

**Tribhuvan University**

**Cultural Co-existence in Ali's *Brick Lane***

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English,**

**In partial Fulfillment for the Requirements**

**For the degree of Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Yadav Raj Pandit**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**March 2010**

## **Acknowledgements**

My heartfelt sincere gratitude and indebtedness goes to Mr. Saroj Sharma Ghimire, Lecturer at Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, since he paves the approachable way to let me walk in this path, providing me adequate scholarly suggestions and invaluable guidance for the finalization of my dissertation work. In fact, the concrete existence of my dissertation has its root in the relentless inspiration and motivation of various well wishers. The warm love and encouragement of my parents and sister energize me to overcome all sorts of hindrances until the completion of this prolegomena.

I deeply owe my candid appreciation to Professor Dr. Kirshna Chandra Sharma, the Head of Central Department of English. Likewise, I express my sincere respectable thankfulness to Dr. Shiva Rijal, Mr. Badri Acharya, Mr. Pushpa Acharya, Mr. Pam Gurung, Mr. Shankar Subedi, Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari, Mr. Shuva Raj Ranabhat, Mr. H.L. Pandey, Mr. Raju Baral who have academically been guiding me since the initiation of my university study.

Last but not the least, I am equally obliged to thank my cooperative and sagacious friends Dhakaram Subedi, Yograj Lamichhane, Om Prakash Adhikari, Raju Subedi, Himal Aryal, Bipin Joshi, Kabindra Subedi, my brother Surendra Pandit and other for their moral support in my academic field.

April, 2010

Yadav Raj Pandit

## **Abstract**

The research explores the cultural multiplicity of the protagonist of novel *Brick Lane*-Nazneen. Here, she becomes the subject between tradition and modernity, Islamic and western ways of living and values as well as phlegmatic and energetic acts. Moreover, it evaluates the experience of immigrants in new culture. In the process of acculturation, new cultures become the source of knowledge, art for survival: - assimilation with dominant culture. Culture is like a 'theatre' where various social, political and ideological aspects interact with each other. Thus, Nazneen's experience in London is a social rebirth at cultural level. London teaches her the voice of presence and empowers with recent ideas. The newness is not an obstacle but an indispensable source of knowledge which provides the ground for her to encounter, as well as to assimilate with fresh and current lifestyle. Nazneen and her daughters Bibi and Shahana find sophisticated life in multicultural society where, Karim's support plays the role of a catalyst for their assimilation and cultural co-existence in amid the new culture.

## Contents

**Abstract**

**Acknowledgement**

<b>I.</b>	<b><i>Brick Lane: A Narrative on Cultural Identity</i></b>	<b>1-6</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>Cultural Encounter</b>	<b>7-24</b>
	Cross Cultural Negotiation in the Contact Zone	9
	Acculturation and Assimilation	15
	Migration and Diaspora	19
<b>III.</b>	<b>Cultural Co-existence in Ali's <i>Brick Lane</i></b>	<b>25-43</b>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>44-45</b>

**Works Cited**