

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Search for Motherland in J.M. Coetzee's *The Childhood of Jesus*:

A Diasporic Study

A Thesis

Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

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By

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TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

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Supervisor's Recommendation

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Approval Sheet

This thesis entitled “Search for Motherland in J.M. Coetzee's *The Childhood of Jesus: A Diasporic Study*” submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Mr. Tanka Prasad Sapkota has been approved by the undersigned members of the Evaluation Committee.

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Table of Contents

	Page
Supervisor's Recommendation	ii
Approval Sheet	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
Chapter 1: J.M. Coetzee's <i>The Childhood of Jesus</i> : Issues and Context	1-14
<i>The Childhood of Jesus</i> as a Postcolonial Text	1
J.M. Coetzee and His Works	5
Review of Literature	7
Chapter 2: Postcolonial Theory	15-29
Complicity of Capitalism with Colonialism	16
The Concept of Colonial Mentality	22
Reflection on Subaltern Theory	25
Chapter 3: Reflection of Diasporic Situation in <i>The Childhood of Jesus</i>	30-50
Simon's Problem of Hunger	32
Quest for Cultural Root in the Novel	34
David's Search for his mother	43
Chapter 4: Search for Cultural Adjustment in <i>The Childhood of Jesus</i>	49-50
Works Cited	

Abstract

The sole thrust of this thesis is to examine how diasporic situation of South Africa is reflected in J.M. Coetzee's novel *The Childhood of Jesus*. Coetzee wants to show the lingering effect of diasporic situation. He shows the political, cultural and psychological exploitation of postcolonial South African people by presenting the Simon and David. The plight of David and Simon is analogous to the immigrants people of South Africa. The search for pacifism also takes place in South Africa following the end of colonial era. He also shows the power of myth and ritual which works as the heaven in the time of dire crisis. The Christian reality of redemption occurs frequently in the novel. To give the biblical twist to the pervading phenomena of death, there is frequent reference to African mysticism, mythic belief and religious doctrine. Postcolonial theory is used to analyze the diasporic situation in the novel.