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Department of Letters and English Language



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**From the Margin into the Centre:  
Gabriel Garcia's Quest for the Self's and the Other's  
Complimentarity and Social Integration Case  
Study: *One Hundred Years of Solitude***

Presented and publicly defended by

**Imane HAMIDAT**

Supervised by

**Prof. Mohammed Seghir HALIM**

**Jury**

Members of The Jury	Walid MASSOUDI	Chairperson
Members of The Jury	Mohammed Seghir HALIMI	Supervisor
Members of The Jury	Ahmed Seif Eddine NEFNOUF	Examiner

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# *Dedication*

To my dearest parents,

To my beloved sisters,

And

To the sweeties and kindnesses: Salah Al- Din, Tarak, Alaa, and Houssa



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**Abstract:**

Gabriel García Márquez, one of the most renowned Latin American writers, and his contributions to Latin American literature, he tackles the topics of complementarity and social integration in his literary masterpiece *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. The purpose of this research is to delve into García's quest for the complementarity of self and others, as well as the characters' journey from the margins to the centre. This study tackles a post-colonial perspective, examining Latin American literature through theoretical frameworks and concepts. It focuses on literary analysis theories from the post-colonial perspective, including close reading and an analytical exploration of post-colonial concepts such as the Margin of the Social, the Core of the Social, and the dialectical relationship between the self and the other. Within the story, it investigates the interactions between individuals as well as the influence of society systems. Close reading examines particular characters in depth, emphasising their history, experiences, struggles, and interactions with other characters. These character studies provide insight into the greater themes of social integration and the complementary nature of relationships, allowing for a more in-depth understanding of the novel's complicated dynamics. In conclusion, my research presents a detailed investigation of social integration in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, as well as highlighting their marginalized status within their communities and their roles as guides into the centre. It also explores the dialectical relationship between the self and the other within these characters.

**Key words:** Latin American Literature, post-colonial, close reading, marginalization, self and other, and social integration.

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## الملخص:

غابرييل غارسيا ماركيز، أحد أشهر كتّاب أمريكا اللاتينية، ومساهماته في أدب أمريكا اللاتينية، يتناول موضوعي التكامل والتكامل الاجتماعي في تحفته الأدبية «مائة عام من العزلة». الغرض من هذا البحث هو الخوض في سعي غارسيا للتكامل بين الذات والآخرين، بالإضافة إلى رحلة الشخصيات من الهوامش إلى المركز. تتناول هذه الدراسة منظورًا ما بعد الاستعمار، وتدرس أمريكا اللاتينية من خلال الأطر والمفاهيم النظرية. يركز على نظريات التحليل الأدبي من منظور ما بعد الاستعمار، بما في ذلك القراءة الدقيقة والاستكشاف التحليلي لمفاهيم ما بعد الاستعمار مثل هامش المجتمع، جوهر الاجتماعية، والعلاقة الجدلية بين الذات والآخر. ضمن القصة، يحقق في التفاعلات بين الأفراد وكذلك تأثير نظم المجتمع. القراءة الدقيقة تفحص شخصيات معينة بعمق.

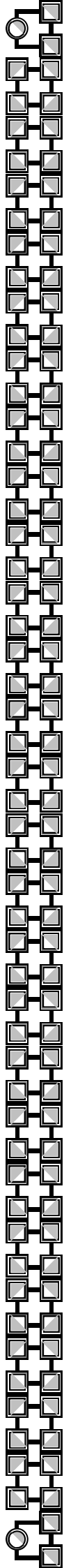
التأكيد على تاريخهم وتجاربهم وصراعاتهم وتفاعلاتهم مع الشخصيات الأخرى. تقدم دراسات الشخصية هذه نظرة ثاقبة على الموضوعات الأكبر للاندماج الاجتماعي والطبيعة التكميلية للعلاقات، مما يسمح بفهم أكثر تعمقًا لديناميكيات الرواية المعقدة. في الختام، يقدم بحثي بحثًا مفصلاً عن الاندماج الاجتماعي في مائة عام من العزلة، وكذلك تسليط الضوء على وضعهم المهمش داخل مجتمعاتهم وأدوارهم كمرشدين في المركز. كما يستكشف العلاقة الجدلية بين الذات والآخر داخل هذه الشخصيات.

الكلمات الرئيسية: أدب أمريكا اللاتينية، ما بعد الاستعمار، القراءة الدقيقة، التهميش، الذات وغيرها، والتكامل الاجتماعي.

## Résumé:

Gabriel Garcia Márquez, l'un des écrivains les plus célèbres d'Amérique latine, et ses contributions à la littérature latino-américaine, aborde les thèmes de l'intégration et de l'intégration sociale dans son chef-d'œuvre littéraire centenaire de l'isolement. Le but de cette recherche est de plonger dans la quête de complémentarité de Garcia entre soi-même et les autres, ainsi que le voyage des personnages de la marge au centre. Cette étude examine une perspective post-coloniale et étudie la littérature latinoaméricaine à travers des cadres et des concepts théoriques. Il se concentre sur les théories de l'analyse littéraire dans une perspective postcoloniale, y compris la lecture précise et l'exploration analytique des concepts postcoloniaux tels que les marges sociales, le noyau de la société et la relation interventionnelle entre soi. Dans l'histoire, il examine les interactions entre les individus ainsi que l'impact des systèmes communautaires. La lecture précise examine certains personnages en profondeur, en insistant sur leur histoire, leurs expériences, leurs luttes et leurs interactions avec d'autres personnages. Ces études sur la personnalité donnent un aperçu des sujets plus vastes de l'inclusion sociale et de la nature complémentaire des relations, ce qui permet une compréhension plus approfondie des dynamiques nouvelles complexes. Abstract En conclusion, ma recherche fournit une étude détaillée de l'inclusion sociale dans une centaine d'années d'isolement, ainsi que de souligner leur statut marginalisé au sein de leurs sociétés et rôles de mentors au centre. Il explore également la relation conflictuelle entre soi-même et l'autre au sein de ces personnages.

Mots clés : Littérature latino-américaine, postcoloniale, lecture étroite, marginalisation, soi et autres.







# *General Introduction*

## General Introduction

“They discovered that they loved each other more in their repeated separations that they grew more in their shared loneliness each time they returned to their solitude” (Márquez, 2014).

Latin America was and still the land of inspiration and the land that gave birth to extraordinary writers, and its literature faced many forms of transformation that were linked to the transformation that happened on the continent, including war, civil war, and colonization, etc. These struggles and obstacles gave many authors a chance to develop and leave their mark on the literary production of their home country. One of the best-known authors of Latin American literature is García Márquez, a celebrated Colombian author and Nobel Prize winner.

Latin American literature has involved over time into a rich, varied, and complex expression of themes, forms, original idioms, and styles. Related to the appearance of postcolonial theory, which reshaped the norms and principles of Latin literature to another level, postcolonial theory allowed it to uncover themes of marginalization, social integration, and the portrayal of the self and the other. Gabriel García is known for his ability to employ these profound themes and illuminate the complexities of human existence. The quest for the self, the yearning for social integration, and the intricate between the self and the other have long been subjects of exploration in literature, and it was Garcia’s field to portray his experiences and how the case of Colombia transformed these struggles by using his own style, which was magical realism.

In his renowned work, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, or as Mario Vargas Llosa (1967) , said the novel represented “a literary earthquake”. Marquez takes readers on a captivating literary journey, weaving a multi-generational narrative that explores the complementarity of the self and the other and delves into the challenges and possibilities of social integration. Gabriel Garcia’s *One Hundred Years of Solitude* was a literary masterpiece. It was produced in the 20<sup>th</sup> century,

and it was a reflection of Márquez's real life and what Colombia faced from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was also a novel that showed the traces of colonization on the colonized peoples and their land. The postcolonial theory was a lens that was used in order to give clear insight into what colonizers did and the dialectical concepts that emerged with the theory. Those concepts formed the literary work of Márquez, which were; the complementarity of the self and the other, marginalization, and social integration, which refer to how an individual has been isolated in solitude and tried to find harmony and cohesion in society to fit in.

This study aims to illustrate the themes of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by García, and pinpoint the use of marginalization, between characters, who were marginalized from his society and the path that he followed and make him in the edge, and the centre is the other character who guide the marginalized to the centre of the society, García Márquez used this analytical in order to portray the reality of Colombia in his writing work which was transformation the colonized at that time. This dissertation also aims to explore themes of self and other, because the novel encompasses a multitude of characters and generations whom are identity, isolation, and interconnectedness, which provide an overview of how the self and the other are portrayed in the story, and how both complete each other. This study will encourage further research and analysis of Gabriel García's work and deepen our understanding the relationships between the self and the other, and the marginalized and the guider to the core.

By analyzing Gabriel García Márquez's novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude* from a postcolonial perspective, with a specific focus on the theme of social integration and the intended message of the author, this study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of García Márquez's literary contributions and the socio-cultural implications of his work.

The research question that will guide this analysis is: in what ways those Gabriel Garcia used marginalization, self and other, and social integration in order to

apply the postcolonial theory in his novel? To answer this question, we employed a qualitative method of research by conducting close reading, textual evidence approach for the novel; by using the novel as a primary source and other secondary sources to including ( books, articles and websites) to explain the Latin American Literature through the postcolonial perspective and the other dialectical concepts that appeared with the emerge of this theory, and deeply analyses of the characters through the themes that García built his novel on, also emphasize the relationship between the characters and the setting, that makes the novel an extraordinary one.

