.Tribhuvan University

Revival of Cultural Identity: in Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon

A thesis submitted to the Central Department of English, TU

In partial fulfillment of requirement for the Degree of

Master of Arts in English

by

Rameswor Acharya

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

April 2007

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my respected Teacher Amma Raj

Joshi. Without his invaluable suggestion and sincere guidance, this research would not

have been completed as the part of Master Degree in English. I would also express my

thanks to Dr Krishna Chandra Sharma, the Head of the Central Department of English.

I am indebted by the constant and sincere stimulations of my friends. Ajay,

Achyut, Paras, Sushil Dai who have encouraged me to the date of completion. My family

members have provided me time and other opportunities in need. Especially the blessing

of my grand parents, and parents is praiseworthy.

Rameswor Acharya

Bharatpur 13 Chitwan

April 2007.

Abstract

Toni Morrison is an American woman writer who has excavated the unwritten history of African people. She has presented the southern American lives facing many problems dealing with race and color. The blacks are natural singer and they have preserved their history in song and myth. They sing the song of pain and happiness in the same manner. The protagonist's unwitting visit to the ancestral home Pennsylvania recreates his history. Milkman who is young and corrupted with the poison of his father's money later is relieved by the love of his Aunt Pilate. His short leg suggests his oddity in the society. He never respects his people. He uses them as a source of pleasure and fulfills his necessities.

The green bag signals his travel to the south. He follows the path which his Aunt once visited. He sees his parental property and witnesses the culture of black people. He feels proud of being the offspring of Solomon who Pilate calls 'Sugerman'. He participates in hunting games and learns compassion and love. He even loves the prostitute. He is really happy to learn that his ancestor could fly. From his childhood he thinks of flying. At the end he remembers his family, misses them. He is sorry for the past deeds. He rides the air at last. If one surrenders the air wholeheartedly he can ride it well. He follows the path of his great grand father who is supposed to reach African home by flying. His recounting of past and respecting other revives is history. He lives complete life rather than fractured and distorted American life.

CONTENT

Chapter		page
I		
	Introduction	1
	African American Literary History	6
II	Culture	20
III	Revival of Cultural Identity in Morrison's Song of Solomon	34
IV	Conclusion	52
Work Cited		55