

Abstract

The author of this thesis deals with building the national identity of the Republic of Kazakhstan under the leadership of President Nursultan Nazarbayev. President Nazarbayev ruled Kazakhstan autocratically for almost thirty years. One of the main goals of his policy was to build a strong national identity that would ensure the stability of the Nazarbayev regime in the ethnically and religiously diverse region of Central Asia, i.e. the continuation of his legacy. This work is a discursive analysis of selected speeches of the president across his entire administration. The theoretical part of the thesis introduces the concept of discourse and describes the used methods of discursive analysis. It also defines national identity and the role of discourse in its construction based on the sedimentation model of national identity. One section of the theoretical part is devoted to the current research of Nazarbayev's discourse. In the analytical part of the thesis, specific speeches of the president are examined. In them, Nazarbayev describes and presents his vision and strategy for the development of Kazakhstan, while dealing with the topic of national identity. Discursive analysis always describes the political-social context of the speech, including the situation in international relations, and then examines the discursive practices, rhetorical strategies and language used by the president. The results of the analysis of individual speeches are then synthesized in a framework where the author's goal is to describe the development of the president's discourse based on the concepts in the theoretical part of the work.