

Tribhuvan University

Economic Panic: Reading Bram Stoker's *Dracula*

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

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Khem Raj Wasti has completed his thesis entitled " Economic Panic: Reading Bram Stoker's *Dracula*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from 1st July, 2009. He consulted me time and again. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for Viva Voce.

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This thesis submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Khem Raj Wasti entitled "Economic Panic: Reading Bram Stoker's *Dracula*" has been approved by undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

A late Victorian novel, *Dracula* bears some ethos of that period. Though *Dracula* is mainly a story about vampires, after a careful reading it is possible to argue that the economic panic of the Victorian society is embodied in Stoker's text. The Victorian society is presented as in a continuous battle with the foreign investments and the shifting of the power of economy from their hand i.e. the proletariat to the invaders like Dracula i.e. bourgeois. The Victorian society is shown struggling in the face of Capitalism. With the rise of capitalism and the concomitant demise of the household as the center of the economy, the subject became fragmented and compartmentalized, a self haunted at home as well as at work. Capitalist compartmentalization produced haunting of psychic superstructure of the Victorian society.

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