a number of larger wholes, his debates

concerning the relative merits of these plans, his discussions whether or not this work was to be assigned to a pseudonym.<sup>48</sup> In particular, one might show that it was the publication of *SD* on July 13, 1849 which finally made clear to him both that *IC* must be published as such and that the date on which it was done was no longer of any particular importance.<sup>49</sup> All these matters are interesting in themselves and as showing how the *Pap.* and other sources can be used to trace the development of the thoughts behind the published works and, connected therewith, their period of composition. Our primary concern however is with the latter and it is to this we now return.

The essential core of this report is contained in Table 1 which lists the title of each work (together with its title code) followed by its period of composition and date and house of publication. The last two are familiar public knowledge and are included only to facilitate comparison and to make this report more complete. Periods of composition are given with as much detail and precision as is warranted by the available evidence. Thus, for example, we can say that *EE1/EE2* was begun on Oct. 11, 1841 but cannot be more precise about its completion than "end Nov. 1842". In almost all cases references to supporting evidence are cited in footnotes to this table.

Table 1

Title	Period of Composition	Date of Publication	Publishing Firm
<i>Bladartikler fra Tiden før "Forfatterskabet"</i> (B4) <sup>1</sup>	Dec., 1834 – beg. Apr., 1836	Dec. 17, 1834 – Apr. 10, 1836	<i>Kjøbenhavns flyvende Post</i>
<i>Af en endnu Levendes Papirer</i> (LP) <sup>2</sup>	late Apr./early May, 1838 – mid Aug., 1838	Sept. 7, 1838	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Om Begrebet Ironi</i> (BI) <sup>3</sup>	July/Aug., 1840 – June 2, 1841	Sept. 16, 1841	P. G. Philipsen
<i>Enten–Eller</i> (BE1/EE2) <sup>4</sup>	Oct. 11, 1841 – end Nov. 1842	Feb. 20, 1843	C. A. Reitzel
<i>To opbyggelige Taler</i> (T1–2) <sup>5</sup>	Dec. 1842/Jan. 1843 Feb./Mar. 1843	May 16, 1843	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Gjentagelsen</i> (G) <sup>6</sup>	May 1843 – mid June 1843	Oct., 16, 1843	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Frygt og Bæven</i> (FB) <sup>7</sup>	end May 1843 – mid July 1843	Oct., 16, 1843	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Tre opbyggelige Taler</i> (T3–5) <sup>8</sup>	June 1843 – Aug. 9, 1843	Oct., 16, 1843	P. G. Philipsen
<i>Fire opbyggelige Taler</i> (T6–9)	Oct. 1843 – Nov. 1843	Dec. 6, 1843	P. G. Philipsen

