

English summary

The main objective of this thesis is to present some key issues relevant for postcolonial field of study with respect to two basic areas of interest: concepts of identity and place, respectively displacement in contemporary postcolonial discourse and their reflection in fiction, too. The thesis should provide the potential reader with basic theoretical background based on the most fundamental sources and by means of selected literary works it should support (or disclaim, if necessary) conclusions reached by the most notable theories.

This dissertation work consists of three major parts. In the introduction, apart from providing the motivational, theoretical and literary objectives of the thesis, I cover some basic difficulties that may occur when dealing with the postcolonial field of study. The central part of the thesis can be divided into two parts, each of them consisting of two further sections. The first one, “Identity in Postcolonial Discourse”, is focused on one of the key terms in all of postcolonial theory: *identity* and other concepts related with it. I cover the basic development of theoretical reflection concerning this concept, drawing primarily from secondary sources dealing with it. The theoretical part on identity is succeeded by a chapter “Reflections of Identity in the Postcolonial Writing – Salman Rushdie’s *The Satanic Verses* and Hanif Kureishi’s *The Buddha of Suburbia*, where such issues as practical manifestations of *binarism* and *epistemic violence* are analyzed together with literary depiction of *hybridity* and *mimicry*.

The second theoretical part called “Place and Displacement” covers the issue of displacement. The place concept as such plays a fundamental role together with migration process from the ex-colonial periphery to the ex-Mother Country. *Diaspora* and *diaspora fiction* are the most prominent notions together with *homing in*, *assimilation*, *cartography*, *imaginary homelands* etc. The displacement theoretical part is supported by close reading of works of Kiran Desai (*The Inheritance of Loss*) and V. S. Naipaul (*The Enigma of Arrival*).