

**Tribhuvan University**

**Partition and Postmemory in Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies***

**A Thesis submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Department of English in the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Degree of Master of Arts in English**

**By**

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Partition and Postmemory in JhumpaLahiri’s *Interpreter of Maladies* Submitted to the Central Department of English, by BikramNeupane has been approved by the undersigned member of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

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Letter of Recommendation

Bikram Neupane has completed his thesis entitled “Partition and Postmemory in Jhumpa Lahiri’s *Interpreter of Maladies*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from 2075/05/13 B.S to 2075/12/24 B.S. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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## Abstract

*The research paper delves into the individual, inter- and transgenerational transmission of experiences in Jhumpa Lahiri's Interpreter of Maladies through the lens of postmemory. It analyzes the selected four stories of the short story collection Interpreter of Maladies that are "When Mr. Prizzada came to Dine", "Miss. Sen", "A Real Durwan" and "The Third and Final Continent". These stories explore the history of 1947 partitioning of the Indian subcontinent and the suffering of the diaspora in the host country. Moreover, selected stories represent the historical incidents in the present. Implicating the Postmemory in the literary text helps to bring historical events in the present discussion. It broadens the new perspectives of the understanding historical events and its aftermath. This thesis argues that Lahiri portrays the world of her lived and inherited experiences which are occupied by the transmission of knowledge through the earlier generation and helps in analyzing how those incidents continue to affect on the second generation who has witnessed the suffering of an earlier generation. This research thus contributes to the emerging issues on the effect of partition and its aftermath in the life of diaspora that has still continued and transmitted to later generations.*

*Key Words: Memory, Partition, Post memory, Second generation*