

## **Abstract**

The thesis follows a thematic line in selected works dealing with the celebration of the Day of the Dead and various manifestations of the Mexican attitude toward death. It focuses both on its alteration in time and on the sources from which Mexican perspective of the death, as a part of the national ideological construct, springs from (existentialism, rural fatalism, Mexican Revolution, “philosophy of the Mexican character”, tradition of the *calaveras* poems and graphics). The studied writings or sectors, which the thesis deal with, are: Nahuatl’s lyric poetry, tradition of the *calaveras* poems and graphics, the large metaphysical poem of José Gorostiza *Death Without End*; chosen chapters of the essayistic creation of Octavio Paz, Carlos Fuentes and Carlos Monsiváis; Juan Rulfo’s novel *Pedro Páramo* and Carlos Fuentes’s novella *Aura*.