Title	Period of Composition	Date of Publication	Publishing Firm
<i>To opbyggelige Taler</i> (T10–11)	Dec. 1843 –Feb. 1844	Mar. 5, 1844	P. G. Philipsen
<i>Tre opbyggelige Taler</i> (T12–14)	Spring 1844	June 8, 1844	P. G. Philipsen
<i>Begrebet Angest</i> (BA)	Mar. 1844 – end May 1844	June 17, 1844	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Philosophiske Smuler</i> (PS)	end Mar. 1844 – end May 1844	June 13, 1844	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Forord</i> (F)	end May 1844 – beg. June 1844	June 17, 1844	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Fire opbyggelige Taler</i> (T15–18) <sup>9</sup>	Summer 1844 – early Aug. 1844	Aug. 31, 1844	P. G. Philipsen <sup>10</sup>
<i>Stadier paa Livets vei</i> (SV) <sup>11</sup>	Sept. 1844 – Mar. 1845	Apr. 30, 1845	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Tre Taler ved tænkte Leiligheder</i> (TTL)	Dec. 1844 – mid Jan. 1845	Apr. 29, 1845	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Bladartikler, der staar i Forhold til "Forfatterskabet"</i> (BFF) <sup>12</sup>	beg. June 1842 – Jan. 31, 1851	June 12, 1842 – Jan. 31, 1851	<i>Fædrelandet</i>
<i>Afsluttende uvidenskabelig Efterskrift</i> (AE) <sup>13</sup>	end Apr. 1845 – mid Dec. 1845	Feb. 27, 1846	C. A. Reitzel
<i>En literair Anmeldelse</i> (LA) <sup>14</sup>	mid Dec. 1845 – beg. Mar. 1846	Mar. 30, 1846	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Opbyggelige Taler i forskjellig Aand</i> [OTA (LT, HLF, LE)] <sup>15</sup>	May 5, 1846 – mid Nov. 1846	Mar. 13, 1847	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Krisen og en Krise i en Skuespillerindes Liv</i> (KK) <sup>16</sup>	end Jan./Feb. 1847	July 24–27, 1848	<i>Fædrelandet</i>
<i>Kjerlighedens Gjerninger</i> (KG) <sup>17</sup>	end Jan./Feb. 1847 – Aug. 2, 1847	Sept. 29, 1847	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Tvende ethisk-religieuse Smaa-Afhandlinger</i> (TSA) <sup>18</sup>	end Aug./Sept. 1847 – Dec. 1847	May 19, 1849	Gyldendalske Boghandel
<i>Christelige Taler</i> (CT) <sup>19</sup>	mid Aug. 1847 – Feb. 11, 1848	Apr. 26, 1848	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Sygdommen til Døden</i> (SD) <sup>20</sup>	Jan. 1848 – mid May 1848	July 13, 1849	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Synspunktet for min Forfatter-Virksomhed</i> (SFV) <sup>21</sup>	Summer 1848 – Nov. 1848	1859	[C. A. Reitzel]
<i>Indøvelse i Christendom</i> (IC) <sup>22</sup>	mid Apr. 1848 – early Dec. 1848	Sept. 27, 1850	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Lilien paa Marken og Fuglen under Himlen</i> (LF) <sup>23</sup>	Mar. 1849 – mid Apr. 1849	May 14, 1849 <sup>24</sup>	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Om min Forfatter-Virksomhed</i> (FV) <sup>25</sup>	Mar. 1849	Aug. 7, 1851	C. A. Reitzel

Title	Period of Composition	Date of Publication	Publishing Firm
"Ypperstepræsten" – "Tolderen" – "Synderinden" (YTS) <sup>26</sup>	Aug. 1849 – beg. Sept. 1849	Nov. 13, 1849	C. A. Reitzel
<i>To Taler ved Altergangen om Fredagen (TAF)</i> <sup>27</sup>	Dec. 1849	Aug. 7, 1851	C. A. Reitzel
<i>En opbyggelig Tale (EOT)</i> <sup>28</sup>	Nov. 1850	Dec. 20, 1850	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Guds Uforanderlighed (GU)</i> <sup>29</sup>	mid May 1851	Sept. 3, 1855	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Til Selvprøvelse, Samtiden anbefalet (TS)</i> <sup>30</sup>	June 1851 – Aug. 1851	Sept. 10, 1851	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Dømmer selv! (DS)</i> <sup>31</sup>	Sept. 1851 – beg. 1852	1876	[C. A. Reitzel]
<i>Bladartikler 1854–1855 (B21)</i> <sup>32</sup>	Feb. 1854 – May 16, 1855	Dec. 18, 1854 – May 26, 1855	<i>Fædrelandet</i>
<i>Dette skal siges; saa være det sagt (DSS)</i> <sup>33</sup>	Dec. 1854 – beg. May 1855	May 24, 1855	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Hvad Christus dømmer om officiel Christendom (HCD)</i> <sup>34</sup>	June 5, 1855	June 16, 1855	C. A. Reitzel
<i>Øieblikket</i> No. 1–10 (Ø) <sup>35</sup>	Mar. 1855 – Sept. 11, 1855	May 26, 1855– Sept. 25, 1855	C. A. Reitzel

The data provided in Table 1 suggests a number of interesting and diverse observations. For example, it is clear that some works were completed much more quickly than others. More particularly, it is clear that some were written with almost incredible speed; *AE*, for example, was written in approximately eight months and hence at an average speed of about 26,760 words per month. And the first part of *TSA* ("Has a Man the Right to let himself be Put to Death for the Truth?") was, as he tells us, completed in eight hours.<sup>50</sup> It is also clear that the time between dates of completion and of publication varies considerably from one work to another; in the case of *SFV*, for example, the reason is familiar and obvious while in others such as *IC* it seems considerably more complex and obscure. Finally, it is clear that the writing as distinct perhaps from the publishing of at least some of the works is closely connected with events in his own life. Of course there are many other interesting points but the reader will have no difficulty in seeing and perhaps exploring these for himself.

