

Tribhuvan University

Critique of Colonial Mentality in H. G. Wells' *The First Men in the Moon*

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

Hem Raj Naunyal

Roll No. 113(066/067)

University Campus

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

May, 2013

Tribhuvan University  
Central Department of English  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Letter of Recommendation

Hem Raj Naunyal has completed his thesis entitled “Colonial Mentality in H. G. Wells’ *The First Men in the Moon*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from Dec 2012 to Mar 2013. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

---

Mr. Maheshwor Paudel

Supervisor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tribhuvan University  
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Central Department of English  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Colonial Mentality in H. G. Wells’ *The First Men in the Moon*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Hem Raj Naunyal 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to express my deep sense of respect to Mr. Maheshwor Paudel, my guide and the Lecturer at the Central Department of English, for direction, encouragement, idea and productive advice from the very beginning to the completion of this thesis. Without his steady and unbroken direction and intellectual guidance, this research work would have never had the shape of its present form. I consider myself very fortunate to carry out this research under his supervision and guidance. So, I would like to extend my sincere and hearty gratitude to him.

I am very much thankful to Prof. Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, for the acceptance of this research work in its present shape. I would like to expand my sincere thanks to respected teachers Mr. Chitra K. Karki, Badri Prasad Acharya, and other teachers along with administrative staffs who inspired me to materialize my dream of Master of Arts in English Literature.

I would like to acknowledge my wife Mrs. Dipika Panthi for her support, valuable ideas and co-ordination to complete my research in M. A. English. I would also like to express my gratefulness to my friend Manoj Bhatta and others, who directly or indirectly helped me to bring this thesis in its current form.

Hem Raj Naunyal

May 2013

## Abstract

The main two characters in *The First Men in the Moon* by H.G. Wells depict the colonial mentality of the British people, who travel to an unexplored world. The central story revolves around an impoverished businessman Bedford and a scientist Cavor, who land on the moon with the help of an anti-gravity sphere. Their intention for the travel to moon was to explore unused riches of moon from which they can rule the world. They leap in the place which was not their own and also disturbed the peace society of the moon habitant, which give the glimpse of picture of the colonial rule of Britain in the non-western countries. For the communication also Cavor teaches English language to moon habitant but do not try to learn their language. On the one hand, novel intends the readers to know the character's action and activity with colonial mentality which makes them the colonial agent of British Empire which was then ruling the most part of the world, on the other, by depicting the problems faced by the colonizer when they first encounter in the colonial land which shows Wells' anti-colonial mentality. So, Wells' *The First Men in the Moon* is a perfect example of colonial fiction.

## Table of Contents

	Page No
Acknowledgement	
Abstract	
Chapter I. The Pursuit of Colonial Ideals in	
<i>The First Men in the Moon</i>	1
Chapter II. Critique of Colonial Mentality in	
<i>The First Men in the Moon</i>	15
Chapter III. The Accomplishment of Colonial Motive in	
<i>The First Men in the Moon</i>	46
Works Cited	