

## **Abstract**

This thesis focuses on the print media's role and its varied reactions, and the value placed upon different identities' deaths within Turkey in the context of those killed by the state. I use the case of Roboskî, where thirty-four Kurdish villagers were killed by Turkish F-16 warplanes. Since the foundation of the Turkish Republic, its southeast border has never lost importance due to its ethnically diverse population, including its autochthonous Kurdish population, the second largest ethnic group in the country. The inherent porosity of the border is represented and reified as a solid line in the minds of those citizens who live in the western part of Turkey, and the area is represented through the state's official discourse, excluding the subjects' life practices. The securitization and militarization of this border leads to the dehumanization of subjects, the fear of losing "the territorial integrity of the nation" and thus cause a clash of emotions between Kurds and Turks. I deconstruct the hegemonic discourse through analysis of how the space (Roboskî) has been created in three newspapers of differing ideological affiliation. Then I analyze how the incident was represented on the front pages of these newspapers. Twenty newspapers were reviewed, of which four newspapers of different ideological affiliations were selected for discourse analysis. I have also supplemented this analysis with ethnographic research conducted in Istanbul through participant observation in Roboskî meetings and protests, including interviews with relatives of the victims.

**Keywords:** media, nationalism, military, newspaper, kurdish