

The case of „State Transformation in Postcolonial Mozambique“ is set into the context of African postcolonial state research in the introductory part of the thesis. The concepts of africanists Mahmood Mamdani, Patrick Chabal and Jean François Bayart are presented and used as an conceptual framework for the analysis of the postcolonial state in Mozambique.

The origin and development of the postcolonial state in Mozambique is analysed in the wider historical context. The pre-colonial political systems in Mozambique are presented, as well as the first contacts between the pre-colonial Mozambique and the Portuguese and the establishment of the Portuguese presence. The description of the formation and consolidation of the colonial state includes the issue of colonial border demarcation, conquest of the territory and establishment of the colonial administration. The Mozambican independence struggle is analysed as well as its impact on the colonial administration. The development of the leading force of the struggle, the FRELIMO party, is analysed including its origin in the union of three nationalist movements, its internal disputes and divisions and its gradual radicalisation.

The creation of the postcolonial state in Mozambique is described and the constitution of the People’s Republic of Mozambique of 1975, which was the legal base for the one party system, is presented. The political and administrative system of the newly independent Mozambique is analysed, as well as the government policy of radical transformation of the rural areas. The dominant role of the state in the economy is highlighted in the description of the evolution of the Mozambican economy after the independence. The achievements of the state policies in the field of social services are presented. The organisation of the judicial system after the independence is analysed as well.