

**Tribhuvan University**

**A Critique of Empire in Le Clezio's *Onitsha***

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University**

**in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of**

**Master of Arts in English**

**By**

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**Letter of Recommendation**

Mr. Rajendra Prashad Joshi has completed his thesis entitled "A Critique of Empire in Le Clezio's *Onitsha*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from 2066/05/01 to 2067/05/01 B.S. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

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This thesis entitled "A Critique of Empire in Le Clezio's *Onitsha*" submitted to the central Department of English Tribhuvan University, by Rajendra Prashad Joshi has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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## **Abstract**

*Onitsha* is a literary documentation of disintegrating British Empire that focuses on the oppressive ways of white colonizers over native blacks in West Africa, and the resistance of native Africans as a natural or inborn instinct of human being to live a free and independent life. In one of the incidents of the novel, Black convicts can not tolerate the brutal and most inhuman treatment of the white Masters and revolt against them. The uprising that begins among the small group of Black convicts in Gerald Simpson's property spreads as a wild fire throughout West Africa in no time. It burns down the great castles of British Empire by making native Africans free from colonial chains. The novel equally focuses upon the historical, mythological and cultural aspect of colonization. It expresses its sympathy over the great West African indigenous cultures that get lost when they come in contact with so called superior European culture.

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