

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Political Alienation in Chinua Achebe's *A Man of the People*

A Thesis submitted to

**The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University,
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in
English**

By

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “**Political Alienation in Chinua Achebe’s *A Man of the People***” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by **Saroj Kumar Shah** has been approved by the undersigned members of Research Committee.

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Saroj Kumar Shah has completed his thesis entitled: “**Political Alienation in Chinua Achebe’s *A Man of the People*”** under my supervision. He carried out his research from July, 2008 to November, 2008. I hereby recommended his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Abstract

Albert Chinualumogu Achebe, the finest Nigerian novelist of the 20th century, draws the lives and cultures of African people through his writing. He has set this novel, *A Man of the People* in the post-colonial period in an independent African country. In the novel, Achebe shows the social, political and psychological impact of European imperialism on indigenous African societies. Mainly, he has shown the political degradation in the African country where the irresponsibility and visionlessness of the leader leads the country into anarchy, chaos and violence rather than to progress and prosperity. Achebe has depicted the invasion of colonial remnants in an independent African homeland that leads the country to the political alienation. Though the empire leaves the country, the psychological components that ruin and rule still remains at the aftermath of colonialism. Through the narrator Odili and the political leader Nanga, Achebe shows the limited independent government in which there is neither collective will in the people nor responsible leadership to redeem the people and their culture. As a consequence, people are unfamiliar with their culture and they are forced to live in a new form of slavery, pessimism and degeneration. Rather than having optimistic perspectives towards the decolonized independent nations, the self-glorifying dictators and their poverty, which are the common images of the continents.

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