

Tribhuvan University

Representation of the Korean War in Toni Morrison's *Home*

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

Deepa Limbu

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

March, 2014

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Central Department of English**  
**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**Letter of Approval**

This thesis entitled “Representation of the Korean War in Toni Morrison’s *Home*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Deepa Limbu has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of Research Committee

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Internal Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Head,

Central Department of English

Date: -----

## **Acknowledgements**

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and indebtedness to my supervisor, Badri Prasad Acharya, a lecturer at Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, for his scholarly suggestions, constant encouragement and invaluable guidance while preparing this thesis.

Likewise, I am profoundly grateful to Professor Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, for the approval of this thesis in its form.

Moreover, my sense of gratitude goes to Saroj Sharma Ghimire, Shankar Subedi and other lecturers of the Central Department of English, who were helpful in providing me useful and appropriate materials, instructions and other suggestions.

At this moment, I also want to express thanks to my family members and relatives. Especially, I am thankful to my parents, Braham Dhoj and Naramaya, sister Manu, brother Bhim and my husband Nabin Kumar Ijam for helping and encouraging me in this study.

Besides, I am grateful to my friends Sujie, Siru, Punam, Rasu, Sangu, Surya, Sandie, Manoj, Rajen, Subash, Lekhu, Shree and Ruja for their moral and academic support.

March 2014

Deepa Limbu

## Abstract

This present thesis deals with the African Americans' involvement in war in general and in Korean War in particular which is either ignored or misrepresented by mainstream history of America. Toni Morrison's novel *Home*, mostly raises the awful conditions of African Americans and their community before, during and after the Korean War of the early 1950s. She expresses the outcome effects from the 1950s scenario up to now. In the novel, African American veterans like Frank, Mike, Stuff are enlisted in Korean War because of participation in war is the only option for African American males to run their life. Most of them are killed but only Frank returns to his nation. But American government mistreats returnee veterans and keeps them in hospital for their bodily experiments in order to invent new medicine in America. Another fact, in the absence of men in community, African American women like Cee and Sarah are involved in household activities thinking that city is better place to run life. They are also victimised by their masters like Dr. Beauregard who misuses their body to experiment new medicine and to earn name and fame. After going through these conditions, Morrison visualises the determination by Frank to live purposeful life for his only remaining family Cee and for his community. And Cee's decision to identify herself as an independent woman accepting her old tradition, culture, life style and so on makes boldness and awakening among African Americans by which Morrison creates counter- history to American history to give voice to marginalized African Americans.

**Table of Contents** **Page No.**

**Acknowledgements**

**Abstract**

I. Historicity of Toni Morrison's <i>Home</i>	1-17
II. Representation of the Korean War in Toni Morrison's <i>Home</i>	18-55
III. Toni Morrison's <i>Home</i> as a Historical Representation of Korean War	56-57

**Works Cited**