

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Contradiction of Modernity in V.S. Naipaul's *A House for Mr. Biswas*

A Thesis Proposal Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U.

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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Contradiction of Modernity in V.S. Naipaul's *A House for Mr. Biswas*

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2022

Tribhuvan University
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Letter of Recommendation

SujanAdhikari has completed his thesis “Contradiction of Modernity in V.S. Naipaul’s *A House for Mr. Biswas*” under my supervision. He has completed his research in December2022. I hereby recommend this thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

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Lecturer Dr. BalBahadurThapa

Supervisor

Date:

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Contradiction of Modernity in V.S. Naipaul’s *A House for Mr. Biswas*” submitted to Central Department of English, TU, Kirtipur by Sujan Adhikari has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Associate Prof. Dr. Anju Gupta
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Contradiction of Modernity in V.S. Naipaul *A House For Mr. Biswas*

Abstract

This paper entitled Contradiction of Modernity in V.S. Naipaul's A House for Mr. Biswas, explores the forces of traditionalism, patriarchal rigidity, modern dilemma, identity crisis and right to freedom in the protagonist Mr. Biswas and other major characters. The study engages with issues around modernity such as rising capitalism, globalization, industrialization, postcolonial impacts, socio-cultural practices of that contemporary time and Naipaul stands as a witness of all these issues in his novel. This research also examines dilemma between traditionalist and modernist clash behind the critique of the protagonist's conditions and other incidents inside the story by observing the quest of freedom, alienation, rootlessness, quest of stability, fixity and certainty. The study employs theoretical insights related to modernity elaborated by Anthony Giddens, Jurgen Habermas, and Ulrich Beck. The main aim of this research study is to seek out the issues of contradiction in modernity that is found in the novel. This research finally concludes that Naipaul's novel exposes the trend and traits of life living culture, social standardities, time-dynamism, socio-cultural practices and different circumstances emerging by time factors.

Keywords: traditionalism, modernity, capitalism, globalization, alienation, rootlessness, contradiction