It remains now only to add that we have here been concerned only with the terminal dates of composition for the published works as such and that, except by way of illustration, have not discussed the question of the order in which various parts of individual works were actually written. These are very important and rewarding questions deserving the most scrupulous and detailed investigation but, again, they are not our immediate concern. We hope however that this report may have helped to show how the *Pap.* and other extant documents can be used to help settle such matters and that it may itself provide a background for the discussion of these and many other important questions.

NOTES to Main Text

- 1 *Søren Kierkegaards Papirer*. (Udg. af P. A. Heiberg og V. Kuhr). Anden forøgede Udgave ved Niels Thulstrup. Bd. I–XIII; København 1968–70.
- 2 Kierkegaard Arkivet is the collection of all SK's posthumous papers, which are to be found at Det kongelige Bibliotek, København (The Royal Library, Copenhagen).
- 3 *Samlede Værker*. (Udg. af A. B. Drachmann, J. L. Heiberg og H. O. Lange). 3. Udg. ved Peter P. Rohde. Bd. 1–20; København 1962–1964.
- 4 *Breve og Aktstykker vedrørende Søren Kierkegaard*. Udg. ved Niels Thulstrup. Bd. 1–2; København 1953–1954.
- 5 F. ex. SK's comments upon the review of *PS* in *Neues Repertorium für die theologische Litteratur und kirchliche Statistik* ... hrsgeg. von H. Th. Bruns. Bd. 2, Part 1, p. 44 ff.; Berlin, April 1845; cf. *Pap.* VI A 84 (from June 1845). See also his comments upon a review on the same book in *Theologisk Tidsskrift*. Ny Række. Udg. af Scharling og Engelstoft. Bd. 4, Part 1, p. 175 ff.; København, May 7, 1846, by Johan Frederik Hagen; cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 A 158 (from Sept. 1846).
- 6 F. ex. SK's reaction to Hans L. Martensen's *Den christelige Dogmatik*, København, July 19, 1849; cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 553 f. (from July 20 onwards, 1849).
- 7 F. ex. the article "With reference to an anonymous proposal made to me in No. 79 of this newspaper" (*The Fatherland*, Saturday, April 7, 1855), which was SK's response to an anonymous article by N-n in *The Fatherland*, Tuesday, April 3, 1855; cf. *SV* Bd. 19 p. 53.
- 8 "April.  
"Once more a very long lapse of time has passed during which I have not been able to concentrate at all. – I will now try making another attempt.  
Poul Møller has died." (i. e. Mar. 13, 1838) (*Pap.* II A 209).  
In this connection the reader is reminded that *LP* was composed during the period between late Apr./early May and mid Aug. 1838; cf. Table 1.
- 9 Aug. 9, 1838; cf. *Pap.* II A 243 (dated Aug. 11, 1838).
- 10 Sept. 10, 1840; cf. "My relationship to 'her'", *Pap.* X, 5 A 148–150 (dated Aug. 24, 1849), especially *Pap.* X, 5 A 149, 5 p. 160.
- 11 Oct. 11, 1841; cf. *Pap.* X, 5 A 149, 12 p. 163–164.

