Annotation:

This thesis is an attempt for a religious interpretation of Dostoeysvsky’s novel Crime and Punishment. The thesis attempts to interpret the novel from the perspective of redemption and atonement. It is not our aim to focus on separate aspects of the novel. Rather, we wish to provide a complete interpretation of the novel through the religious theme of redemption. By means of Bachtin’s method of ‘grotesque realism’ we observe the development of religious themes in the novel from the perspective of their carnivalisation. We observe the development of the resurrection theme in the novel and find this theme supported by various forms of symbolism of life and death in the novel. This thesis considers Lazarus’s story in John 11 as central to the meaning of the novel and focuses on literary elaboration of this evangelical text within the novel.