

**Tribhuvan University**

**Michael Jackson: A Postmodern Icon**

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

**By**

**Santosh Pradhan**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**April, 2010**

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Central Department of English**

**Letter of Approval**

This thesis entitled " Michael Jackson: A Postmodern Icon" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Santosh Pradhan 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. Santosh Pradhan has completed his thesis entitled "Michael Jackson: A Postmodern Icon" under my supervision. He carried out his research from November, 2009 to April, 2010 A.D. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

-----  
Mr. Pushpa Raj Acharya

Supervisor

Date: -----

## **Acknowledgements**

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my honorable guru and thesis supervisor, Mr. Pushpa Raj Acharya, for his incredible co-operation, his scholarly and insightful guidance as well as his regular encouragement to bring a successful accomplishment of the present research. Without his support, the present form of the research would not have been possible.

I also owe a lot of thanks to many others who assisted me generously throughout my research. During the course of this research, I consulted many people including academicians and fellow students, who contributed to making the environment conducive for this academic study. Some of my colleagues include Bipin Marma, Kishor Dhungana, Suresh Raj Dhakal, Prasanta Shrestha, Suraj Shrestha, Gendra Timilsina and Kiran Thapa Magar.

Finally, a special word of thanks and respect must go to my parents, without whose love and care I would not have been in this position. My heartfelt reverence goes to my brothers especially elder brother, Asish, for his incredible contribution to promote my study up to this level. Lastly, I would like to thank all who helped me in this research directly and indirectly.

Santosh Pradhan

April, 2010

## **Abstract**

This research analyses Michael Jackson's life, performance, music videos, songs, body and trials locating him in the postmodern context. Michael Jackson's ever-changing body and performance skill blur the distinction between fact and fiction, reality and construction, and ultimately make him a postmodern icon. Moreover, Jackson's songs and music videos have made a contribution to popular culture and raised the marginalized voice, especially of black Americans.

## **Contents**

**Page No.**

**Acknowledgements**

**Abstract**

**Contents**

<b>I.</b>	<b>Michael Jackson: A Critical Overview</b>	<b>1-7</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>Introduction to Postmodernism and Body</b>	<b>8-21</b>
<b>III.</b>	<b>Michael Jackson: A Postmodern Icon</b>	<b>22-39</b>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>40-42</b>

**Works Cited**