This research dissertation is based on hypotheses questions which are the following:

What features of marginalization and complementarity are represented by individual characters in the novel?

How does Gabriel García Márquez investigate the interaction between self and other in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*?

What contribution does the examination of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* provide to our knowledge of social integration?

After answering these questions, I expect to provide through an insightful analysis of the themes of Latin American literature within a postcolonial view in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and to demonstrate how these literary theory help to make the novel a powerful and enduring work of Latin American literature.

This research is based on the use of both qualitative and postcolonial approach to analyze Gabriel García's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Qualitative research involves analyzing data through subjective interpretation; in my case, the data is the text of the novel itself. Qualitative research is valuable in literary analysis because it allows for a detailed and nuanced examination of the text, considering the plot, characters, setting, and themes. This method will enable an in-depth exploration of the novel's themes and characters.

On the other hand, the postcolonial theory which was used to instruct the dialectical concepts that were used in Latin American literature, its aims to analysis the characters through the use of analytical concepts which are margin and centre, self and other, and social integration, in order to understand the characters internal life.

This dissertation will be structured into three sections; each is building on the previous information. The first chapter is an overview; it will provide an overview of the author growth, and his novel; which will contain details that helps in understanding the life of García, his style of writing, and his career as an Latin author, and his impacts on Latin American literature, then moving into his work; *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, explaining the plot summery, major themes, where the novel tacks place, indentifying main characters, and speaking of the narrative techniques, and the novel significant and popularity in Latin America and the world.

The second chapter is the theoretical part of the dissertation, that explaining and illustrating the Latin American literature, through the postcolonial view, and interpret the postcolonial theory which is about the literary works that reflect and critique colonial experiences, and it continues to evolve and generate critical insights into the complex dynamics of power, resistance, identity, and representation within the context of colonialism and its aftermath. Also the appearance of this theory paved the way to the appearance of new concept which deeply analyse the literary text from different view, this dialectical concepts are margin and centre within the society, self and other complementarity, and social integration. Chapter two will examine these theory and concepts and defined them in relation to characters of the novel.

Then moving forward to the last chapter; which is the practical of the case study; *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by García Márquez. In this section we focus on extracting quotes from the novel which have relation to the dialectical concepts and how colonial power effected in Márquez writing style and how he produced a

literary work, for many is just about magical realism, but at the same time is a work that reflect the struggle of the Colombian peoples from the colonization. The way he portrayed his characters as marginalized within their society, and how other characters tried to integrate with outsiders in their homeland, and he used the concept of the self and the other in another way which both complement each others in order to set apart from the reality and satisfy their desires.

The literature review will examine the existing research on marginalization, self and other, and social integration, focusing on its relevance to García's work. This will involve an analysis of literary of the text and the Latin American literature through postcolonial theory, which deals with the historical accounts of the colonization and a consideration of broader cultural and social that shaped the literary landscape of that time. Key themes addressed in the literature review include the representation of marginalization in American Literature.

Overall, this research study contributes to a broader understanding of the quest for complementarity between self and other, and social integration in literature and human experiences. By analyzing Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, it reveals the profound insights into the human conditions, and the challenges and aspirations of individuals and communities. The novel serves as a compelling exploration of the marginality and centre, the quest for self and other complementarity, and the intricacies of social integration.

As an end, this research study will inspire further exploration and analysis of Márquez's work, as well as stimulate discussions on the themes of self and other and social integration in literature. The quest for self and other complementarity and social integration remains a timeless and relevant topic, resonating with readers across cultures and generations. Through the lens of Marquez's masterpiece, readers are invited to reflect on their own journeys, the intricate relationships between the self and the other, and the ever-present longing for a sense of belonging and connection.



*Chapter I: Gabriel García's Metaphor  
of Life: One Hundred Years of Solitude*

## Chapter One: Gabriel García's Metaphor of Life: *One Hundred Years of Solitude*

### Introduction:

The well-known Colombian novelist Gabriel García Márquez is regarded as one of the greatest literary figures of the 20th century. Throughout his lifetime, García Márquez produced a number of masterpieces, but none were as significant or well-known as his most excellent work; *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. In this chapter we will review Gabriel García's life and works, starting with his early years and the major inspirations that had a great impact on his writing especially in the work of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. At the same time moving forward to look at his extraordinary writing career, his particular literary style, and then the importance of his works in the context of Latin American literature, and his contribution in the Boom movement; as a main figure. Finally, we delve deep into his masterpiece *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, exploring its intricate plot, key themes, setting, characters, narrative techniques, and symbolism as well as its popularity as significant on the literary landscape, and finally explain how the novel explore Colombia more than the author life.

### I.1. The Growth of Gabriel García Márquez:

#### I.1.1. Early Life and Influences

Gabriel García Márquez, widely known as Gabo, was a Colombian novelist, short-story writer, journalist, and Nobel laureate in Literature. He was born on March 6, 1927, in Aracataca, Colombia, and considered one of the most significant writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

His childhood was infused with rich cultural experiences, folklore, and superstitions, which would later permeate his literary creations. Growing up in a family of storytellers, García Márquez developed a deep appreciation for oral tradition and the power of narratives. He often heard fantastical tales from his grandparents and



relatives, who fuelled his imagination and developed his storytelling abilities. These formative years shaped his future writing interests, establishing in him a passion of magical realism and the combination of reality and imagination.

In 1947, García Márquez moved to Bogotá, the capital of Colombia, to pursue a career in journalism. He worked for various newspapers and magazines and became involved in the emerging literary movement known as "El Bogotazo." During this time, he also studied law at the National University of Colombia but ultimately decided to focus on writing.

In the 1950s, García Márquez relocated to Europe, where he lived in Paris and Barcelona. He worked as a foreign correspondent, reporting on various political events, including the Cuban Revolution. These experiences influenced his later works, as he often wrote about social and political issues in Latin America.

García Márquez gained international recognition with the publication of his masterpiece, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, in 1967. The novel tells the story of the Buendía family over several generations and is considered a defining work of the literary genre known as magical realism. It brought him widespread acclaim and established him as a leading figure in Latin American literature.

Throughout his career, García Márquez wrote numerous other novels, including *Love in the Time of Cholera* and *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*. His works often explored themes of love, solitude, political upheaval, and the blending of reality and fantasy.

In 1982, García Márquez was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for his novels and short stories, which "combine the fantastic and the realistic in a richly composed world of imagination." The Nobel committee highlighted his ability to portray the complex reality of Latin America with a vivid and imaginative style.

Gabriel García Márquez continued to write and publish until his death on April 17, 2014, in Mexico City, Mexico. His literary legacy continues to inspire genera-

tions of writers and readers worldwide, and his works remain as enduring classics of world literature (Pelayo, 2008, p. 17).

### **I.1.2. Writing Career and Literary Style**

García Márquez embarked on his writing career as a journalist, which allowed him to witness firsthand the social and political revolutions in Latin America. His experiences as a journalist deeply influenced his writing style, characterized by vivid imagery, lyrical prose, and an intense observation of human nature. He combined elements of journalism with his imaginative storytelling, creating a distinctive narrative voice that captivated readers worldwide. Garcia Marquez's works often explored themes such as love, solitude, time, and the complex relationship between history and memory.

### **I.1.3. The Importance of García's Works in Latin American Literature**

Gabriel García Márquez's literary achievements went beyond his individual works, as he helped shape the Latin American literary scene. His writings give expression to the region's history, hardships, and cultural identity, transcending national boundaries and reaching readers worldwide. García Márquez, along with other Latin American authors of the Boom generation, brought international attention to the richness and complexity of Latin American literature. His storytelling abilities and innovative narrative techniques influenced generations of writers, leaving an indelible mark on the literary canon.

#### **I.1.3.1. The Latin American Boom:**

The Latino American literary boom that spread throughout the world, attracted many readers, and raised the production of original books was brought off by the novelists, and it has come to be known as the Boom of the Latino American Novel. Latino American literature is therefore predominantly in Spanish and is often referred to as Spanish American or Hispanic American literature, with the exception of Brazilian literature, which is published primarily in Portuguese. The inclusion of supernatural or unsettling elements into normally realistic stories, meanwhile, started to appear often in

the writings of numerous Latin American authors in the second half of the twentieth century.

In actuality, the 1970s saw a series of Latin American novels booms known as the "Latin American Boom." The authors wrote about a variety of issues throughout this time period, including both domestic and international ones. The so-called Big Four" –Carlos Fuentes, Julio Cortazar, Garcia Marquez, and Vargas Llosa –are the four main figures who structured the boom. Numerous novels and anthologies of short stories from Latin American nations were released. This work is regarded as the debut of contemporary Latin American literature with significant global appeal (Consuelo Sáizar, 2020).

Indeed, as far as the modernist age in Latino American literature is concerned, a number of outstanding novels by various Latino American authors as well as important books by new characters arose during this time. In the 1960s, the Latin American Boom and the popularity of Garcia Marquez's novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1967) contributed to the consolidation of his international fame. Speaking of his influence on Latin American letters, J. M. Coetzee (1940) in *Stranger Shores: Literary Essays, 1986–1999* (2001) said about Garcia Marquez; "He, more than anyone, renovated the language of fiction and thus opened the way to a remarkable generation of Spanish American novelists". According to the quotation, Coetzee regarded Garcia Marquez as a significant literary personality and leader whose writing style has impacted a number of regional novelists.