- 12 Regine became engaged to Schlegel around June, 1843 (cf. *Pap.* X, 5 A 149, 20) and was married to him on Nov. 3, 1847.
- 13 June 26, 1849; cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 568; 569.
- 14 Kierkegaard's journeys to Berlin played an important part in the composition of his earlier works. He composed certain parts of *EE1/EE2* during his first visit to Berlin (Oct. 25, 1841 – Mar. 6, 1842) (cf. *Pap.* III A 146 ff.; also his letters from Berlin to his friend Emil Boesen, *Br. og Akt.* No. 54 and 60.) During his second visit (May 8, 1843 – May 30, 1843) (cf. *Pap.* IV A 101, dated "Berlin d. 10. Mai 1843"; also his letter to Emil Boesen, dated Berlin, May 25, 1843, *Br. og Akt.* No 82; also *Pap.* IV B 97, 3 dated "Berlin i Mai 1843.") he began composing *G* though he did not finish this work until after his return to Copenhagen in June. It also seems very likely that the first few drafts of *FB* were written during this second visit to Berlin; at least these drafts, like the first part of the original manuscript of *G*, are on a kind, quality and size of paper different from that which he ordinarily used. All this is evident from the materials presently available in 'Kierkegaard Arkivet'.
- 15 F. ex. Kierkegaard bought Ludwig Feuerbach's *Das Wesen des Christentums*. 2te Aufl., Leipzig, 1843, on Mar. 20, 1844, from P. G. Philipsen and it seems certain that he used this book when drafting *PS*.
- 16 F. ex. the central idea of *CT*, Part III, No. I, "Keep your Foot when you go to the House of the Lord", appears in *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 256, which we know was written a few days after Aug. 16, 1847.
- 17 F. ex. concerning *KG*, cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 4, p. 6 (from end Jan./beg. Feb. 1844); also, concerning *SD*, cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 497 (from Jan. 1848).
- 18 F. ex. in *Pap.* V A 109 (dated Aug. 27, 1844), Kierkegaard discussed his troubles in elaborating the work "In vino variats".
- 19 Cf. *Pap.* X, 4 A 318 323, pp. 183–84.
- 20 *Pap.* X, 6 B 33–35, pp. 41–2.
- 21 Cf. *Pap.* XI, 3 B 289. The preface in the manuscript ready for the press appears without this footnote; cf. *SV* Bd. 19, p. 253.
- 22 The page in question is in 'Kierkegaard Arkivet' in the package labelled "B Pak. 52 Læg 8–10".
- 23 Cf. *Pap.* XI, 3 B 290–91.
- 24 This inscription may be translated as follows:
- God's Unchangeableness*  
A Discourse (18/5. 1851)
1855.  $\frac{29}{8}$
- Fair Copy* (?)
- 25 Cf. *Pap.* XI, 3 B 290.
- 26 This is evident from a comparison of *Pap.* X, 6 B 33–35 with XI, 3 B 290–91.
- 27 *Pap.* VI B 151.
- 28 Apr. 29, 1945 is the day on which *TTL* was published; cf. Table 1.
- 29 *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 637–39.
- 30 *Pap.* IX A 16.
- 31 *Pap.* IX A 33.
- 32 *Pap.* IX A 135, 140.
- 33 *Pap.* IX A 176.
- 34 *Pap.* IX B 29–47, pp. 333–40.
- 35 *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 381.
- 36 *Pap.* IX A 176; cf. note 33 above.
- 37 *Pap.* IX A 227.
- 38 *Pap.* IX B 48–51, pp. 340–43.

- 39 *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 371.  
 40 *Pap.* IX A 271; the concept of this sermon occurs in *Pap.* IX B 53.  
 41 Cf. the note by Anti-Climacus in *SV* Bd. 16, p. 147 the draft of which occurs in *Pap.* X, 1 A 423.  
 42 *Pap.* IX A 255, pp. 143–44.  
 43 *Pap.* IX A 256.  
 44 *Pap.* IX B 52.  
 45 *Pap.* IX A 390.  
 46 *Pap.* X, 5 B 31, 2.  
 47 *Pap.* X, 5 B 29–31, pp. 243–50.  
 48 F. ex. *Pap.* X, 1 A 251, 422–23, 425, 450.  
 49 *Pap.* X, 1 A 510, p. 329.  
 50 *Pap.* VIII, 2 B 135.

