

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Colonial Hegemony in Nasrin's *French Lover*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English in partial
Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Masters Degree
of Arts in English**

By

Sanjaya Mahato

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

This is to recommend that Mr. Sanjaya Mahato has completed his thesis entitled **Colonial Hegemony in Nasrin's *French Lover*** under my supervision. He carried his research out from September 2009 to April 2010. Therefore, I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Mr. Raj Kumar Baral

Asst. Lecturer

Central Department of English

Date:

Tribhuvan University

Approval Letter

This thesis entitled **Colonial Hegemony in Nasrin's *French Lover*** submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuban University, by Mr. Sanjaya Mahato has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of Research Committee

(Internal Examiner)

External Examiner

Head
Central Department of English, T.U.

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Abstract

The present thesis tries to explore the issues of hegemony due to British colony in India, in its latent level. After an abolition of direct colony from the world, colonizers adopted a new and effective form of domination i.e. the hegemony of consent. The term hegemony was introduced by Antonio Gramsci refers to the power of the ruling class to convince other classes that their interests are the interests of all. Domination is thus exerted not only by force, not even necessarily by active persuasion, but by a more subtle and inclusive power over the economy, and over state apparatus such as education and the media, by which the ruling class's interest is presented as the common interest and thus comes to be taken for granted. The novel, *French Lover*, opens in Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris with the arrival of Nilanjana, a newly married bride. She, initially, was presented as a firm in her Indian culture, tradition and system but gradually, unlike other Indian immigrants, she is also hegemonized and follows European way of life. Not only Nila, but also most Indians and Indian immigrants who are dwelling outside the country are convinced to think and follow European way of life and system. They couldn't be convinced on themselves and their country despite the immense potentialities. It is, according to Gramsci, not a natural phenomenon but a construction of Europeans so that they could dominate them by consent. This process has been proceeding through the cultural and educational hegemony.

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