

Tribhuvan University

Humanistic Catholicism in Graham Greene's *The Power and the Glory*, *The End of the Affair*
and *A Burnt-out Case*

A Dissertation Submitted to the Central Department of English in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirement for the Degree of M. Phil. in English

By

Umesh Singh Saoud

Roll No. 19

M.Phil. Batch 2070/71

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

June, 2018

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Umesh Singh Saoud has completed his thesis entitled Humanistic Catholicism in Graham Greene's *The Power and the Glory*, *The End of the Affair* and *A Burnt-out Case* under my supervision. He carried out his research from January 2017 to June 2018. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for *viva-voce*.

Prof. Dr. Beerendra Pandey

Supervisor

Date: _____

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Central Department of English

Letter of Approval

This thesis, entitled Humanistic Catholicism in Graham Greene's *The Power and the Glory*, *The End of the Affair* and *A Burnt-out Case* submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Umesh Singh Saoud has been approved by undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I would like to express deep sense of gratitude to Prof. Dr. Beerendra Pandey. Without his constant encouragement and guidance it couldn't have been possible to complete this thesis on time. The project wouldn't have taken this shape without the support of a number of people and institutions. But before I thank them, I would like to express my gratitude towards the members of Research Committee, Central Department of English at Tribhuvan University, Kiritpur Kathmandu. I am highly indebted to the University Grants Commission, Sanothimi, Bhaktapur, Nepal for providing me *M. Phil. Young Fellowship*. I owe my sincere and deepest gratitude to Prof. Dr. Ammaraj Joshi, head of the Department, for his motivation and support to do research in time. I would like to convey sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. Anirudra Thapa whose scholarly guidance and teaching provided me better insight into research methodology and research work.

I would like to express my gratitude to the senior professors and other lecturers of the Central Department of English, Prof. Dr. Abhi Narayan Subedi and Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Uprety, Prof. Dr. Ramchandra Paudel, and Dr. Shiva Ram Rijal who helped me directly and indirectly during my study of M.Phil.

My special thanks also go to Principal of DAV Shusil Kedia Vishwa Bharati School Mrs Bhubneshwari Rao and the entire management team who always supported me in my every endeavor in every way possible. Likewise, I thank my family members, including my Father Mr Govind Singh Saoud who always motivated me to set high goals in life, my mother whose love and care gives me strength to overcome any odds in life, my elder brother Mr Surendra Singh Saoud who helped me financially whenever needed. Younger brother Deepak, sister Prabha son

Animesh also deserve a big thank for always standing by my side and extending help when needed. Last but not least, if I don't mention the name of my better halneeded. Last but not least, if I don't mention the name of my better half Basanti here it will be so rude of me because it was she who tolerated my oddities and crazy behavior in all circumstances.

June 16, 2018

Umesh Singh Saoud

Abstract

This dissertation analyses three of Graham Greene's novels, namely *The Power and the Glory*, *The End of the Affair* and *A Burnt-out Case* to show how Greene, through his novels, promotes humanistic Catholicism and provides a sharp critique of Christian dogmas and beliefs. He tries to replace abstract God by putting humans at the centre. His attitude towards strict religious doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church is critical. For him serving humans is the true essence of religion. However, Greene equally puts emphasis on restoring faith in God and spirituality. Through his novels he promotes the view that no humans can fully understand and live life without faith in God. Moreover, his novels redefine the concept of suffering, sin, love, redemption, sacrifice and hatred. Through characters like whiskey Priest, Sarah and Querry, Greene shows that every human either it be a morally corrupt priest, unfaithful wife or an atheist, he/she can achieve spiritual redemption through love, compassion and sacrifice. The final finding of this dissertation is that Greene's continuous conflict between secular self and religious self put him in ambivalent position.

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