Latino American writers made an impression on Europe and the US during the 1960s, pushing the frontiers of Latino American literature with their writing style and vocabulary. The Boom reached its peak in the late 1960s and early 1970s, but its repercussions persisted far into the 1980s, the decade in which Garcia Marquez won the Nobel Prize and released *Love in the Time of Cholera* (2007), his final masterpiece.

## ***I.2. One Hundred Years of Solitude:***

### **I.2.1. Plot Summary and Core Themes**

*One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez is enormous novel that tells the multi-generational story of the Buendía family in the fictional town of Macondo. The novel begins with the story of José Arcadio Buendía and Úrsula Iguarán, who are cousins and founders of Macondo. José Arcadio Buendía is a dreamer and visionary who desire to create a utopian society. As the story unfolds, the Buendía family experiences a series of extraordinary events and encounters. It follows their victories, tragedies, and cyclical nature of their lives, which are blended with bizarre themes. The novel intertwines elements of magical realism with a realistic portrayal of historical events in Colombia. Throughout the story, the characters struggle with their desires, dreams, and the volume of their family history.

The work delves into significant issues such as the nature of time, human history's repeated patterns, the futility of human attempts, and the inescapable loneliness that comes with the human condition. Garcia Marquez explores on the complexity of love, the implications of greed and power, and the interweaving of personal and collective destiny through the eyes of the Buendía family's experiences. *One Hundred Years of Solitude* considered one of the most significant works of literature of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, strongly establishing Gabriel Garcia Marquez as a master of magical realism (Bloom, 2006, chp, 33- 77).

### **I.2.2. Setting:**

The setting of *One hundred Years of Solitude* is the fictional town of Macondo, Colombia, which is much like Gabriel Garcia's own hometown of Aracataca.

*One Hundred Years of Solitude* is primarily set in the fictional town of Macondo located in a remote region of Colombia. Macondo is depicted as secluded and

isolated place, surrounded by lush rainforests. Town evolves and grows throughout the novel, reflecting the Buendía family's history and experiences. It remains disconnected from the outside world, emphasizing the character's solitude and detachment. The physical setting of Macondo contributes to the magical and dreamlike atmosphere of the story, creating a unique captivating backdrop for the epic tale of the Buendía family.

### I.2.3. Characters

The Buendías in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is about how family influences individual identities and their important role in the building of the town of Macondo, as well as the spirit of the town, which is based on the family itself, whom also bring the story to life (Bloom, 2006, p. 24-32).

#### *The First Generation:*

1. **José Arcadio Buendía:** The patriarch of the Buendía family and the founder of Macondo, he is a driven and inquisitive individual. His passion for knowledge drives him, and he spends most of his life exploring alchemy and seeking to solve the secrets of the universe.

2. **Úrsula Iguarán:** José Arcadio Buendía's wife and cousin, Úrsula is a strong-willed and flexible woman. She becomes the matriarch of the Buendía family and bears witness to the cyclical nature of their history. Úrsula's longevity represents as a symbol of endurance and the burden of memory.

#### *The Second Generation:*

3. **José Arcadio:** the first son of Úrsula Iguarán and José Arcadio Buendía, inherits his father's incredible strength and impulsive nature. After pursuing a gypsy girl, José Arcadio returns as a savage and eventually marries Rebeca, an orphan adopted by the Buendía family. He is the father of Arcadio, whom he shares with Pilar Ternera, and is the brother of Colonel Aureliano Buendía and Amaranta.

4. **Colonel Aureliano Buendía:** Another key character, Colonel Aureliano Buendía is Aureliano's illegitimate son. He follows in his father's footsteps and becomes a prominent military leader. Colonel Aureliano's story explores themes of power, solitude, and the consequences of war.

5. **Amaranta Buendía:** A complex and passionate character, Amaranta is the daughter of José Arcadio Buendía and Úrsula. She experiences unrequited love and harbors a deep resentment within her. Amaranta represents the destructive power of obsession and the cyclical nature of family conflicts.

6. **Remedios Moscote:** A symbol of purity and innocence, Remedios is a young girl who mysteriously ascends to heaven. Her ethereal beauty and untimely departure impact the lives of those around her, highlighting the fleeting nature of joy and the inevitability of loss.

7. **Rebeca:** an orphan girl with a peculiar habit of eating earth mysteriously arrives at the Buendía household. She is adopted by the family and inadvertently infects the town with an insomnia plague that causes memory loss. After the death of her husband, José Arcadio, Rebeca isolates herself from society and the Buendía family, becoming a reclusive hermit rarely seen outside her dilapidated home.

### *The Third Generation:*

8. **Aureliano José:** the son of Colonel Aureliano Buendía and Pilar Ternera becomes infatuated with his aunt Amaranta and joins his father's army after their affair ends. Despite deserting the army to be with her, Amaranta rejects him with horror. Tragically, Aureliano José is ultimately killed by Conservative soldiers.

9. **Arcadio:** the son of José Arcadio and Pilar Ternera initially appears as a gentle and innocent boy who later becomes the schoolmaster of the town. However, when Colonel Aureliano Buendía appoints him as the leader of Macondo during the uprising, Arcadio transforms into a brutal dictator obsessed with maintaining strict order. He meets his demise when the conservatives regain control of the village. Arcadio is married to Santa Sofía de la Piedad and is the father of Remedios the Beauty, Aureliano Segundo, and José Arcadio Segundo.

**10. Santa Sofía de la Piedad:** a quiet and almost invisible presence in the novel, marries Arcadio and continues to reside in the Buendía house for many years even after his death. She diligently tends to the needs of the family with impassivity. Santa Sofía is the mother of Remedios the Beauty, Aureliano Segundo, and José Arcadio Segundo. Her existence seems to hover on the fringes of reality, and when she grows old and weary, she simply walks out of the house, never to be seen or heard from again.

 **The Fourth Generation:**


**11. Remedios the Beauty:** the daughter of Santa Sofía de la Piedad and Arcadio, possesses unparalleled beauty that drives men to their doom. Unaware of the power she holds over men, Remedios remains innocent and childlike. One day, she mysteriously ascends to heaven, leaving Macondo and the novel abruptly.

**12. José Arcadio Segundo:** possibly switched at birth with his twin brother Aureliano Segundo, is deeply affected by witnessing an execution at a young age. He becomes thin, solitary, and scholarly, reminiscent of his great-uncle Colonel Aureliano Buendía. Engaging in cockfighting and drifting, José Arcadio Segundo finds purpose in leading the striking workers against the banana company. As the sole survivor of the strikers' massacre, he struggles to convince others of its occurrence and isolates himself in Melquíades' old study, dedicating his time to deciphering the ancient prophecies and preserving the memory of the massacre.

**13. Aureliano Segundo:** the son of Arcadio and Santa Sofía de la Piedad, initially displays an inclination towards solitary study like his great-uncle, Colonel Aureliano Buendía. However, he gradually adopts the traits of the family's José Arcadios, becoming a larger-than-life, impulsive, and pleasure-seeking individual. Despite his love for the concubine Petra Cotes, he enters into a loveless marriage with the cold and aristocratic Fernanda del Carpio. They have three children: Meme, José Arcadio (II), and Amaranta Úrsula.

**14. Fernanda Del Carpio:** Aureliano Segundo's wife and the mother of Meme, José Arcadio (II), and Amaranta Úrsula, comes from a destitute aristocratic

family. She is haughty and deeply religious, attempting to impose her sterile religion and aristocratic manners on the Buendía household. Her husband, who indulges in hedonism and maintains a relationship with Petra Cotes, does not love her. Fernanda's efforts to revitalize Macondo and the Buendía family prove futile as both spiral towards inevitable ruin.

 *The Fifth Generation:*

**15. José Arcadio (II):** the eldest child of Aureliano Segundo and Fernanda del Carpio, is proclaimed by Úrsula to be destined to become Pope. However, he descends into dissolution and isolation. Upon returning from an unsuccessful trip to seminary in Italy, José Arcadio (II) leads a debauched life with local adolescents, who eventually murder him and steal his money.

**16. Amaranta Úrsula:** the daughter of Aureliano Segundo and Fernanda del Carpio, returns from Europe with her Belgian husband, Gaston, with hopes of revitalizing Macondo and the Buendía household. However, their efforts come too late as both are destined for ruin. Amaranta Úrsula falls in love with her nephew, Aureliano (II), and gives birth to their child, also named Aureliano (III). Tragically, Amaranta dies in childbirth, and their incestuous child is born with a pig's tail.

**17. Gaston, Amaranta:** Úrsula's Belgian husband is a loving and cultured man but feels isolated in the now-desolate Macondo. He departs for Belgium to establish an airmail company and never returns upon learning of the relationship between his wife and Aureliano (II).

**18. Meme:** the daughter of Fernanda del Carpio and Aureliano Segundo, goes by the name Renata Remedios. She pretends to be studious and obedient to please her mother, but in reality, she shares her father.



## *The Sixth Generation*

**19. Aureliano (II):** born out of wedlock to Meme and Mauricio Babilonia is hidden away by his scandalized grandmother, Fernanda Del Carpio. He grows up as a recluse within the Buendía household, gradually adapting to social interactions over time. Eventually, Aureliano (II) becomes a scholar and takes on the monumental task of deciphering the prophecies left by Melquíades. It is through his efforts that the prophecies are unraveled. He has a child named Aureliano (III) with his aunt, Amaranta Úrsula, who tragically dies shortly after birth.

