

**Tribhuvan University**

**Attraction and Repulsion: A Study of Colonial Dominance in Wole Soyinka's**

***The Lion and the Jewel* and J.M. Coetzee's *Youth***

**A Thesis Submitted to Central Department of English**

**in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of**

**Master of Arts in English**

**by**

**Laxmi Prasad Rasaili**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**December, 2008**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences**

This thesis titled “Attraction and Repulsion: A Study of Colonial Dominance in Wole Soyinka’s *The Lion and the Jewel* and J.M. Coetzee’s *Youth*”, submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Laxmi Prasad Rasaili, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Internal Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Head

Central Department of English

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Central Department of English**

**Letter of Recommendation**

Mr. Laxmi Prasad Rasaili has completed his thesis entitled "Attraction and Repulsion: A Study of Colonial Dominance in Wole Soyinka's *The Lion and The Jewel* and J.M. Coetzee's *Youth*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from October 29, 2008 to December 10, 2008. I hereby recommended his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

.....

Dr. Shiva Rijal

Supervisor

Date:.....

## **Abstract**

Ambivalence deals with the effects of colonization on cultures and societies. Colonial mentality reveals the repressed desires of the sovereign subject of the colonizer rather than the fixed nature of the natives. The protagonists, John in *Youth* and Lakunke in *The Lion and The Jewel* evoke their complex mix of attraction and repulsion between colonizers and colonized because they are never simply and completely opposed to the colonizer. Their hybrid consciousness locates in in-between space; therefore, they mimic the colonizers. In fact, the word barbarian becomes a constructed concept imposing to the native people. Soyinka and Coetzee's plays explore the characters tension between two cultures in the light of how they are located in the in-between location which means neither the one nor the other but something else beside. Soyinka and Coetzee advocate the postcolonial culture that is of hybridized nature and this space is the space of negation and interaction between cultures. Most of the problems that John and Lakunke encounter are the result of the postcolonial condition of the ambivalence. In terms of cultural identity there is nothing absolutely new in the world.

## **Acknowledgements**

Inspiration always plays a vital role in every progress in human life. I am greatly indebted to my respected teacher Dr. Shiva Rijal whose inspiring suggestion and guidance helped me prepare this thesis.

Likewise, I express my deep sense of respect to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, Head of the Central Department of English, Dr. Beerendra Pandey for his inspiring suggestion to complete this task. I heartily express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Abhi Subedi who persistently encouraged me providing the genuine ideas and suggestions. I am also thankful to my respected teachers Mr. Badri Acharya, Mr. Sadan Raj Adhikari and Mr. Shanker Subedi and Mr. Raju Baral who provided me ideas and material. Similarly, I am grateful towards all the teachers at the Central Department of English who directly or indirectly helped in course of my writing.

I want to acknowledge my parents Tika Ram and Yamuna for their financial support and brother Krishna Rana Magar, Rabin Dewali for their valuable ideas and techniques. At last, but not the least, I sincerely thank my friends Khagendra Rai, my brother-in law Narendra L. G. and Santosh Sincheuri for their encouragement and Kumar Jamakatel of Sathi Cyber, Kirtipur for computer typing and printing.

December, 2008

Laxmi Prasad Rasaili

## Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	iii
Abstract	iv
I. Introduction	1
II. The Concept of Ambivalence in Hybrid Situation	12
III. Colonized Psyche in an Ambivalence Situation in Coetzee's <i>Youth</i> and Soyinka's <i>The Lion and The Jewel</i>	34
IV. Conclusion	59
Works Cited	62