

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Tension between the Local and Global in Rushdie's *Shalimar the Clown*

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Masters of Arts in English

by

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Subas Dhakal has completed his thesis entitled “Tension between the Local and the Global in Rushdie's *Shalimar the Clown*” under my supervision. He carried out his research work from November 8, 2008 to June 26, 2009. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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This thesis entitled “Tension between the Local and the Global in Rushdie’s *Shalimar the Clown*” by Mr. Subas Dhakal, submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Abstract

Shalimar the Clown is the story of personal hatred and enmity that crosses local boundaries and becomes global. It weaves the destiny of three characters; namely Shalimar, a humble Muslim of Kashmir; Boonyi – a Hindu girl and beloved of Shalimar, and Max Ophuls – the shrewd American Ambassador to India. Max lures the innocent Boonyi into his charismatic personality and impregnates her. On the other hand, Shalimar's life is doomed as the Indian Force kills his family, leading him to guerilla warfare in Afghanistan, and later to join a Philipino terror group. The storyline stretches and covers as far as Europe, America and Asia. The theme of *Shalimar the Clown* moves from next door romance of a lovebirds turn into an episode of hatred and avenge breaking local boundaries to global perspectives, and into a gripping tale of how terrorism and terrorists are born.

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