

**Tribhuvan University**

**Intra-racial Conflict in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye***

**A thesis submitted to the faculty of Humanities and Social Science in partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Min Prasad Bhandari**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**June, 2006**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

This thesis submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Min Prasad Bhandari, entitled Intra-racial Conflict in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Research Committee Members

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Internal Examiner  
\_\_\_\_\_  
External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Head  
Central Department of English  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu  
Date:

## **Acknowledgements**

I am reverently in a position to express my sincere gratitude to my respected teacher Mr. Saroj Ghimire for his invaluable co-operation in the completion of the present research. Without his scholarly assistance and personal encouragement, I think, this work wouldn't have been possible. Likewise, my heartfelt indebtedness goes with my honorable teacher and Head of the Department of English Prof. Dr. Chandra Prakash Sharma for his incessant efforts for encouraging me and assisting me to make my present research a success.

My parents' selfless and invaluable love, affection, and every sort of inspirations play equally important role in shaping this life. I would like to express my gratefulness to my friends Mr. Bimal Parajuli, Gyanendra Adhikari, Rabin Sapkota, Tirtha Timsina and Ashok Sangroula who took keen interest in my work, by giving their valuable support in the completion of my research work. Similarly, I would like to thank Mr. Sajan K. Maharjan for excellently typing my work on time. Last but not least, I am grateful to all who helped me directly and indirectly in the process of my work.

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

June , 2006

**Min Prasad Bhandari**

## **Abstract**

This research has tried to explore intra-racial hatred in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*. To study the causes of social disintegration, this research work studies the roots of social hatred, defining Racism in different forms. Racism is the mistreatment of a group of either white-coloured or black-coloured individuals in the name of differences in the colour of the skin. Racism in the era of colonialism worked on the level of physical threat but took a different shape in the nineteenth century. The topic 'Racism and Hegemony' is an attempt to study how blacks intermediated between themselves and white to make 'white man's burden' a successful story. In this process they internalized the white values. "Racism and Mimicry" shows the manifestation of those internalized values in their own practice. *The Bluest Eye* is trying to bring the impacts of these manifestations because of the conflicts within the blacks. The conflict among blacks begins due to the obsessive hankering after the white way of living and finally ends at the social and familial fragmentation among the blacks.

## Contents

	<u>Page No.</u>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>I. Introduction</b>	<b>1-11</b>
Toni Morrison	
Critics on Morrison	
<b>II. Theorizing Racism</b>	<b>12-40</b>
Introduction	
Racism and Science	
Racism and Hegemony	
Racism and Mimicry	
<b>III. Intra-racism in <i>The Bluest Eye</i></b>	<b>41-56</b>
Introduction	
Intra-racial Conflict within Pecola's Family	
Intra-racial Conflict at School	
Intra-racial Conflict Amidst Growing Children	
Intra-racial Conflict and the Black Community	
<b>IV. Conclusion</b>	<b>57-59</b>
<b>Works Cited</b>	<b>60-62</b>