### **1. I.2.4. Characters who are not members of the Buendía Family**

**1. Melquíades:** is a gypsy who forms a close bond with the Buendía family in Macondo. He introduces them to technological wonders and serves as José Arcadio Buendía's guide in his pursuit of knowledge. Even after his death, Melquíades continues to guide subsequent generations of the Buendía family. His cryptic prophecies, which haunt the Buendías throughout the novel, are eventually deciphered by Aureliano (II) and contain the entire history of Macondo.

**2. Pilar Ternera:** a local prostitute and madam, has children with both José Arcadio and Colonel Aureliano Buendía. She possesses quiet wisdom and acts as a fortune-teller, offering guidance to the Buendía family. She remains alive until the final days of Macondo.

**3. Petra Cotes:** is the concubine of Aureliano Segundo. Their love brings them great wealth, and their animals also exhibit unusual fertility. Despite the poverty caused by the flood, Petra Cotes remains devoted to Aureliano Segundo, and their love is one of the purest emotions portrayed in the novel.

**4. Mauricio Babilonia:** is Meme's lover. He is shot and left paralyzed by a guard arranged by Fernanda del Carpio, who disapproves of their relationship. Mauricio fathers Meme's child, Aureliano (II).

5. **Pietro Crespi:** is an Italian musician loved by Amaranta and Rebeca. Rebeca chooses to marry José Arcadio instead, and after Amaranta rejects him, Pietro tragically takes his own life.

6. **Colonel Gerineldo Márquez:** is Colonel Aureliano Buendía's comrade-in-arms. He becomes disillusioned with the civil war and falls in love with Amaranta, who rejects his advances.

7. **Don Apolinar Moscote:** father of Remedios Moscote, is the government-appointed magistrate of Macondo. He is a Conservative and helps manipulate an election to favor his party. His dishonesty contributes to Colonel Aureliano Buendía's decision to join the Liberals (Sparknotes).

#### I.2.4. Narrative Techniques and Symbolism

García Márquez employs a variety of narrative techniques and symbolism throughout *One Hundred Years of Solitude* to enhance the richness and depth of the story. The novel unfolds in a nonlinear fashion, with events jumping back and forth in time, blurring the boundaries between past, present, and future. This nonlinear structure mirrors the repeating nature of life and history, emphasizing the repetitive patterns that shape human existence.

Symbolism also plays a significant role in the narrative. The Buendía family's home, Macondo, symbolizes both a utopian paradise and a doomed realm. It represents the aspirations, dreams, and failures of the characters, as well as the larger collective aspirations and struggles of Latin America itself. The novel is filled with symbolic motifs such as the recurring image of butterflies, which symbolize transformation and the fleeting nature of life. The use of magical realism, where fantastical elements coexist with reality, adds another layer of symbolism, blurring the boundaries between the ordinary and the extraordinary.

### **I.2.5. The Novel's Significance and Popularity**

When *One Hundred Years of Solitude* was published in 1967, it launched Gabriel García Márquez to literary fame and received widespread critical admiration. Readers were intrigued by the novel's innovative storyline, beautiful style, and thought-provoking issues. It became a fundamental work of magical realism, affecting the direction of Latin American literature and inspiring other authors.

The novel's influence went beyond the literary arena. Readers were moved by *One Hundred Years of Solitude's* study of common human experiences, challenges, and aspirations. It shed light on Latin American history, politics, and culture, leading to a better knowledge and respect for the area. The novel's popularity also opened opportunities for other Latin American authors, strengthening Latin American literature's global recognition.

### **I.3. Exploring Colonial History through Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude***

Gabriel García Márquez played a significant role in Latin American literature, particularly with his masterpiece, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. While his biography does not directly relate to colonial history, his work reflects the profound impact of colonialism on Latin American societies. He grew up in a small town influenced by the remnants of the colonial era. This backdrop, infused with local legends, superstitions, and the region's disorderly history, had a profound influence on his storytelling.

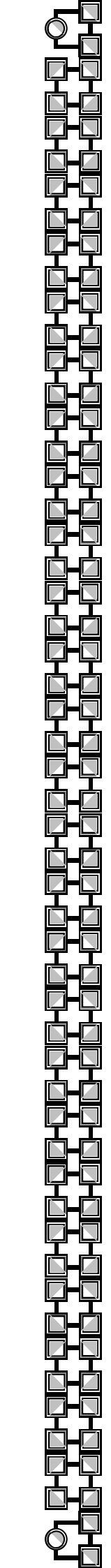
*One Hundred Years of Solitude* is considered García Márquez's magnum opus. The novel tells the multi-generational saga of the Buendía family, the founders of the fictional town of Macondo. The story weaves together elements of magical realism, blurring the lines between reality and fantasy. Through the lens of the Buendía family, García Márquez explores the complex legacy of colonialism in Latin America. The novel is set in a time of great historical shifts, from the Spanish conquest to the post-colonial era. It captures the cyclical nature of history, portraying how patterns of power,

violence, and exploitation repeat themselves across generations. The Buendía family's story reflects the consequences of European colonization in Latin America. It showcases the destructive effects of imperialism, such as the loss of indigenous cultures, the imposition of foreign systems of governance, and the exploitation of natural resources. The novel also delves into themes of solitude, isolation, and the struggles faced by individuals and communities in the face of historical traumas (Pelayo, 2008, chp. 1).

García Márquez's use of magical realism is another way he explores the impact of colonial history. By blending the supernatural with the ordinary, he captures the essence of Latin America's complex reality, where mythical elements coexist with everyday life. This technique allows him to portray the layered nature of colonial history and its lasting influence on the region's social, political, and cultural fabric. Gabriel García Márquez's biography may not directly revolve around colonial history, but his work, especially "One Hundred Years of Solitude," provides a rich tapestry through which readers can explore and understand the lasting legacy of colonialism in Latin America. His unique storytelling style and themes of history, solitude, and magical realism make his work an invaluable contribution to the region's literary and cultural heritage.

#### **I.4. Conclusion**

This chapter summarizes, García Márquez's incredible journey from his formative years to his unrivalled reputation as a literary giant demonstrates the enormous impact he had on the world of literature, particularly in Latin America. His writing career and distant style drew readers into a world of magical realism, solitude, individual struggle, and intriguing storytelling. His masterpiece *One Hundred Years of Solitude* examined universal themes and deployed creative narrative techniques that continue to resonate with viewers today. His contributions to Latin American writing are unlimited, and his reputation as a master storyteller will live on for future generations.



*Chapter II: Latin American Literature: Postcolonial Theory and the Dialectical Change*

## Chapter Two: Latin American Literature: Postcolonial Theory and the Dialectical Change

### Introduction

Latin American literature encompasses a rich and diverse body of literary works from the countries of Latin America, mainly Colombia. This literature reflects the unique historical, cultural, and social experiences of the region, often intertwining with themes of colonization, post colonialism, and cultural identity. Latin American literature has made significant contributions to world literature, mostly through Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez. It offers a unique perspective on the complexities of Latin American societies, capturing the struggles, aspirations, and resilience of its people. Exploring Latin American literature allows readers to delve into the diverse voices, narratives, and literary traditions that have shaped the region's literary landscape.

Latin American literature through a postcolonial theory lens examines the literary works produced in the region from the perspective of postcolonial theory. Postcolonial theory provides a critical framework to analyze the enduring effects of colonization and cultural dominance on Latin American societies.

In this chapter, I will embark on a journey through the vast and rich landscape of Latin American literature. I will examine the work of renowned author Garcia and explore how his book *One Hundred Years of Solitude* reflects the historical and cultural legacies of colonialism. By analyzing this literary text through a postcolonial lens, I will investigate the complexities and subversions of colonial power structures, the negotiation of cultural identities, and the resilience of marginalized individuals. Within postcolonial theory, many literary analysis theories have emerged, but the singular literary approach that I selected is the close reading approach. This method provides for a thorough investigation of the novel's language, images, and narrative strategies, allowing for a deeper understanding of the novel's described desire for self and others as well as societal integration.

Then I moved deeply into postcolonial key concepts that structured the theoretical framework of my study. I will explore the margins of society, the core of society, and marginalized groups. Additionally, I will study the dialectic of the self and the other, examining how identity formations are shaped through encounters with the colonial other. In the final section of this chapter, I will delve into the concept of social integration by examining how postcolonial theory provides insights into the processes of social integration and the challenges faced by marginalized communities in Latin America.

### **II.1. Latin American Literature through**

Latin American literature refers to the literary movement that evolved in Latin America following the time of European colonial domination. It includes literature written by Latin American writers who aimed to confront the social, cultural, and political implications of colonialism, as well as to reshape the region's identity and narrative. According to Mignolo (2009); In Latin American literature, the postcolonial perspective reflects the region's history of colonization and subsequent efforts for independence and self-determination. It aims to critique and dismantle the prevailing Eurocentric narratives established during the colonial era, as well as to investigate the intricacies of the Latin American experience through the eyes of the colonized (p. 199).

