

Tribhuvan University

Parodic-Intertextuality in Milan Kundera's *Ignorance*

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, TU

In Partial fulfillment of Requirement for the

Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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Letter of Recommendation

UendraAdhikari has completed his thesis entitled "Parodic Intertextuality in Milan Kundera's *Ignorance*" under my supervision. He carried out the research from 2018 August to 2019 August. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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This thesis entitled "Parodic Intertextuality in Milan Kundera's *Ignorance*"
submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Upendra
Adhikari has been approved by the undersigned members of research committee.

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Abstract

Milan Kundera's novel *Ignorance* is a genuine presentation of the parodic intertextuality which has shown the glimpse of the historical and legendary figures in the form of common characters like Irena and Josef. By using the epic of the great artist Homer he has made parody of the heroic figure *Odyssey* whom all the people of today remember. The central story of the novel revolves around the characters who are exiled from their country because of some particular reason like the communist horror. They want to return to their country but cannot because there is the situation which is not favorable for them. When they return their return is glorified by the writer comparing it to the return of the great heroic figure *Odyssey*. The memories of both characters of *Odyssey* and the *Ignorance* is presented simultaneously making it analogous. The novel *Ignorance* has shown the historical events which is the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968, political pursuit. Because of which people are expelled from the Communist Party. They are forced to be exiled from their own country. This type of incident has a great impact on the artistic manner of the writer. So, Kundera has adopted intertextuality to show all this. Therefore, the parody is used to show invasion of Soviet Communist in Czechoslovakia and ups and downs of the life of the people and invasion of Soviet Communist in Czechoslovakia .

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