

Abstract

The objective of the master's thesis is to analyze the image of foreigners in Moscovian texts written during the Time of Troubles and soon after it in early 17th century. The thesis will also focus on the perception of foreign influence on political and cultural development of Russian state and society. Due to the fact that the perception of foreigners in Muscovite Russia can be regarded in many aspects as a result of traditional religious and historical thinking concepts which had been widespread in the country by the end of the 16th century, we will pay particular attention to the formation of medieval Moscovian thinking. By means of discourse and comparative analysis we will try to fulfil the following goals: 1) to study the religious and historical thinking formation process in medieval Russia up to the beginning of the 17th century; 2) to analyze various specific features of Moscovian texts from early 17th century in terms of foreigners' perception; 3) to put the issue of foreigners' perception into a wider cultural and historical context, especially with regard to appropriate literature and thinking tradition. This study is based on Moscovian texts of different nature, which reflect the Time of Troubles. We also use a wide range of appropriate secondary literature.

Key Words:

Time of Troubles, foreigner, literary monuments, Muscovite Russia, foreign influence, Orthodox tsardom, Orthodoxy, heretic, Ivan Timofeyev, Avraamy Palitsyn, Ivan Khvorostinin