

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Search for Female Space in Nadine Gordimer's *July's People*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Masters of Arts in English**

by

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Manik Raj Maharjan has completed his thesis entitled “Search for Female Space in Nadine Gordimer’s *July’s People*” under my supervision. He carried out his research work from March 2, 2008 to April 5, 2009. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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This thesis entitled **Search for Female Space in Nadine Gordimer's *July's People*** by Mr. Manik Raj Maharjan, submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Abstract

Nadine Gordimer's *July's People* tells the story of Maureen Smales, a white lady fleeing Johannesburg with her family during the civil unrest of the 1980s that uprooted apartheid in South Africa. Maureen and her family are under the mercy of their black servant, July, who now is their only saviour and hope for life. However, during her stay in the countryside, she discovers that the female's space in the society was much more restricted than it was actually supposed to be. Thereby, who starts Maureen's next venture, besides safety of her family; search for female's space in the traditional society restricted by orthodox norms and values. While staying in July's house at 'hard times,' she realizes the fact that as July's wife and mother, she has been commodified not only by her husband Bam, but also by July because of her economic dependency upon the male. As a result, to create her own female space via economic independence, she abandons her family including her three children and her husband Ban, as Nora in *A Doll's House* does without caring about the uncertain future.

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