

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Misrepresentation of the Occident and the Orient in George Orwell's *Burmese Days*:

A Postcolonial Reading

A Thesis

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By

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Approval Sheet

This thesis entitled “Misrepresentation of the Occident and the Orient in George Orwell’s *Burmese Days: A Postcolonial Reading*” submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, by Sarala Dhakal has been approved by the undersigned member of the Evaluation Committee.

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Table of Contents

	Page
Cover Page	i
Supervisor's Recommendation	ii
Approval Sheet	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Table of Contents	v
Abstract	vi
Chapter One: Orwell's <i>Burmese Days</i>	1-11
Introductory Outline of the Study	1
<i>Burmese Days</i> and Orwell	2
Review of Literature	8
Organization of the Study	11
Chapter Two: Postcolonial Discourse and Representation	12-27
Context of Orientalism	12
Representation in Postcolonial Discourse	14
The Concept of "We" and "Other"	22
Chapter Three: Misrepresentation of Burma, the Europeans and the Burmese	28-51
Burma	28
The Europeans/ Westerners	31
The Burmese	37
Love-Hate Relationship between the Colonizers and the Colonized	43
Works Cited	52-53

Abstract

This thesis attempts to illustrate how Westerners exploit, dominate and misrepresent the non-westerners in the name of civilization, on the one hand, and how non-westerners themselves misrepresent their own land, people and culture as inferior due to their colonial mentality on the other hand. Colonial discourses have created various images to represent the Eastern countries and people as the others. It establishes a created form of reality in the readers' mind. It functions as a power to dominate, educate and govern over the non-Western countries. Behind every misrepresentation, there lies the motive of colonization and dominate the Orient. Colonial discourses have functioned as power to create hierarchy of race and color that assist the colonizers to centralize them and inferiorize others, which provides an approach to project Westerners' stereotypes of others. George Orwell's *Burmese Days* textualizes the misrepresentation of Burma and hostility between White colonizers as 'We' and Burmese people as 'Other'. Orwell has partially expressed his love-hate attitudes towards the Burmese people and the white imperialists through his characters.