

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Cultural Hybridity: Identity Crisis and Alienation in Ralph Ellison's *Juneteenth*

A thesis submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U., in partial fulfillment of the degree  
of Master of Arts in English

By

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December, 2006

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## Acknowledgements

I feel extremely glad to have an opportunity to express gratitude to my respected teacher and advisor Mr. Devi Prasad Sharma Gautam, lecturer, T.U., for his invaluable suggestions and scholarly guidance, without whose constant supervision and intellectual advice, my thesis would never come to this form.

I am also indebted to my respected teacher Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, head of the Central Department of English who instructed me with his creative and constructive suggestion

Similarly, I am greatly obliged to Prof. Dr. Abhi Narayan Subedi, and respected teacher Dr. Beerendra Pandey for their insightful suggestion to complete my thesis. I am equally grateful to all my teachers of the C.D.E. who directly or indirectly supported me in course of doing my thesis.

Likewise, I offer my heartfelt thanks to my teachers' staff, Shree Siddhakali Higher Secondary School, Ektin-1, Jorpati, Panchthar, who inspired me for the completion of my thesis.

I cannot forget to thank to my friends: Shyam Lal Aryal, Narendra Katuwal, Ishwari P. Khatiwada and Kiran Kharel who helped me to make bring the present dissertation in this form.

Last, but not the least, I am very much grateful and indebted to my father, sisters and other relatives for their continuous support and encouragement for accomplishing this thesis.

December 2006

Laxmi Prasad Gurung

### Abstract

Ralph Ellison's *Juneteenth* moves around cultural hybridity, which incorporates identity crisis of the hybrid subject, Adam Sunraider. The father of the protagonist has no definite identity although he grows up in black culture and spends his childhood under the care of black preacher, Hickman. When Sunraider becomes young, he feels identity crisis, moves towards North and becomes a racist Senator. After his shooting, he meets with daddy Hickman and tries to rejoin back to his past culture of South with out much success. The hybrid subject who always suffers from a sense of identity crisis, is alienated his previous culture. This thesis tries to show how loss of sense of belonging to the past culture leads to the character's sense of alienation and identity crisis. Even negotiation cannot give total satisfaction to the alienated subject, for he cannot completely assimilate to either of the culture: the past and the present, which make their claim upon him.

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