

Abstract

The master thesis *Identity and location in the novel about South Africa* explores the relation between identity of a person, group, culture or nation and location. The objective of this study is to determine how this mutual relation is reflected in the literature.

To formulate the main research question: *In how far the location where a man is located can determine his identity in the novel about South-Africa? How the relation between identity and location is reflected in Etienne van Heerden's novel Kikoejoe?*

The theoretical part of the thesis describes the *status quaestionis* about the topics of identity and location. It determines the meanings that are attributed to those two concepts in the postcolonial discourse. This master thesis makes use of cultural analysis, imagology and deconstruction.

The practical part of the thesis applies those theories on the novel *Kikoejoe* (1996) by the South African author Etienne van Heerden. The analysis explores the relation between *plaas*, the traditional South African farm, and the Afrikaner identity. Furthermore, this study uses the concept of *hybrid identity* introduced by the postcolonial theorist Homi K. Bhabha.