

Tribhuvan University

Degenerated Colonialism in Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

**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

Buddhi Bahadur Kunwar

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

December, 2008

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Science

This thesis entitled "Degenerated Colonialism in Stevenson's *Treasure Island*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Buddhi Bahadur Kunwar has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Buddhi Bahadur Kunwar has completed his thesis entitled "Degenerated Colonialism in Stevenson's *Treasure Island*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from 27th June, 2008 to 24th December, 2008 A.D. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Puspa Raj Acharya
(Supervisor)

Abstract

This research work concentrates on the critical study of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. The novel deals with the issues travel, fear and violence that devastate the colonizers themselves. This novel is the critique of character's excessive desire for material prosperity which results in moral decay, death of brotherhood and humanity. Characters and their conspiracies represent the colonial evil practices. They also represent the desire for piling up of material wealth. Violence is the immoral way out of greed and hunger of material perfection. Stevenson fails to give moral lessons through the characters. Lack of co-operation and recognition displaces the character's conscience. The losing of property makes them ready to end their life. This is the main cause of murder and conspiracies. The intensive thought of colonization was to extend the superiority but they were disseminating their brutal activities which in fact degenerated the colonized as well as colonizers.

Acknowledgements

This research could not come to this complete shape without proper scholarly guidance and encouragement of Mr. Pushpa Raj Acharya , Assistant Lecturer of Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. He provided scholarly guidance by minutely going through the script and correcting my countless mistakes. I express my sincerest credit and boundless gratitude for his job acted upon me.

I am fully indebted to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, Head of Department of English for his kind co-operation and valuable suggestions. I extend my gratitude to Mr. Pom Gurung and I am equally grateful with Mr. Saroj Ghimire of Central Department of English, for their encouragement and scholarly instructions. I am not less grateful to all the teachers from C.D.E. who assisted me with equally valuable instructions.

I want to acknowledge my friends and colleagues Vesh Chhetry, Suman Shrestha, Achyut Baral, Keshab Adhikari who provide me assistance during the course of this research work. I am no less thankful to my parents and my relatives for their big hand in due course.

Lastly, I would like to thank Mr. Himal, Mr. Badri, Mrs. Sabitri of Creative Cyber and Communication, Kirtipur and Mr. Ravi Shrestha and Miss Sangita Shrestha of Pen Rose Cyber, Kumaripati, Patan for their kind co-operation in computer type setting.

Contents

Acknowledgement

Abstract

Page

Chapter I

1-22

Introduction

1

Victorian Age, Colonialism and Stevenson

1

Greed, Fear and Violence: Colonial Travel and Exploration

7

Chapter II

23-44

Colonial Travel and Exploration in Treasure Island

23

Conspiracies, Fight, Murder, and Drink: Inevitable Acts in Voyages

26

Piracy: A Form of Corruption

32

Exploration, Treasure Island and Its Latent Meaning

40

Chapter III

45-46

Conclusion

45

Works Cited