NOTES to Table 1

- 1 B 4, which is not included in *SV*, 3. udg., (cited above) contains the following items:  
 B 1) "Yet Another Defense of Woman's Eminent Talents". (*Copenhagen's Flying Post*, Provisional Paper No. 34, Dec. 17, 1834.)  
 B 2) "The *Copenhagen Post's* 'Morning Deliberations' in No. 43". (*Copenhagen's Flying Post*, Provisional Paper No. 76, Feb. 18, 1836).  
 B 3) "On *The Fatherland's* Polemic" (*Copenhagen's Flying Post*, Provisional Paper No. 82, Mar. 15, 1836.)  
 B 4) "To Mr. Orla Lehmann". (*Copenhagen's Flying Post*, Provisional Paper No. 87, Apr. 10, 1836.)  
 Concerning B 2–4 cf. *Pap.* I B 3–7, pp. 178–183.  
 2 Cf. note 8 to the main text.  
 3 Kierkegaard took his Degree in Divinity on July 3, 1840. He delivered the manuscript of his Masters thesis (*BI*) to the Faculty of Philosophy on June 2, 1841. It was accepted by Professor F. C. Sibbern on July 16 and defended on Sept. 29, 1841.  
 4 Cf. *Pap.* IV A 70, where SK says: "[being *reus voti*] I finished *Eiiber-Or* in 11 months lock, stock, and barrel".  
 5 Cf. *Pap.* X, 5 A 153, where SK talks about "the time when I read the proofs of *Eiiber-Or* and wrote the Edifying Discourse", i. e. T 1–2.  
 The present preface to T 1–2 is dated "den 5te Mai 1843" (cf. *SV* Bd. 4, p. 13) but this date is not the end of the period of composition of these two pieces. It is rather the day on which Kierkegaard hurried to the printer in order to change the original preface [cf. *Pap.* IV A 83 (from mid Apr. 1843)]. An undated draft of the original preface appears in *Pap.* IV B 143 pp. 331–32.  
 6 Cf. note 14 to the main text.  
 7 Cf. note 14 to the main text.  
 8 The preface as it appears in the manuscript ready for the press is dated "d. 9. Aug. 1843."; cf. *Pap.* IV B 159, 7.  
 9 The present preface is dated "den 9. August 1844"; cf. *Pap.* V B 232, 9, and *SV* Bd. 4, p. 263.  
 10 On May 29, 1845 P. G. Philipsen published all of the discourses under the title *Atten opbyggelige Taler*, 1843–1845. Philipsen had bought the remaining copies of the first two discourses from Reitzel and when these were used up he published in 1852 copies of the remainder under the title *Seksten opbyggelige Taler*, 1843–1845.  
 11 The present preface is dated "i Januar 1845" (cf. *SV* Bd. 7, p. 12), but *Pap.* VI B 7, 4 and 8, 2 show that this preface was originally dated "i Martz 1845". Apparently Kierke-

- gaard changed the date to January while preparing the manuscript for the press. In any event, the *Pap.* entries cited above show the final dating for the period of composition to be Mar. 1845.
- 12 Cf. *SV* Bd. 18, Indhold.
  - 13 The manuscript of the main text was ready for the press "medio Dec." 1845; cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 A 2 and VII, 1 B 69 and 71. The attached "A First and Last Declaration" is dated "i Februar 1846" (cf. *SV* Bd. 10, p. 289), but Kierkegaard himself says that this postscript was kept back for re-working and that it was delivered to the printer as late as possible, i. e., in Feb. 1846; cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 A 2.
  - 14 Kierkegaard began writing *LA* "medio Dec." 1845 (cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 B 71, p. 259) and was still working on it Feb. 7, 1845 (cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 A 4). *Pap.* VII, 1 A 98, p. 41 (dated Mar. 9, 1845) shows that he finished *LA* that day.
  - 15 The manuscript of the preface to the first part, "A Discourse of Occasion", was originally dated "d. 5te Mai 1846"; cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 B 148; 150; 192, 6.
  - 16 In *Pap.* IX A 178 Kierkegaard notes that the article by Inter and Inter is dated "Sommeren 1847" (cf. *SV* Bd. 14, p. 124) but that in fact it was written earlier than this (cf. *Pap.* VII, 2 B 90, 26 which is part of the manuscript ready for the press). This earlier date is in all probability Jan./Feb. 1847; in any event, Kierkegaard wrote the article on the occasion of the revival of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* at The Royal Theatre on Jan. 23, 1847 in which Mrs. Johanne Louise Heiberg again played Julie.
  - 17 Cf. note 17 to the main text. "Part One" of *KG* was finished at the end of Apr. 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 121) and the manuscript was ready for the press on Aug. 2, 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 219). On Aug. 16 Kierkegaard decided to deliver the manuscript to the printer on the next day (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 250, p. 119).
  - 18 The second of these discourses, "Of the Difference between a Genius and an Apostle" was originally part of *Bogen om Adler* which was written in its initial form during the period June 12, 1846 – Sept. 7, 1846. Kierkegaard changed its form several times and the third one bears the date "Novb. 1847" (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 2 B 19, p. 72).  
 The reader may be interested in the evidence for the period of composition cited above. Adler's four books *Nogle Digte (Some Poems)*, *Studier og Exempler (Essays and Examples)*, *Forsøg til en kort systematisk Fremstilling af Christendommen i dens Logik (An Essay toward a Short Systematic Presentation of Christianity in its Logic)*, and *Theologiske Studier (Theological Studies)* were published in June, 1846. We know however from one of C. A. Reitzel's bills that Kierkegaard had bought these books on June 12, 1846. On the other hand, in *Pap.* VII, 1 A 150, which can be dated at the beginning of Sept. 1846, Kierkegaard refers to *Bogen om Adler* as a finished work. No entries are to be found between May 13 (the date of the last entry during his stay in Berlin, May 5 – 13, 1846; cf. *Pap.* VII, 1 A 129–46) and Sept. 7 of the same year. It seems therefore clear that *Bogen om Adler* was composed during that period.  
 Some time around the end of Aug. or the beginning of Sept. 1847 Kierkegaard decided to divide this book into several treatises (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 264). By Dec. 1, 1847 he had finished this work and produced a plan according to which he had divided this work into six treatises (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 440). "Of the Difference between a Genius and an Apostle" figures here as "Bilag II.", i. e. the fifth treatise. The main period of composition of this treatise is consequently end Aug./Sept. 1847 – Dec. 1, 1847. In the present text it is dated simply "1847" (cf. *SV* Bd. 15, p. 49).  
 The first of these discourses, "Has a Man the Right to let himself be Put to Death for the Truth", was composed at the same time, i. e. end Aug./Sept. 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 271–76, pp. 129–32). In a note to the manuscript Kierkegaard says that this treatise must be worked over very carefully in the fair copy because he has had the good fortune to be able to write it in eight hours (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 2 B 135). In the present text

