

## **The middle class in India: conceptualisations and characteristics**

### **Abstract**

This bachelor thesis addresses the issue of middle class in India. The method used in this thesis is a systematic search of databases containing scholarly articles and thematic literature, supplemented by information from internet sources. The first chapters outline the approach to defining the middle class as such and describe important contextual information on economic liberalisation. Approaches to conceptualizing the middle class are then presented and discussed. Subsequently, the thesis then similarly discusses the processes that condition and accompany its mode. The main findings of this thesis are then the complexity of defining the Indian middle class on the basis of multiple factors and describing the processes accompanying its rise, during which its lifestyle, relationship with the state or its attachment to the caste system changes.

**Key words:** India, middle class, growth, decrease, income, social situation, social status, concept, process