

Tribhuvan University

Reconstruction of History: Reading *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*

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By

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This thesis entitled *Reconstruction of History: Reading Chronicle of a Death Foretold* submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Krishna Prasad Gautam, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

The present study focuses on one of the most dominant aspect of historical reconstruction – genealogical method of analysis as proposed by Michel Foucault – in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*. This research examines how Marquez applies this innovative literary technique of genealogical analysis in this novel. In this sense Marquez deconstructs the traditional concept of history by denaturalizing the facts of the official history. Blurring the traditional concept of historical reconstruction, Marquez moves foreword and backward in time, while dealing with a murder that occurred twenty-seven years back. He even challenges the concept that history always presents absolute and certain events in their periodical order. To show this uncertainty he also applies magic realism that blurs hierarchy between the real and the fantasy.

Though Marquez is writing this novel to reconstruct the real happening, but he also exposes how the discourses operate in society. In this matter power plays great role to mobilize these discourses. But this novel shows how power itself shifts its balance and becomes creative. As a genealogical analysis Marquez's concerns also rely on the formation of self or subject, where the tradition of counseling affects. So, Marquez doesn't believe the official version of history as the valid and authentic one. He rather views it as a discourse created by the ideology of the state or the society, which can never go beyond that ideology.

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