

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

**Pitfalls of Anti-Colonial Cultural Nationalism in *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born* and *The Interpreter*: A Comparative Study**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U.  
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Khimananda Chapagain**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**March, 2008**

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**Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences**

This thesis entitled Woman's Quest for Identity in Doris Lessing's *The Summer Before the Dark* has been submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Raju Timalsena. It has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Khimandana Chapagain

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## **Abstract**

Ayi Kwai Armah's *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born* and Wole Soyinka's *The Interpreters*, the novels of disillusionment, question the nationalist movements of Ghana and Nigeria respectively amongst a dampening of political and social optimism in those countries in the mid 1960s. Both novels explore the obsession of African ruling class and intellectuals with the West, local elitism and intellectual laziness, which ultimately suppress the subaltern politics. The texts criticize such an obsession that hinders substantialization of common people's hope and aspiration emerged during the anti colonial national movements. *The Beautiful Ones* dramatizes the conflict between common people's hope for change and betrayal of that hope by the nationalist leaders and serves as stinging indictment of the Nkrumah regime. Similarly, *The Interpreters* presents a story of five intellectuals who discover the corruption and pretension of national elite rulers and fail to take a political action succumbing to selfishness, egoism and aimlessness.

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