

### **Abstract (in English):**

The aim of this thesis, called Portuguese in Macau, is to examine the situation of Portuguese language in the former Portuguese colony. The thesis is divided into several main parts. In order to examine the situation of Portuguese language in detail, a complete understanding of historical development in this territory as well as in China, where it belongs nowadays, is required. The history of Portuguese presence in Macau is outlined in the first chapter.

The second chapter focuses on Macau's demographics. Development in number of inhabitants and ethnic composition is described. The chapter also takes account of population age composition, place of birth and religion.

As a result of interaction of diverse cultures in Macau peninsula, a specific group of inhabitants has been formed. This community does not identify themselves neither with the Chinese majority nor with the Portuguese minority. The chapter tends to define, who these native inhabitants of Macau, the so called *filhos da terra*, are. The historical formation and the most important characteristics are described.

Considering the diverse ethnic composition of Macau's population, we can expect that this fact will be reflected in language situation of the territory. The fourth chapter focuses on language situation. Its first parts provide exact figures concerning languages and their speakers. The following parts describe different forms of Chinese that are spoken in Macau. It is essential to distinguish between Mandarin, Cantonese and other Chinese dialects. Apart from Macau's official languages, the situation of English language is mentioned. The use of English has increased considerably in last few years.

The fifth chapter, which is the longest one in this thesis, is dedicated to a detailed description of Portuguese language in Macau. The development of the language during the Portuguese presence in Macau is described as well as the language's position in contemporary local society. Until recent times there has been a Portuguese-based creole called Patuá. The chapter includes the language's phonetic, morphological and syntactic characteristics. The second part of this chapter focuses on the actual state of Portuguese language in Macau and further discusses its phonetic, morphological, syntactic and lexical aspects. A brief introduction of the prosody and pragmatics is included. Mainly works of Graciete Nogueira Batalha were used as a source for this chapter.

The sixth chapter deals with Portuguese written literature in Macau. It contains an outline of literary development in Macau and describes in more detail the most important authors of the 20th century like Luís Gonzaga Gomes, Deolinda de Conceição, Henrique de Senna Fernandes, José dos Santos Ferreira and Leonel Barros.

The seventh chapter provides information about local educational system and further focuses on development of teaching Portuguese until the year 1999 and in the period after the year 1999. The emphasis is placed on the quality of education, problems that Chinese students deal with during their study of Portuguese and the most common reasons for studying Portuguese are identified.

The last eight chapter attempts to find out what are the future perspectives of Portuguese language in this small territory in Southern China. Deciding factors for diffusion of Portuguese language are considered.