this treatise is dated "1847 i Slutningen" ("the end of 1847") (cf. *SV* Bd. 15, p. 15).

Though *TSA* was not published until May 19, 1849, it is clear that the main period of composition is end Aug./Sept. 1847 – Dec. 1, 1847. Kierkegaard decided to publish this work on May 4, 1849 and the following day sent it to Jens Finsteen Gjørdwad who was to deliver it to the publisher (cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 302, pp. 202–03).

- 19 The plan of Part II, "Joyful Notes in the Strife of Suffering", appears together with some marginal notes in the entries *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 180–84, pp. 90–91 which are from the period June 9 – 13, 1847. However, he first began to elaborate this work at end Aug./Sept. 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 300–02) and finished it at the beginning of Jan. 1848 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 500).

The central idea of Part III, "Thoughts which vound from behind – for Edification", appears in the entry *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 256 (from mid Aug. 1847) but the plan, which shows that he was then writing the work, is from end Dec. 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 486). This part was written last (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 560).

The present Preface to Part IV, "Discourses at Communion on Fridays", is dated "Febr. 1848" (cf. *SV* Bd. 13, p. 237), but the original Preface is dated "i Oct. 1847" (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 2 B 117–22, pp. 219–23) and shows that most of this part was completed in Oct. 1847. The ideas central to Nos. IV, V, VI, and VII of Part IV appear among a number of ideas for Friday sermons from end Aug./Sept. 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 265; 267; 266; 260). Nos. II and III were delivered at Our Lady's Church but Kierkegaard has given only the date of the latter, *viz.*, Aug. 27, 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 2 B 168). The main period of composition of Part IV is then mid Aug. – Oct. 1847.

It was on Mar. 6, 1848 that Kierkegaard decided to publish *CT* (cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 116, p. 88).

- 20 The central idea of *SD* appears already in the entry *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 497 (from the beginning of Jan. 1848) but Kierkegaard first began to elaborate this book in Feb. (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 558) and finished it in mid May 1848 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 651 "Report concerning *The Sickness Unto Death*", dated "d. 13 Mai 48"; see also *Pap.* X, 1 A 583 "*The Sickness Unto Death* part of which is from before the Catastrophe of 48", i. e., end Feb./Mar. 1848). From then until the end of June 1848 Kierkegaard continued to discuss whether he should publish *SD* (cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 510, p. 329). The manuscript was delivered to the printer on June 28, 1848.
- 21 Kierkegaard began writing a part of *SFV* in Dec. 1847 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 2 B 191, p. 298, where one sees that he has added "written in 47" in the margin of the manuscript of "A Word about the Relation of my Activity as an Author to 'the single Individual'"). The idea appears for the first time in *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 482 from Dec. 1847 but he did not elaborate the main part of this work until the summer of 1848 (cf. *Pap.* X, 5 B 154, 5 "written after the middle of the year 1848"). He finished it in Nov. 1848 (cf. *Pap.* IX A 293; 298) but later decided that it could not be published until after his death (cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 250, p. 164; 422, pp. 268–69; 508; 510, p. 328; 567; 615; X, 3 A 178). This manuscript or fair copy was finally published by C. A. Reitzel under the direction of his brother, Peter Christian Kierkegaard.
- 22 See the main text.
- 23 Kierkegaard conceived the idea of writing "New Discourses on the Lilies and the Birds" between Apr. 22–24, 1848 (cf. *Pap.* VIII, 1 A 643 with its marginal note from May 17, 1848) but in fact did not begin the elaboration of *LF* until Mar. 1849 (cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 198). In *Pap.* X, 1 A 583 Kierkegaard says that this "is the last thing I have written. They are from May 5, 1849", i. e., the dating of the present preface (cf. *SV* Bd. 14, p. 127). However, this work seems to have been already finished in mid Apr. 1849 (cf. *Pap.* X, 1 A 250; 266).
- 24 The second edition of *EE1/EE2* appeared the same day as *LF*; this was according to

