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## **THE REPRESENTATION OF THE EAST IN ENGLISH LITERATURE (17TH TO 20TH CENTURIES)**

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### **Annotation:**

This thesis explores the theme of the East in English literature from the 17th to the 20th centuries. The topic is particularly relevant today as the representation and influence of Eastern culture in English literature gain increasing attention in the context of globalization. Through this theme, the thesis analyzes the depictions of the East in literature, stereotypes, and their significance in contemporary contexts.

**Keywords:** East, English literature, culture, stereotypes.

### **Introduction**

The theme of the East has played a significant role in English literature from the 17th to the 20th centuries. During this period, English writers reflected Eastern culture in their works, presenting new ideas and concepts to their readers. The cultural exchanges between East and West, facilitated by travel and trade, led to an increased presence of Eastern depictions in English literature. This thesis will analyze these processes, as well as the representation of the East in English literature and its contemporary significance.

### **Main Body:**

1. Depictions of the East and Stereotypes: In the 17th century, depictions of the East appeared frequently in the works of various English writers. For example, in the



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"Middle Ages," the work "Arabian Nights" portrayed the East as exotic and mysterious (Said, 1979). However, these representations were often stereotypical, depicting Eastern peoples as either villainous or filled with dreams and fantasies (Said, 1979).

2. Cultural Exchanges: In the 18th century, through travel and trade, Eastern culture became more deeply integrated into English literature. Writers such as Thomas Moore and Lord Byron reflected the beauty and complexity of Eastern culture in their works (Moore, 1817; Kipling, 1901). This period saw an increase in interest in Eastern culture, spurred by these literary representations (Moore, 1817).

3. Contemporary Context: In the 19th and 20th centuries, the theme of the East continued to evolve in English literature. Writers like E.M. Forster and Rudyard Kipling explored East-West relations, analyzing cultural differences and their impacts on humanity (Forster, 1924; Kipling, 1901). Today, this theme remains relevant within the context of globalization and cultural exchange (Forster, 1924).

### Conclusion:

The theme of the East in English literature from the 17th to the 20th centuries is multifaceted and remains significant. The works created during this period not only reflect the beauty of Eastern culture but also reveal the complex relationships between East and West. In contemporary literature, this theme continues to expand, gaining importance in the processes of globalization.

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