

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

"The Significance of Unity of Being" in Thomas Stearns Eliot's Play

The Confidential Clerk

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Abstract

Thomas Stearns Eliot has dramatized the age of loneliness, fragmentation, dislocation and desperation in the play *The Confidential Clerk*. Most of the characters in the play, Colby Simpkin, Sir Claude Mulhammer, B. Kaghan, Lady Elizabeth Mulhammer and Lucasta Angel suffer from loneliness, dislocation and fragmentation. Colby, one of the major characters of the play around whom the play revolves, suffers from disharmony between his profession and vocation. Vocationally he wants to be an organist of the church. But for his livelihood (professionally) he has been compelled to be a confidential clerk of Sir Claude. Moreover Colby, Lady Elizabeth and Kaghan do not know their parents and relatives. Now the question is: in spite of their suffering how do they exist meaningfully? What this research probes into. Colby's keen desire (free will) to be a musician in the play is the key to initiate the unity within self, within the family and with the Divine. For the meaningful existence, all the characters struggle a lot. In the end of the play, unity in the family is maintained. Moreover, all the characters have religious faith. Unity in the family means unity in the world. Whenever there is unity in the world, peace, harmony, co-operation, co-existence and brotherhood can be maintained.

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