Vallejo (1976) stated that; “the examination of cultural identity is a major issue in postcolonial Latin American literature. Hybridity, cultural fusion, and the merging of indigenous, African, and European elements are explored by writers. They investigate how these varied cultural aspects have impacted Latin American cultures and question colonial regimes' essentialist views of identity” (p. 281). One prominent theme in postcolonial Latin American literature is the investigation of cultural identity. Writers look at how diverse cultures in the region, such as indigenous, African, and European civilizations, have collided and shaped Latin American communities. They challenge the colonial paradigm that attempts to define identities in rigid and limited ways. Instead, they praise the mingling of cultures and the

richness that results from this blending, which is sometimes referred to as hybridity. They demonstrate how different influences have influenced Latin American civilizations and undermine the notion of a single, unchanging identity. They are challenging the legacy of colonial control while also highlighting the variety and diversity of Latin American nations.

In general, postcolonial is a literary movement that emerged in Latin America after the colonial period. It seeks to address the consequences of colonization, challenge Eurocentric narratives, explore cultural identity, and shed light on social and political issues. Through various themes, styles, and techniques, postcolonial Latin American literature presents a rich and diverse body of work that reflects the region's history, struggles, and aspirations. Authors related to postcolonial Latin American literature include Gabriel García Márquez, Isabel Allende, Julio Cortázar, Mario Vargas Llosa, Eduardo Galeano, and many others. These authors have made significant contributions to Latin American literature, each with their unique style, themes, and literary techniques. Their works continue to resonate with readers around the world, shaping the literary landscape of Latin America and beyond. Their works have received global recognition and have contributed to the global awareness and admiration of Latin American literature.

Postcolonial Latin American literature also engages with political and social movements. The author García, in his written work, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, explores themes of revolution, resistance, and liberation struggles, reflecting the region's history of political upheaval and social change. His work gives voice to marginalized communities and challenges dominant power structures.

## **II.2. Postcolonial Theory:**

Postcolonial theory has existed for a long time before the term was used to describe it. As soon as colonized people had reasons to reflect upon and express the tension which arose from the colonization and powerful imperial experiences, postcolonial theory came into being. Postcolonial thought existed long before the word was used. Postcolonial thought emerged as soon as colonized people had cause to



reflect on and communicate the tensions that occurred as a result of colonialism and significant imperial experiences.

Postcolonial theory emerged in the late 20th century within literary theory, focusing on power dynamics between imperial countries and their territories, as well as the relationships between colonial centres and marginalized regions. It critically examines how imperial power is negotiated and represented, particularly through texts, art, and literature. Even before gaining popularity in the US during the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, biblical scholars had recognized the significance of various empires, such as the Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman empires, in shaping biblical material.

Postcolonial theory encompasses discussions and perspectives on various topics, including migration, slavery, oppression, resistance, representation, and differences based on race and gender, as well as the influence of imperial European discourses on history, philosophy, and linguistics. It also examines the fundamental experiences of speaking and writing, which give rise to these discussions and perspectives.

Postcolonial theory explores the ramifications of the self and the other, which are binary oppositions that arise as a result of colonialism. The complex relationship between these two dichotomies has been analyzed from various perspectives. Postcolonial theory delves into how postcolonial writers represent and critique reality, language, and the control of ideologies. (Ashcroft, 1995), because it also examines how colonialist writers portray the colonized subject, as even unintentional racist thoughts can be embedded in their discursive ideologies. Bahaerh Ghaederinezhad comments on language and ideology that; "Language and ideology share an inseparable connection, as ideology plays a pivotal role in shaping and framing language (2015, p. 879).

Postcolonial theory also addresses the analysis and creation of literature originating from countries that were previously or are currently colonized. It specifically examines how literature from the colonizing culture distorts the experiences and

realities of the colonized people, perpetuating their inferiority. Conversely, Said () focuses on literature produced by those who have been colonized, as they attempt to articulate their identity and reclaim their history in response to the pervasive notion of being the "Other." Postcolonial theory is closely intertwined with the concept of Otherness, as it explores the dynamics of power and difference in colonial and postcolonial contexts.

### **II.3.1. Close Reading Approach**

Close reading is a literary analysis method that focuses on examining the details, nuances, and language of a text to uncover deeper meanings and understand the authors intentions. When applied through a postcolonial lens, close reading becomes a tool for critically analyzing and interpreting literature in relation to colonialism, imperialism, and the power dynamics between colonizers and the colonized(bccc asc rev. 3/2019).

In postcolonial theory, close reading seeks to unveil the ways in which colonial ideologies, cultural hegemony, and the effects of colonization are embedded in literary texts. It emphasizes the examination of language, symbolism, narrative structure, and character representations to identify and deconstruct colonial discourses and power imbalances. Postcolonial theorists argue that literature reflects and perpetuates dominant ideologies, and close reading allows for a more nuanced understanding of these dynamics.

In general, close reading within postcolonial theory provides a framework to critically engage with literature, uncover hidden meanings, and challenge dominant narratives that reinforce colonial ideologies. It allows readers to examine the complexities of colonialism and its legacy, fostering a deeper understanding of the power dynamics and cultural negotiations inherent in postcolonial texts.

## II.4. Analytical of Postcolonial Concepts

### II.4.1. The Margin of the Social and the Core of the Social

Marginalization is the condition where a particular group of individuals is treated as 'marginal' within social structures. It involves placing them in a lower position compared to others due to factors like gender, race, or class. Marginalized individuals are often perceived as unproductive and lacking skills, resulting in their exclusion from meaningful participation in social activities (Cited in Hakkoum, 2019).

The marginalized subjects are considered only as less important, inferior or simply marginal, i.e., far from the centre. Once a group of individuals is marginalized, they seek alternative paths to reclaim their sense of humanity and strive for equal treatment. Consequently, some individuals within the marginalized group begin to question their status and identity. Recognizing their differences can lead to either embracing or rejecting the "other." They may conform to the prescribed identity standards imposed by the oppressors or reject them by preserving their authentic self-identity. In both scenarios, the position of the oppressed individual reflects their persistent pursuit of self-recognition as an equal and valued member of society.

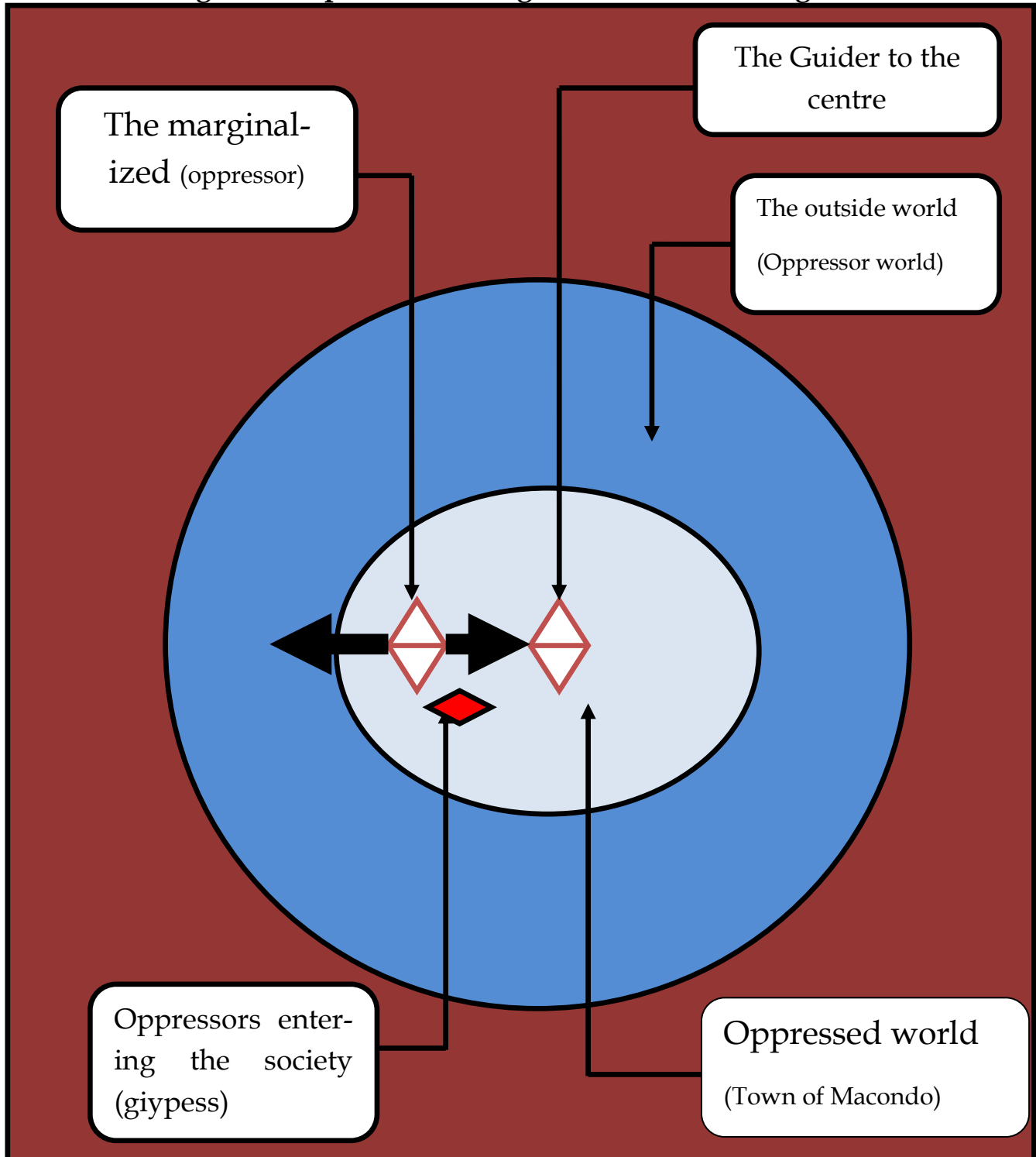
Marginalization pertains to the lived experiences and circumstances of individuals or communities situated at the periphery of society. It encompasses the adverse effects of various factors such as race, class, gender, and cultural differences, resulting in social, economic, and political disadvantages. Those who are marginalized often find themselves pushed to the margins, excluded from the central sources of power and privilege. In contrast, the societal centre symbolizes the dominant space where power, resources, and opportunities are concentrated (**Horney, K, 1950**).

