

## Shakespeare's Shylock and attitudes towards him in socio-historical context



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### ***Reviews***

*Comprehensive manual for ebook fans. I am quite late in start reading this one, but better then never. Its been written in an exceptionally basic way and is particularly merely soon after i finished reading this publication in which really changed me, affect the way in my opinion.*

***(Prof. Antone Olson II)***

## SHAKESPEARE'S SHYLOCK AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS HIM IN SOCIO-HISTORICAL CONTEXT



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GRIN Verlag Apr 2009, 2009. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 213x149x2 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,7, University of Trier, course: Literaturwissenschaftliches Kolloquium, 11 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: The precise date for the composition of Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice' is unknown (Cerasano 97), but it must have been written 'sometime between 1596 and 1598' (Gross 19). It was first printed in 1600 (Cerasano 2), with the title: 'The most excellent History of the Merchant of Venice. With the extreame crueltie of Shylocke the lewe towards the sayd Merchant, in cutting a iust pound of his fleshe: and the obtayning of Portia by the choyse of three chests. As it hath beene divers times acted by the Lord Chamberlaine his servants' (Alexander 8). This title might give the one or other reader food for thought. It implies that Shakespeare's contemporaries must have seen the play, especially the character Shylock, 'in dissimilar terms' from us nowadays (Cerasano 55). The following work will shed some light on the changes in reception and interpretation of 'The Merchant of Venice', which have developed from the time of its creation until today, which is an absolutely natural process, as 'texts change with time and audience' (Alexander 90). To get to the bottom of these changes, especially the character Shylock and the attitudes of the audiences of the different centuries towards him have to be brought into focus. This work will show in what ways these attitudes and thus the reception have changed and where these changes derive from. In addition to that, a selection of suggestions made by twentieth-century critics for interpreting the play, as it might have...



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