

Abstract

The bachelor's thesis works on the assumption that the cartographical illustration which provides an overview of the German historical language area and dialect area is often related to the Dutch language area as well. In consideration of this background, there is a question how much the Dutch language may be really understood as a variety of the Low German language or if it is an independent West Germanic language on the basis of the long political separation of the Dutch and Germans. The research deals with phonetic and morphological phenomena and tries to create an overview, on which basis the main question of the bachelor's thesis can be determined with certain plausibility, by using linguistic contrasting methods. The materials for the research are grammars of the standard form of Dutch, local grammars of Low German and also linguistic and textual samples of Dutch respectively low German native speakers.