

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

POSUDEK VEDOUCÍHO 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. et Th.D.

Short characteristics of the thesis

Magdalena Smrčková's thesis deals with the concept of multiculturalism its problems as they are reflected in 3 major novels of contemporary British authors with immigrant background, namely Monica Ali's *Brick Lane* (2003), Zadie Smith's *White Teeth* (2000) and Salman Rushdie's *Moor's Last Sigh* (1995). The author starts with a short introduction of the concept of multiculturalism, focusing specifically on Western Europe and the U.K. She picks up four main aspects of multiculturalism ("how immigrants look at the British and vice versa", religion, importance of the family and the generational problems) and elaborates on them theoretically, as these problems are later discussed in the selected novels. After that, she presents the novelists and the novels she is going to analyse. The second part of the thesis concentrates on the analysis of the mentioned "four main aspects of multiculturalism" in the given novels. The thesis ends with a conclusion, summarising the main points of the analysis.

Overall assessment

The thesis is written in an acceptable style, with few grammatical and spelling mistakes. The main line of the argument is lucid, the selected "four main aspects" focus on major issues of contemporary British multiculturalism. The author uses relevant sources of secondary literature and works with them appropriately. Moreover, the findings of the author are aptly illustrated by quotations from the novels.

On the other hand, relatively long sections of the thesis are descriptive passages at the expense of the more interesting analytical parts. The first, introductory part seems too long (almost half of the entire text of the thesis) and the conclusion only reiterates things that have been said in the earlier part. Given the breadth of the problems discussed, certain sections feel a bit sketchy. A more proportionate division of the introductory part and the analytical one would have helped to treat some of the issues in more depth.

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However, I do recommend the thesis for the defence and propose the following grade: very good (velmi dobře).

11. 6. 2014	
Datum	Podpis

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