Over all, the concept of marginalization in postcolonial studies highlights the lasting effects of colonialism and the ongoing struggles faced by marginalized groups in reclaiming their identities, challenging power structures, and achieving social justice and equality.

The literary works of authors such as Gabriel García Márquez often depict the experiences of marginalized characters within postcolonial societies. Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude* portrays the Buendía family and their descendants, who are marginalized and isolated from mainstream society due to their unique

history and magical realist elements. The novel explores themes of cultural identity, power dynamics, and the consequences of marginalization within a postcolonial context.

**Diagram1: Explains the Marginalization according to the Novel**



**Fig: The Margin of the Social and the Core of the Social**

#### **I.4.2. Dialectical of the Self and the Other**

Experiencing oneself as an "outsider" in relation to others and their cultures has evolved into a worldwide concern, as people universally grapple with feelings of isolation within profoundly diverse social contexts. These disparities can be comprehended through the contrasting perspectives between the self and the other, which stem from differences in cultural backgrounds, ideologies, skin tones, gender, religious beliefs, social norms, and values (Cited in Hakkoum & Halimi, 2018).

Many people feel like they don't fit in when they encounter others and their cultures. This feeling of being different and isolated is a global problem because people from different backgrounds find themselves feeling alone in a world with different rules and values. We can understand these differences better by thinking about how we see ourselves compared to others. People have different cultural backgrounds, beliefs, appearances, genders, and ways of life. Exploring the relationship between ourselves and others helps us understand the challenges of finding our place in a diverse and connected world.

According to Halimi; he stated that; "In a broad sense, the term other refers to anyone who is detached from one's self. In postcolonial texts, the colonized subject is regarded as 'other' in the eye of the colonizers. As means of establishing the binary separation between the colonizer and colonized, western writers use the term 'other' to refer to the colonized which are seen to be primitive and cannibal" (p. 219).

The passage discusses the complex nature of self-identity and how it is influenced by societal expectations and gender differences. It suggests that there are multiple questions surrounding the concept of self, including how individuals perceive themselves and how they perceive others. It highlights that men and women may have different perceptions of the social reality they share. This implies that societal norms, expectations, and roles assigned to each gender shape their understanding of self and others. These differences in perception contribute to the ongoing

dialectical view of self, which involves a synthesis of the actual self and the expected self.

The dialectical of “the self and the other” is a sociological concept that investigates the process of marginalizing or dehumanizing individuals or groups who are perceived as different or deviating from the dominant norms. Otherization involves creating an "other" who is portrayed as separate and inferior, emphasizing their differences. This process is driven by social, cultural, or political factors and often leads to prejudice, discrimination, and exclusion. **Bauman's** work examines how otherization has become a prominent aspect of modern society, serving as a tool for the dominant group to maintain power and control over marginalized individuals or groups (2001).

It has become generally gained that self conception requires the contrast to the other. This fact implies that the other is simply seen as the not-self. On this basis, the other can be defined as someone who has the quality of otherness. Otherness is, then, the state of being different to the self. One might be misled by this definition that self and other are a contrast of individuals merely. Notably, the self/other extends to encompass social groups. In this sense, the binary opposition in question is resultant from the existence of a difference between a dominant group (oppressor) and a dominated group (oppressed). The oppressors dictate the norms and standards of being the self and accordingly categorize the oppressed as the other. This means that the oppressors are always the self and the oppressed cannot be but the other.

In García's work the self and the other refer to the way in which individuals and groups define themselves in relation to others. They recognize that our identities are shaped not only by our own perceptions of who we are but also by how we are perceived by others. This concept highlights the interconnectedness and interdependence between individuals and communities. In his novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, the theme of complementarity is explored through the portrayal of the Buendía family and the town of Macondo.

### II.4.3. Social Integration as Concept

In literature, social integration refers to the portrayal and looking into individuals or groups from various social origins coming together, engaging, and developing connections or relationships, social integration may represent many forms, including race, ethnicity, class, gender, and culture. It investigates how people from various origins interact, develop connections, and manage their identities within a larger social system." (Pieterse, 2019, chp. 6), it examines how literature represents the complexities and challenges of social integration, as well as the potential benefits and conflicts that arise from diverse interactions.

Literature is important in reflecting and creating society, and it frequently addresses themes of social integration in order to promote understanding, empathy, and inclusion. Literature provides insights into the processes of social integration and its influence on individuals and societies by showing characters from various social origins and investigating their relationships.

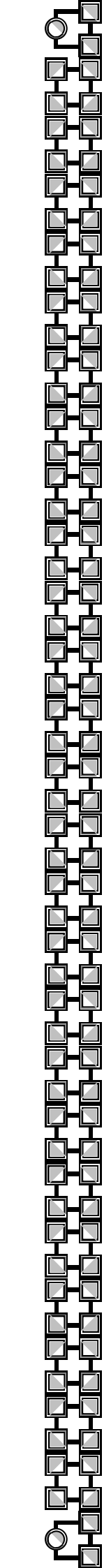
Literature explores on subjects such as tolerance, acceptance, and the breaking down of boundaries via narratives of social integration. It emphasizes the opportunities for personal development, complimentary learning, and the creation of shared experiences that come from social integration. Moreover, Literature may shed light on the obstacles and tensions that develop throughout the social integration process, such as prejudice, discrimination, cultural contradictions, and power imbalances. These narratives encourage readers to interact with the intricacies and subtleties of social integration, supporting critical thinking and dialogues about social cohesiveness and inclusion.

### Conclusion

This chapter has explored the key insights that acquired from applying postcolonial theory to the analysis of Latin American literature, and the methodology of close reading. This methodology was used to analyse the literary work of

Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. I sought to illuminate the quest for the self and the other, marginalization, and social integration.





**Chapter III: Practical Case  
Study: One Hundred Years of Solitude**

## **Chapter III: Practical Case Study: One Hundred Years of Solitude**

### **Introduction**

In the final chapter, I embark on a practical analysis of Gabriel García Márquez 's novel, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, focusing on marginalization, the quest for self and others, and social integration. I will closely examine specific passages and characters by Marquez to explore these themes by delving into a careful analysis of the text. One of the central aspects I will explore in this chapter is the concept of marginality and its relationship to the core of society. Márquez presents various characters who find themselves on the edge of society, struggling with questions of belonging and acceptance. Through close analysis of specific passages, we will examine how these characters navigate their marginal positions, striving to find a guide to the centre of their respective communities. Another significant theme I will study is the complementarity of the self and the other. García Márquez 's narrative often emphasizes the interdependence of characters, their interconnected fates, and the transformative power of relationships. Then moving into the portrayal of social integration and power dynamics within the novel. Marquez's work often reflects the complexities of societal structures, the influences of power hierarchies, and the challenges faced by individuals seeking to integrate into dominant social systems.

### **III.1. From the Margin into the Centre: Analysis of Specific Characters**

#### **III.1.1 Character A: Marginalized Individual or Community**

José Arcadio Buendía: The Marginalized Visionary or Dreamer.

José Arcadio Buendía, a central character in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, represents a marginalized individual whose visionary pursuits separate him from the community. He was born into a traditional family, José Arcadio's insatiable

curiosity quest for knowledge set him apart from his peers. However, his obsession with scientific exploration and his increasingly unsettled behavior, and way of thinking lead to his marginalization within the Buendía family and the town of Macondo, this quote clarify it; José Arcadio Buendía said: “The earth is round like an orange” (Márquez , 2014, p. 5).

His background and experiences shape his marginalized position. Arcadio early fascination with alchemy and his attempts to discover new inventions isolate him from the community; “José Arcadio Buendía spent the long months of the rainy season shut up in a small room...” (Márquez, 2014, p. 4), this quote viewed him as eccentric and detached from reality. Despite his intellectual capabilities, José Arcadio struggles to connect with others on an emotional and social level, further deepening his marginalization.

The two passages above show José Arcadio’s inability to establish meaningful connections and thoughts with those around him (within his family and community).

### **III.1.2. Character B: The Guider to the Centre**

Úrsula, his wife, delivers a harsh statement, to wake him up from his isolation thoughts; “If you have to go crazy go crazy all by yourself!” (Márquez, 2014, p. 5) .

Ursula: The Complementary Stabilizer

Úrsula Iguarán, José Arcadio’s wife, represents the complementary counterpart to his marginalization. Úrsula possesses practicality, resilience, and a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of individuals. Her role in the narrative revolves around providing stability and grounding for her husband José Arcadio, and the Buendía family.

2. Úrsula's relationship with José Arcadio showcases the exploration of complementary qualities and interactions. While José Arcadio is driven by his visionary pursuits, Úrsula anchors him to reality and provides emotional support. She acts as a stabilizing force, balancing José Arcadio's erratic behavior and protecting the family from the consequences of his actions. When she said; "Instead of going around thinking about your crazy inventions, you should be worrying about your sons" (Márquez, 2014, p. 14) .

