



Pilgrims from Hell, a philosophical analysis

Lou Akusua De Giuli

loudegiuli@hotmail.com

The novel *Pilgrims from Hell*, by W. Mkufya, is characterised by the constant recurrence of themes featuring in theodicy, the philosophical 'vindication of divine goodness and providence in view of the existence of evil' (Oxford dictionaries online, <http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/theodicy>). The themes which emerge from the characters' conversations throughout the novel provide a constant confrontation of arguments to support or refute the existence of God. This paper aims to analyse the novel from a philosophical perspective, in order to clarify and emphasise the connection between the ideas and words employed by the characters, and the theories of Western philosophers such as St. Anselm, Thomas Aquinas and Leibniz: it is precisely the focus on the philosophical aspects of the story, I believe, that allows the reader to obtain a deeper and more complete understanding of the novel.