

This diploma thesis has two aims. The first one is exploration of „Grid/Group Theory“ as it was presented by its author Mary Douglas in „Cultural Bias“ (1978). According to this theory the thinking in the idiom of witchcraft is a product of an perception of specific social structure by an individual. The crux of this thesis should be comparison of social structure of few African societies with their cosmologies according to the empirical materials. It should proof the validation of the theory and also show some difficulties which the student must face during the application.

The second aim is description of witchcraft and sorcery phenomenon and attempt to determine its essence or function for society.