

Tribhuvan University

Mark Twain's Quest for American Nationalist Identity in

The Prince and the Pauper

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

Master of Arts in English

By

Damodar Bhushal

University Campus

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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Tribhuvan University
Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Damodar Bhushal has completed his thesis entitled “Mark Twain’s Quest for American Nationalist Identity in *The Prince and the Pauper*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from 2066/05/02 B.S. to 2067/02/10 B.S. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

(Mr. Hem Lal Pandey)

Supervisor

May 2010

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Mark Twain’s Quest for American Nationalist Identity in *The Prince and the Pauper*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Damodar Bhushal 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:

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Damodar Bhushal

Abstract

This study on Mark Twain's *The Prince and the Pauper* looks at how the author is concerned about securing American identity and consciousness. The novel which is based upon the author's experience and roots in Europe and now ingrained in American consciousness has molded our perception of the nineteenth-century American identity. In this book, Mark Twain explores the American issue of identity in European disguise. As he presents the "prince" and the "pauper" in the obverse roles in the court of King Arthur, Twain reveals the issue of separating the true from the false identity. His unconscious preoccupation with elusive identity in the aftermath of American independence not only recurs in this work but haunts his life as well. Thus, by presenting the "prince" and the "pauper" in the obverse roles, Mark Twain emphasizes on separating the truth from falsity, which shows his search for recovering the lost American history and true identity.

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