This passage signifies Úrsula's influence over José Arcadio and their interdependence. José Arcadio's willingness to submit to Úrsula's desires demonstrates the complementarity of their roles, where Úrsula's practicality counteracts José Arcadio's impulsive nature. Úrsula's impact on the narrative's themes of social integration lies in her ability to maintain familial cohesion and provide a sense of belonging for the Buendía family. Her practicality and understanding of interconnectedness foster unity and create a foundation for social integration within the family structure.

In summary, José Arcadio Buendía represents the marginalized visionary, while Úrsula Iguarán embodies the complementary stabilizer in One Hundred Years of Solitude. José Arcadio's struggles with marginalization and his relentless pursuit of knowledge are counterbalanced by Úrsula's grounding presence and practicality. Their relationship and complementary qualities contribute to the exploration of social integration and familial cohesion within the narrative.

Another illustration of a marginalized character (character C) finding guidance and support from a central character (character D).

**III.2.3. Character C, the Marginalized:** who is Colonel Aureliano Buendía

"Colonel Aureliano Buendía... was marked with a hot iron and branded with the mark of a traitor" (Marquez, 2014, p.11).

Colonel Aureliano Buendía, one of the central characters in the novel, is marginalized due to being branded a traitor. This label, imposed upon him by the government, leads to his isolation and exclusion from mainstream society.

**III.2.4. Character D, the Guider:** Melquíades "It was he who translated the prophecies of Melquíades, discovering among them the key to the future" (Marquez, 2014, p19).

Melquíades, a central and enigmatic character, serves as a guiding force for Colonel Aureliano Buendía. Through Melquíades' prophecies and teachings, Colonel Aureliano Buendía gains insight into the future, allowing him to make more informed decisions.

**III.2.5. Transformation of Colonel Aureliano Buendía:** "He devoted himself wholeheartedly to the translation of Melquíades' manuscripts... discovering the keys to the future and establishing a society based on that" (Marquez, 2014, p. 27).

Colonel Aureliano Buendía's transformation occurs as he immerses himself in the translation of Melquíades' manuscripts. Through his dedicated study, he gains a deeper understanding of the prophecies and uses this knowledge to establish a new society. This transformation empowers him to shape his own destiny.

In this example, Colonel Aureliano Buendía, marginalized due to his branding as a traitor, finds guidance and purpose through the prophecies and teachings of Melquíades. Through the knowledge he gains, he undergoes a transformation that allows him to establish a new society and exert agency in his own life. This dynamic between the marginalized character and the guiding force plays a crucial role in shaping the narrative and the destiny of the characters.

## **III.2. The Self and the Others within *One Hundred Years of Solitude***

In Gabriel García Márquez's novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, the concepts of the self and the other play significant roles in shaping the narrative and exploring themes of identity, isolation, and interconnectedness. While the novel encompasses a multitude of characters and generations, I will provide an overview of how the self and the other are portrayed in the story, because throughout the work Marquez builds a complicated tapestry of characters from the fictional town of Macondo who share a similar heritage, the Buendía family. The novel's core topic is the characters' problems with their separate personalities and interactions with others.

### **III.2.1. Representation of the self and the other's complementarity**

The relationship between José Arcadio Buendía and Melquíades in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is one of profound influence and complementarity. José Arcadio Buendía, the patriarch of the Buendía family, is deeply connected to the inscrutable gypsy, Melquíades, who becomes his guide, mentor, and source of knowledge. This quote illustrates the relationship and the complementarity between them:

"And José Arcadio Buendía, who overcame his terror and despair in order to ask the name of that distant friend, also learned the name of the gypsy who would guide him through the intricacies of his science until the hour of his death: Melquíades" (Marquez, 2014, p. 20).

It highlights the significant role of Melquíades in José Arcadio Buendía's life. Melquíades becomes the link to knowledge and discovery, guiding José Arcadio Buendía through his scientific pursuits and helping him navigate the complexities of life. The quote exemplifies the complementarity between José Arcadio Buendía and Melquíades, with José Arcadio Buendía relying on Melquíades' guidance and

knowledge, and Melquíades finding purpose and a lasting impact through his relationship with José Arcadio Buendía and his descendants.

Also as this quote mentioned; "José Arcadio Buendía, who loved him [Melquíades] as if he were his own son, would call him to his side at dawn to explain the enigmas of their science to him" (Marquez, 2014, p. 36).

This quote emphasizes the deep bond and affection between José Arcadio Buendía and Melquíades. It showcases José Arcadio Buendía's admiration for Melquíades and his eagerness to learn from him. It highlights the complementary nature of their relationship, with Melquíades serving as a mentor and guide to José Arcadio Buendía's scientific pursuits.

Their relationship represents a symbiotic connection, with José Arcadio Buendía seeking wisdom and guidance from Melquíades, while Melquíades, in turn, finds purpose and influence through his interactions with José Arcadio Buendía.

Throughout the novel, their relationship continues to evolve even beyond death, as José Arcadio Buendía's descendants interact with Melquíades' writings and inventions. Their connection serves as a catalyst for the Buendía family's explorations and the development of the Macondo community.

Another illustration about the Buendía family, particularly the protagonist José Arcadio Buendía, represents the self, while Macondo represents the other.

Throughout the novel, the Buendía family's struggle with solitude and the chase of knowledge reflects their internal journey to understand themselves. José Arcadio Buendía's obsessive quest for knowledge and the establishment of Macondo is a representation of his desire to create a utopian world for himself and his family. However, despite his efforts, the family remains isolated and trapped within their own history and destiny.

On the other hand, Macondo represents the other, the external world that influences and shapes the Buendía family's existence. The town itself is depicted as a microcosm of society, with its own set of traditions, conflicts, and collective experiences. The interactions and relationships between the Buendía family and the inhabitants of Macondo illustrate the complex dynamics between the self and the other.

The following quote from the novel exemplifies this theme: "They [the Buendía family] went on living in Macondo, living under the illusion that time was a lineal, measurable, and unidirectional property, without realizing that it is instead a spider web that men fix to the margins of their lives, and that the spider that sets it up is blind to the complexities and depths of the human mind" (Márquez, 2014, p. 88).

This quote emphasizes the self-centered perspective of the Buendía family, who view time and existence in a linear manner. However, the metaphor of the spider web suggests that their lives are intricately connected to others, and the complexities of the human mind go beyond their limited understanding. It highlights the idea that the self's perception of reality is incomplete without considering the influence and interconnectedness of others.

In briefly, the representation of the self and the other's complementarity in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* explores the interplay between individual identity and the external world. The Buendía family's quest for self-realization is contrasted with their entanglement in the collective experience of Macondo. Through this exploration, Marquez emphasizes the interconnectedness of individuals and the way in which our identities are shaped by the perceptions and interactions with others.

### **III.3. Analysis of Social Integration in the Novel**

Throughout the novel Gabriel García Márquez explores the theme of social integration and the challenges faced by the characters and the community of Macondo in achieving a sense of unity. Úrsula Iguarán, one of the central characters, exemplifies social integration as she establishes connections and maintains relationships with various individuals in Macondo.

The following quote describes Ursula's interactions with the townspeople, "Úrsula had become an expert at camouflaging, she carried out every homeopathic method for avoiding conflicts, she prepared dinners to cement friendships and, without realizing it, she became the definitive support for Macondo's social life" (Marquez, 2014, p. 236).



I extract this quote, because it portrays Ursula's role as a bridge between different members of the community. Her ability to navigate conflicts, create harmony, and actively participate in social events allows her to shape and maintain connections with her neighbours. Úrsula's actions and presence contribute significantly to the social fabric of Macondo, serving as a stabilizing force and fostering a sense of community. Ursula's role as a matriarch and the longevity of her life provide a sense of continuity and unity within the town. She becomes a repository of collective memory and knowledge, further strengthening her integration with the citizens of Macondo. Through her interactions, she demonstrates the importance of building relationships, fostering understanding, and nurturing community bonds.

Gabriel Garcia Marquez presents Úrsula's character as an embodiment of social integration, showcasing the significance of individuals like her in bringing people together and maintaining the cohesion of a community. Her presence and active involvement in the social life of Macondo exemplify the power of interpersonal connections and the role of individuals in creating a sense of belonging and unity.

"He [Aureliano Buendía] was seized with a terrible longing to discover the language of the people in order to speak to them in their own tongue. But the only thing he could do was to train them in the Spanish language of the conquerors" (Marquez, 2014, p. 236).

The second quote, express who, Aureliano Buendía expresses a desire to bridge the gap between the indigenous people and the Spanish colonizers by learning their language. It emphasizes the importance of linguistic and cultural understanding in fostering social integration. However, it also reveals the inherent power dynamics and challenges associated with integration, as the dominant language of the colonizers is ultimately the means of communication.

This example illustrates how the characters in the novel grapple with the complexities of social integration, including the influence of power dynamics and the clash of different cultures. It portrays the struggles and aspirations of individuals seeking to connect with others despite the barriers imposed by language and history.

Within the example, Marquez portrays the character Aureliano Buendía's longing to learn the language of the indigenous people as a means to foster social integration. By incorporating this desire into the narrative, Marquez explores the complexities of language as a tool of communication and assimilation. This integration of language as a theme within the broader theme of social integration showcases Marquez's ability to intertwine various elements seamlessly, contributing to the overall richness and depth of the novel.

