

## **Abstract**

This diploma thesis studies the transformation of the image of *conquistador* Lope de Aguirre in selected pieces of Hispanic literature. The introductory compilation explains the historical context of the colonial background in which Aguirre's rebellion took place. Some historical facts about Aguirre himself are added as well. The analytical part of this thesis concentrates on Aguirre's image in literature written in Spanish, from the second half of the 16th century till present. The four hundred year development of a historical persona into a myth is very briefly captured. Given the amount of possible research samples we choose to primarily focus on Aguirre's image in 16th century chronicles written by witnesses, namely the chronicle of Francisco Vázquez. Secondly, we also look into the image created by *post-boom* writers in the seventies in the 20th century, with special consideration of Abel Posse's novel *Daimón*. As a result, we can make a limited comparison between one of the very first and one of the very last literary images of Aguirre. Based upon these images we also try to deduce the influence of contemporary values and mentality on the creation of said images.