

Tribhuvan University

Reconstructing the Historical Past in V. S. Naipaul's *A Way in the World*

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

By

Krishna Prasad Sapkota

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Krishna Prasad Sapkota has completed his thesis entitled "Reconstructing the Historical Past in V. S. Naipaul's *A Way in the World*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from June, 2008 to February, 2009 AD. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Ghanashyam Bhandari

Supervisor

Date: -----

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Science

Approval Sheet

This thesis entitled "Reconstructing the Historical Past in V. S. Naipaul's *A Way in the World*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Krishna Prasad Sapkota has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

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Abstract

V. S. Naipaul's Novel *A Way in the World* narrates the forgotten and lost stories of the past which contributed to the construction of Trinidad, particularly the immigrants and marginalized individuals in the mainstream history. Naipaul writes the history of Trinidad as a travelogue. In Trinidad, ancestral past was forgotten and historical representation did not include all. Colonial representation remained incomplete and explained nothing about lower class workers, revolutionary figure of Caribbean countries and their situation, explorers of colonial period and real facts. Naipaul rewrites the historical fiction of those people who exist on the margin of everyday history by fictionalizing it and by using imaginative creation. *A Way in the World* discloses various truths and historicizes those characters that are hidden in the traditional history. With this novel, he gives a voice to those who were unheard of the so-called official history. He expresses his own voice and reconstructs the historical past of Trinidad and other Caribbean countries.

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