Tribhuvan University

Blending of Fact and Fantasy in Siddhartha Dhanvant Shanghvi's *The Last Song of Dusk*.

A Thesis Submitted to Central Department of English
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English

By

Dharma Raj Acharya

Central Department of English
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Nov 23, 2008

Tribhuvan University

Central Department of English

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Dharma Raj Acharya has completed his thesis entitled "Blending of Fact and Fantasy in Siddhartha Dhanvant Shanghvi's *The Last Song of Dusk*." He carried out his research in 2008 A.D. I herebly recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

.....

Shankar Subedi

Supervisor

Date: 24-11-2008

Tribhuvan University

Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences

This thesis titled 'Blending of Fact and Fantasy in Siddhartha Dhanvant Shanghvi's *The*Last Song of Dusk' submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan

University, by Dharma Raj Acharya, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee	
	Internal Examiner
	External Examiner
	——————————————————————————————————————
	Central Department of English
Date:	

Acknowledgements

Inspiration always plays a vital role in every progress in human life. I am greatly indebted to my respected supervisor Shankar Subedi whose inspiring suggestions and guidance helped to prepare this thesis. Likewise, I would like to express my deep sense of respect to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma., Head of the Central Department of English, for his inspiring suggestions to complete this task. I heartily express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Beerendra Pandey, Amar Raj Joshi, Sarad Chandra Thakur and all respected gurus of CDE who encouraged and provided me the genuine ideas and suggestions. Similarly, I am thankful to all of my respected seniors who directly or indirectly helped in course of my writing.

I also would like to acknowledge my parents, family members and friends for their valuable helps and co-operation.

Nov 23, 2008

Dharma Raj Acharya

Abstract

This dissertation is a critical discussion on Shiddhartha Dhanvant Shanghvi's *The Last Song of Dusk* as an exposure of how the writer takes factual things from realistic setting and mixes it with fantastic, mythical, and magical elements. Shanghvi believes that history is individual. History, though, is not logical, scientific and even objective, it still can have meaning. In fact history has many meanings. But it is wrong to seek a unified meaning in history. The protagonist, Vardhmann's history then is not an absolute and the final history. His is merely a version and other versions are still possible. The novel replicates a kind of history chronicle and challenges our fixed conceptions of the facts of history by demonstrating that the materials that can be used to validate one version of history can be creatively rearranged to prove another.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	
Abstract	
I. Introduction	1
II. New Historicism: An Alternative to Traditional Notion of History	12
III. Fallible Narration in The Last Song of Dusk	37
IV. Conclusion	66
Works Cited	70