

**NKANELO WA THEME RA "THRILLER" EKA TINOVHELE TA NTLHANU
LETI HLAWURIWEKE TA XITSONGA**

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ABSTRACT

This research study is about the critical analysis of the concept thriller in the five selected Xitsonga novels written by different authors. The term thriller is a type of modern novels with the emphasis on speedy development of action and suspense by characters. The concept entails that characters take a quick decision on their plans and actions which at the end fail to achieve their intended goals.

Chapter one outlines the introduction of this research where it discusses amongst others the motivation and the aims of undertaking this research study. In this study, two research methodologies were employed to get information for this research, namely literary criticism and textual analysis. Some key concepts relevant for this study were discussed. Furthermore, this chapter reviewed the works of other scholars which are related to this study in order to avoid duplication of information.

Chapter two critically evaluates the concepts thriller using the novels of W.R Chauke, *Nsuku wa mina* and *Ndzi ta n'wi kuma*. This chapter discusses how some characters abruptly took indecisive decisions while planning their activities. It further indicates the fruitless result of their planning, which is evidenced in the novel *Nsuku wa mina*, though the planning shows ingenuity, excitement and a sense of purpose. This chapter also analyses the term thriller in the novel, *Ndzi ta n'wi kuma*. The importance of time frame against ingenuity in terms of taking action. This manifested itself when the main character used ingenuity and times as prescribed to him by his supervisor that led to the arrest of his colleague who was also a criminal.