

Tribhuvan University

Post Colonial Resistance in Amitav Ghosh's *The Circle of Reason* and *The Calcutta Chromosome*

A Dissertation Submitted to the Central Department of English in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of M. Phil. in English

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Letter of Recommendation

Dinesh Kumar Bhandari has completed his thesis, entitled “Post Colonial Resistance in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Circle of Reason and The Calcutta Chromosome*,” under my supervision. He carried out his research from February 2015 to November 2015. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for *viva-voce*.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis, entitled “Post Colonial Resistance in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Circle of Reason* and *The Calcutta Chromosome*,” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Dinesh Kumar Bhandari, has been approved by undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

This dissertation explores post-colonial resistance to Western epistemology that is predominantly based on the discourses of rationality, science and literary realism and above all the monopoly in knowledge production. While analyzing Amitav Ghosh's novels *The Circle of Reason* and *The Calcutta Chromosome* as subversion of Western truth by the use of post-colonial theoretical insights, it demonstrates that 'counter-discourse' and 'magic realism' as narrative techniques subverts the Eurocentric thinking of objective investigations in science and socio-cultural understandings. Ghosh's narrative challenges the Western discursive practice by privileging non-Western setting and through the voice of subaltern characters like Alu and Zindi (in *The Circle of Reason*) and Mangala and Laakhan (in *The Calcutta Chromosome*) who advocate the 'radically heterogeneous' world with equality between "west" and "non-west."

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