

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Racial Stigma in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English,
TU in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English**

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Bhimraj Bhurtel has completed his thesis entitled "Racial Stigma in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from 01-05-2066 to 17-03-2067. I hereby recommended his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Racial Stigma in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*,"
submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Bhimraj
Bhurtel has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee

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Bhimraj Bhurtel

Abstract

The main issue in the novel *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison is the internalization of racist ideology by the black characters. The narrator, a black character of the novel moves constantly from one place to the next to get his real identity. He feels his life complicated by a racist American society. Though, he is conscious about his African American values, he fails to assert his real self. The failure of the narrator to define himself as an African American being results from his own internalization of ideology of racism and expectation of white people pervasive in his society. Dr. Bledsoe, the Negro president at the black local college, believes that black should work hard and adopt the customs and manner of white to get a success. The black characters are stereotypically behaved and discriminated by whites due to the internalization of racist ideology that causes the crisis of identity.

Content

Letter of Recommendation	i
Letter of Approval	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Abstract	iv
Contents	v
I. Crisis of Identity in Ellison's <i>Invisible Man</i>	1-8
II. Internalization of Racism, Stigmatized Self and Identity Crisis	9-24
III. Stigmatized Self of the Black Characters in Ellison's <i>Invisible Man</i>	25-43
IV. Conclusion	44-46
Work Cited	