

Tribhuvan University

Cultural Disparity and Conflict of Generation in R.K. Narayan's *The Vendor of Sweets*

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This is to certify that the dissertation entitled "Cultural Disparity and Conflict of Generation" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Rajendra Sharma has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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ABSTRACT

The chief problem with which the novel *The Vendor of Sweets* deals is that of cultural disparity and generational conflict between two generations in India. In R.K. Narayan's *The Vendor of Sweets*, the protagonist, Jagan is a conservative person who wants to live in an idealized traditional Indian life. He tries to adopt the moral and ethnical codes of the traditional society for gaining eternal peace and tranquility in life. Mali, on the contrary, ignoring his own typical Indian culture attempts to imitate western culture as well as lifestyle. Leaving his further study in India he prefers to go to America for story-writing machine and begins to adopt American way of life in terms of food, education policy, individual lifestyle and so forth. Cultural disparity between two generations looms there and this kind of cultural disparity creates generational conflict which leads towards family disintegration, i.e. irreconcilable conflict between two generations.

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