TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

A Study of Narrative in Ben Okri's The Famished Road

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

Dolraj Shrestha

Reg. No.: 6-1-289-18-98

Exam. Roll No.: 2402

Class Roll No.: 75/062

Department of English
Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara
August 2010

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

English Department

Letter of Recommendation

This is to certify that Mr. Dolraj Shrestha has prepared this thesis entitled "A Study of Narrative in Ben Okri's *The Famished Road*" under my guidance and supervision. I, therefore, forward to consider it for final evaluation, approval and acceptance.

Sabindra Raj Bhandari Teaching Assistant Department of English Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

This thesis entitled "A Study of Narrative in Ben Okri's *The Famished Road*" submitted to the Department of English, Prithivi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Mr.

Dolraj Shrestha has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Department of English,

Prithvi Narayan Campus

Date:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to extend my profound gratitude to my respected and honorable teacher Mr. Sabindra Raj Bhandari, teaching assistant in English, P. N. Campus, who, as my advisor, provided me with constructive comments, suggestions and helped me to give the final shape to this study. This dissertation would never have appeared in its present form without his kind and invaluable guidance.

I am equally thankful to Dr. Man Bahadur K. C., the Head of the Department of English, P. N. Campus, for his genuine concern for my thesis. My respected teacher Mr. Shyam Paudel deserves my appreciation because his support was indispensable in realizing my undertaking. My heartfelt thanks also go to the lecturers of P. N. Campus, who always provided me with an amicable environment while attending their lectures, and consulting them whenever I was in need of some kind of help.

In addition to this, I am thankful to my friends Pasupati Baral and Shiva

Kaphle for their assistance in one way or other in the duration of this research writing.

August 2010

Dolraj Shrestha

CONTENTS

		Page
Letter of Recommendation		i
Letter of Approval		ii
Acknowledgements		iii
CHAPTER I: OKRI: A PROMISING AFRICAN NOVELIST		1-9
1.1	Okri's Life and His Works	1
1.2	Review of Literature	2
1.3	Objectives	9
CHAPTER II: AN OVERVIEW ON NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES		10-27
2.1	Narration/Narrative	10
2.2	Construction of Contents	11
2.3	Intertextuality	13
2.4	Religious Syncretism in Text	15
2.5	New Age Spirituality in Narration	16
CHAPTER III: SPIRITUAL NARRATIVE IN THE FAMISHED ROAD		28-49
3.1	Azaro, a Spirit Child in the Human World	28
3.2	Intertextuality in The Famished Road	41
CHA	APTER IV: OKRI'S RECONSTRUCTED UNIVERSE IN	
	THE FAMISHED ROAD	50-51
WORKS CITED		52-54