

– Zenith Sharma, 2008

Misrepresentation of Afghans in Seierstad's *The Bookseller of Kabul*

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

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**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
Zenith Sharma**

**Central Department of English
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled **Misrepresentation of Afghans in Seierstad's *The Bookseller of Kabul*** by Zenith Sharma has been submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. It 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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Zenith Sharma

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Abstract

After living for three months with the Kabul bookseller Sultan Khan in the spring of 2002, Norwegian journalist Seierstad penned this astounding portrait of a nation recovering from war, undergoing political flux and mired in misogyny and poverty. As a Westerner, she has the privilege of traveling between the worlds of men and women, and though the book is ostensibly a portrait of Khan, its real strength is the intimacy and brutal honesty with which it portrays the lives of Afghani living under fundamentalist Islam. Seierstad also expertly outlines Sultan's fight to preserve whatever he can of the literary life of the capital during its numerous decades of warfare.

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