

Filozofická Jihočeská univerzita fakulta v Českých Budějovicích Faculty University of South Bohemia of Philosophy in České Budějovice

## POSUDEK OPONENTA BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Studijní obor: Anglický jazyk a literatura (dvouoborové studium)

Název práce: East Meets West: Multicultural Concepts In Contemporary Britain Viewed

by Several Immigrant Authors

Autorka práce: Magdaléna Smrčková

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Ph.D. e.t. Th.D.

Oponent bakalářské práce: PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D.

## Stručná charakteristika práce

The thesis aims at discussing "key concepts of contemporary multicultural Western society" on the example of three writers of "Eastern" origin. The ambition of the work is to analyse the above concepts in the works of three British authors: Monica Ali, Zadie Smith and Salman Rushdie. The concepts discussed are: "cohabitation of immigrants and the British", "the importance of religion", "relationships in immigrant families" and "differences in diverse generation of immigrants."

## Celkové zhodnocení

Although the selection of the authors to be discussed is fine, the lack of focus is the main problem of the thesis. Most of the text is purely descriptive and – given the topic – rather unconvincing. The choice, while acceptable, is never explained or justified; moreover if the introduction claims that the thesis will investigate three writers of "Eastern" origin, then Zadie Smith does not fit the selection, as she comes from a mixed British-Jamaican family. Analyses of the texts are promised, but actually never delivered; instead we are given mere descriptions of plots, accompanied by more or less banal statements such as that "multiculturalism has been a relevant and important topic in Great Britain" or that "it is evident that the immigrant authors feel the need to show the co-existence of diverse cultures and its issues". Yes, it is evident, indeed. I have the following questions for the author: has the perception of multiculturalism in the British society changed recently? In the case of White Teeth, is it significant where and when the book was written? Why were the most important critical texts on theory of multiculturalism in literature omitted? Was it a conscious choice? If so, I would like to hear the explanation.

Práci doporučuji k obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: velmi dobře

18. 6. 2014

Datum

Podpis

Ústav anglistiky FF JU www.uan.ff.jcu.cz