Marquez's unique writing style and his talent for blending reality and fantasy enable him to create a narrative that emphasizes the significance of social integration. By portraying the characters' desires, struggles, and interactions within the context of the larger tapestry of Macondo, Marquez crafts a compelling portrayal of the complexities of human connection and the quest for communal harmony.

#### **III.4. Analysis of García's social integration message**

Gabriel García Márquez's message regarding social integration can be identified in his work *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. "Márquez's writing often highlights the significance of societal bonds and the consequences of social fragmentation.

While reading I understood that Márquez depicts the small town of Macondo as a microcosm of civilization in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, where diverse communities and individuals coexist. He highlights the necessity of social integration and the consequences of its absence throughout the work.

Márquez's portrayal of the Buendía family, the novel's major characters, depicts the effects of social isolation and alienation. The Buendía family's search of isolation and separation from the larger community results in separation and the repetition of their own challenges and conflicts. Their failure to form genuine connections and relationships with others eventually leads to their downfall. This quote from the novel that exemplifies Marquez's message regarding social integration: "They [the Buendía family] did not know that the real tragedy of the Buendías was not that they were surrounded by death, for the situation was the same in the rest of the

world, but that they were surrounded by the dead, who did not know that they were dead"(Márquez , 2014, p. 332).

This remark stresses the Buenda family's isolation and lack of social integration. Despite the fact that they are surrounded by people in the town, their inability to connect and engage successfully casts them as "the dead" symbolically. They have been cut off from the exciting community; remain behind their own personal problems and experiences.

Through this portrayal, Marquez conveys the message that social integration is crucial for individuals and communities to thrive. He suggests that the fragmentation of society and the failure to establish meaningful connections lead to a sense of detachment, emptiness, and stagnation. In contrast, social integration fosters a sense of belonging, shared identity, and mutual support, allowing individuals to overcome challenges and find meaning in their lives.

Marquez's exploration of social integration in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* serves as a reflection on the importance of human connections, the consequences of isolation, and the potential for growth and fulfilment through meaningful interactions with others. His message underscores the need for social cohesion and highlights the dangers of social fragmentation in our communities.

### **Conclusion:**

To conclude, this chapter focused on the quest for the self and the other and social integration. By closely examining the themes of marginality and complementarity within the novel, we aim to uncover the strong portrayals and underlying messages presented by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Through a careful analysis of specific passages and writing techniques, we gain a deeper understanding of how Marquez explores the complexities of self-identity, the interconnectedness of individuals, and the challenges and aspirations of social integration.



## *General Conclusion*

## ***General Conclusion:***

In conclusion, this research study has explored the themes of marginalization, self and other complementarity, and social integration in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's novel; *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Through a multi-faceted approach that includes theoretical analysis, author biography, and practical examination of the novel's narrative techniques and symbolism, a deeper understanding of Marquez's exploration of these themes has been achieved.

The first chapter provides insights into García Márquez's life, writing career, and the unique literary style that characterizes his work, as well as his impact on Latin American literature. It also offers a comprehensive overview of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, including plot summary, key themes, the setting of the novel, and an analysis of its main characters. Additionally, it examines the narrative techniques employed by Márquez and briefly discusses the significance and popularity of the book.

The second chapter establishes the theoretical foundation by emphasizing the importance of literary analysis methodologies, particularly the adoption of postcolonial theory. This theory is used to introduce the context of Latin American literature during the colonial period and to explain how literature was produced during that time. Furthermore, the chapter explores key concepts related to postcolonial theory, such as the dialectical relationship between the self and the other, marginalization, and social integration.

The third chapter delved into the practical analysis of the novel, employing close reading and textual evidence to explore the interconnected themes of self-identity, the other, and social integration. Through the analysis of specific passages, the complementarity of the self and the other was examined, emphasizing the interdependence and interconnectedness of individuals within the narrative. Power

dynamics and social integration were also explored within the context of the novel, shedding light on the complexities of these themes.

In conclusion, this research study contributes to a broader understanding of the quest for self and other and social integration in literature and human experience. By analyzing Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, it reveals the profound insights into the human condition, the fluidity of identity, and the challenges and aspirations of individuals and communities. The novel serves as a compelling exploration of the marginality and centre, the quest for self and other, and the intricacies of social integration. In essence, García's pursuit of the self's and the other's complementarity and social integration serves as a powerful reminder of the interconnectedness of our lives and the importance of embracing diversity. His literary works challenge us to confront our biases, celebrate our differences, and work towards a more inclusive and equitable society. By embarking on this quest alongside García, we are encouraged to strive for personal growth, social harmony, and a profound sense of collective belonging.

This research study inspired further exploration and analysis of Marquez's work, as well as stimulates discussions on the themes of self-identity and social integration in literature. The quest for the complementarity of self and other and social integration remains a timeless and relevant topic, resonating with readers across cultures and generations. Through the lens of Marquez's masterpiece, readers are invited to reflect on their own journeys, the intricate relationships between the self and the other, and the ever-present longing for a sense of belonging and connection.



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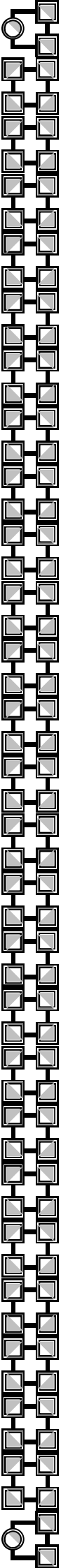
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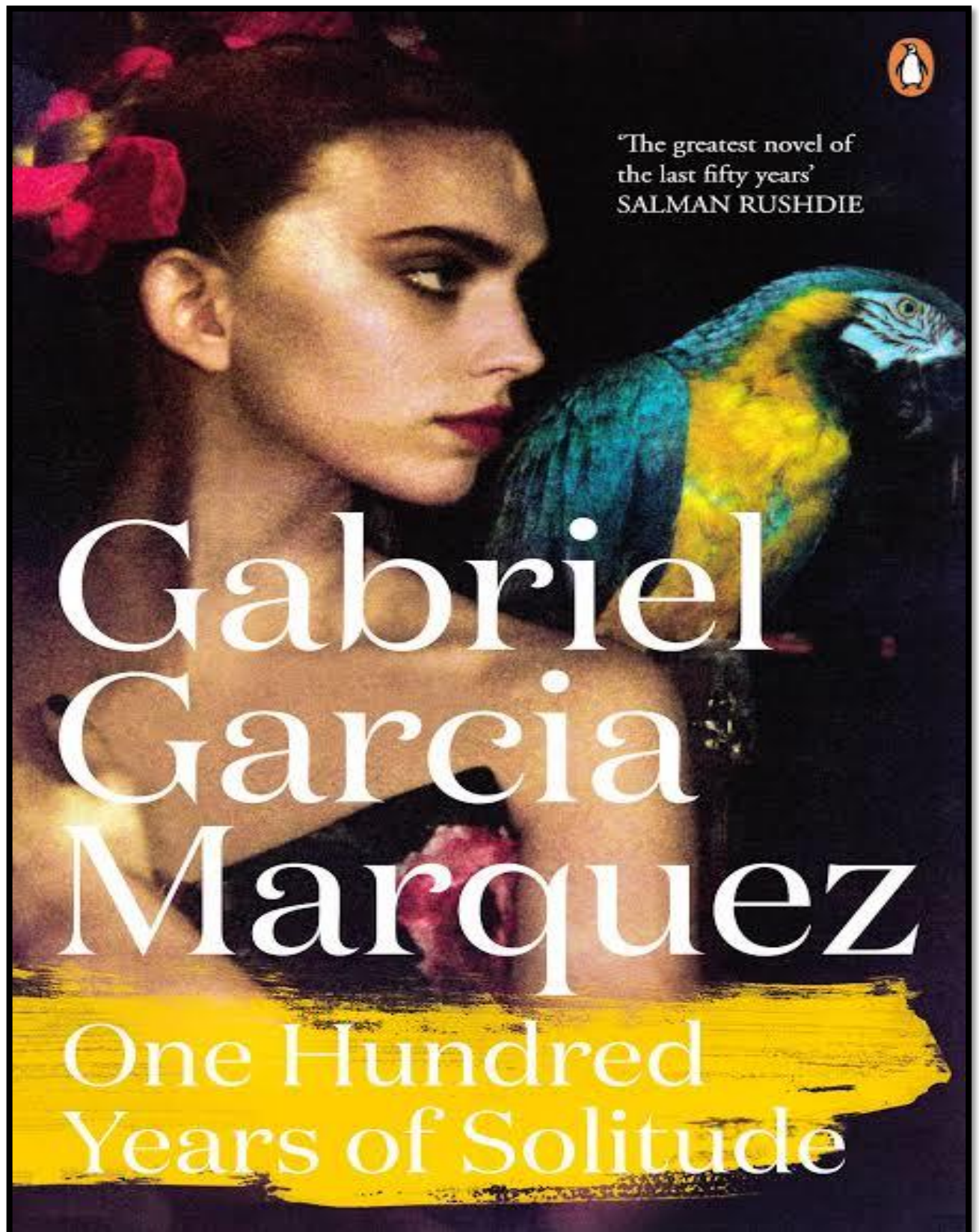
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# *Appendices*



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