- Kierkegaard's plan and contrary to an earlier intention to accompany the latter with a second edition of *T1-2*.
- 25 "The Accounting" was composed in Mar. 1849 and "A Supplement" in Nov. 1850 (cf. *SV Bd.* 18, pp. 63 & 73; also *Pap.* X, 5 B 191 ff., and *Pap.* X, 6 B 150, p. 225 "the reader will know that 'The Accounting' is from March 15, 1849 . . . there is 'A Supplement' to 'The Accounting' from Nov. 1850"); it is however clear that Mar. 1849 is the main period of composition.
  - 26 The central ideas of *YTS* appear in some entries written a few days before and after Sept. 1, 1848 (cf. *Pap.* IX A 266; 272; 273-74). However, the present preface (dated "In early September, 1849"; cf. *SV Bd.* 14, p. 169 and *Pap.* X, 5 B 26, 3) and the elaboration of No. I (cf. *Pap.* X, 5 B 25, 3 "written about the middle of 1849") show that Kierkegaard did not begin composing these discourses until Aug. 1849.
  - 27 The present preface to *TAF* is dated "late Summer, 1851" (cf. *SV Bd.* 17, p. 28), but it was originally dated "i 1849" (cf. *Pap.* X, 5 B 133 ff.). The back of the title page has the dating "In the end of 1849", i. e., Dec. 1849. *Pap.* X, 2 A 39 and 40 contain the idea and are from this time.
  - 28 The present preface is dated "The 12th of December, 1850" (cf. *SV Bd.* 17, p. 11), but the original preface is dated "i Novbr. 1850" (cf. *Pap.* X, 5 B 117).
  - 29 See the main text.
  - 30 The original preface to *TS* is dated "i Juni 1851" (cf. *Pap.* X, 6 B 4, 3, p. 15). The back of the title page has the dating "The Summer, 1851" (cf. *SV Bd.* 17, p. 50). The present preface is dated "In August 1851" (cf. *SV Bd.* 17, p. 51).
  - 31 The central idea of No. II of *DS* appears in an entry from the end of Sept. 1851 (cf. *Pap.* X, 4 A 410, pp. 250-51). The work as a whole was published posthumously by Peter Christian Kierkegaard in 1876.
  - 32 The first article in this series, "Was Bishop Mynster a 'Witness to the Truth', one of 'the Genuine Witnesses to the Truth', - is this the Truth?", was written in Feb. 1854 (cf. *SV Bd.* 19, p. 9) and published on Dec. 18, 1854. The last article, "That Bishop Martensen's Silence is 1) Christianly indefensible; 2) laughable; 3) dumbclever; 4) in more than one respect contemptible.", was written "16 Mai 55" (cf. *Pap.* XI, 3 B 251, 1) and published on May 26, 1855.
  - 33 The present text has the date "Dec. 1854" and "May 55" (cf. *SV Bd.* 19, pp. 77-8).
  - 34 Cf. *Pap.* XI, 3 B 263, 2.
  - 35 The draft of *Ø* No. I, "An Accompanying Sheet", is dated "i Martz 1855" (cf. *Pap.* XI, 3 B 246, 5). Kierkegaard did not himself publish *Ø* No. 10 but it existed in fair copy before his death on Nov. 11. The drafts were written between July 7, 1855 and Sept. 1, 1855 and the fair copy was probably written between Sept. 1, 1855 and Oct. 2, 1855, the day on which Kierkegaard was removed to Frederiks Hospital. It was published by C. A. Reitzel in that same year.