

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

**Intertextual Reading of Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient* and Rudyard Kipling's
*Kim***

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master in Arts in English**

By

Guru Prasad Bhattarai

Central Department of English

Kirtipur

August 2010

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Guru Prasad Bhattarai has completed his thesis entitled **Intertextual Reading of Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient* and Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*** under my supervision. He carried out his research paper from February 2010 to August 2010. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

Mr. Hem Lal Pandey

Supervisor

Date: -----

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Letter of Approval

This Thesis entitled **Intertextual Reading of Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient* and Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*** submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Guru Prasad Bhattarai has been approved by the undersigned members of research committee.

Members of the research committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my research supervisor Mr. Hem Lal Pandey of Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur for his scholarly guidance, fruitful encouragement, genuine suggestions, constructive comments and essential materials. His in-depth knowledge enabled me to prepare this dissertation. I express my convivial gratitude to him.

I am thankful to Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of Central Department of English, TU, Kirtipur for his impetus and motivation. Similarly, I would like to acknowledge my gratitude to Dr. Arun Gupto, Dr. Sanjeev Upreti and Mr. Dipak Giri who helped me in many ways. I would like to express my special gratitude to my brother and sister, Mr. Kamal Raj Bhattarai and Komalta Bhattarai, whose contribution couldn't be expressed in words. I will forever be indebted to my dear friend Mr. Ananta Khanal, Mr. Mitra Dev Lamsal, Mr. Dhurba Chandra *Dayee*, Mr. Bhairab Bahadur Lingdam, Mr. Prem Narayan Bhusal, Mr. Jeev Lal Chalise *Bhayee* Mr. Jhalak Bhattarai *Bhayee*, Mr. Sagar Adhikari *Bhayee* and Mr. Purushotam Budhathoki who have helped me in great deal for the accomplishment of this research work.

Finally, I would like to remember all my kith and kin that directly and indirectly help me to bring the present dissertation in this form.

August 2010

Guru Prasad Bhattarai

Abstract

Michael Ondaatje develops the novel *The English Patient* in the form of intertextual relationship with Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*. He has used the intertextual form of writing the novel to counter the discourse of the colonizers as formed by Kipling in *Kim*. Kipling presents his title character Kim in highly positive light. Kipling seeks to prove his reader the authenticity and essentialism of colonization through the novel. Whereas Ondaatje depicts a literary mosaic, a non linear form, projecting glimpses from the perspective of post colonialism. For that he takes the literary elements such as theme, image, characterization, history, and excerpt from the Kipling's novel. He focuses on the fragmented-traumatic life and condition of the ex-colonized characters who have worked in favor of the English in the Second World War. Though both of writers are different in viewing the issue of colonization, Ondaatje establishes the ground of the novel in the intertextual connection with Kipling's *Kim*.

Contents

	Page no.
Letter of Recommendation	
Letter of Approval	
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
Chapter I. Perspective of writing of Ondaatje and Kipling	1-9
Chapter II. Intertextuality	10-26
Chapter III. Intertextual reading of Michael Ondaatje <i>The English Patient</i> and Rudyard Kipling's <i>Kim</i>	27-42
Chapter IV. Conclusion	43-45
Works Cited	