

**The Colonial Encounter in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and  
Orhan Pamuk's *The White Castle*: A Postcolonial Perspective**

**By**

**Ola Suliman Saleh Said**

**Supervisor**

**Dr. Muna Abd-Rabbo**

**Abstract**

This thesis reverses the colonial gaze in Orhan Pamuk's *The White Castle* (1985) and Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* (1899). Many researchers have dealt with the colonial issues from a Western perspective. This research analyses the problems raised to the colonial encounter between the colonizer and the colonized; from an Eastern perspective through Pamuk's novel *The White Castle*, in addition to the Western perspective through Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. Also, the research sheds light on the racist representation of the other in Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. According to that, the main concerns of this research are to shed light on the relations of the "self" and "other", and to understand the impact of colonization upon the Eastern-Western cultures. The significance of this study can be seen in its attempt to distinguish between the Eastern and Western perspectives towards colonialism within the theoretical frameworks of post-colonial theory, namely Edward Said's *Orientalism* (1979).