

Tribhuvan University

African American Women's Quest for American Dream in Lorraine Hansberry's A

Raisin in the sun

A Thesis 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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Letter of Recommendation

Ms. Rebati Adhikari has completed his thesis “African American Women’s Quest for American Dream in Hansberry’s *A Raisin in the Sun*” under my supervision. She carried out this research from February 2012 to December 2012. I hereby recommend this thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Supervisor

Date:

Tribhuvan University
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Letter of Approval

The thesis entitled “African American Women’s Quest for American Dream in Hansberry’s *A Raisin in the Sun*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Ms. Rebati Adhikari has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

American dream is neither the dream of particular people nor limited within the particular region. It is beyond the boundary of race, class, gender or religion. It allows any one that has an aspiration, a desire, a yearning, to carry out the individual dream into reality. Only it needs motivation and hard work.

Fore fathers of America fought for freedom and equality as American dream. Their dream was to end the racial discrimination and to save their human value. Along with the time, the concept of American dream did not only limit within the dream of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. It began to give more emphasis on Material prosperity especially after the Second World War. It also made positive and negative impact on those who used to be marginalized previously and in present too. Africans immigrants were mostly influenced by the so called American dream; African American women were not also untouchable. But they were unable to realize their dream practically due to their race and the attitudes made by whites. Additionally black women were more victimized in comparison to men; they had to come up with the triple oppression of class, race and gender to realize their dream.

It has been selected the play *A Raisin in the sun* to make study on the American dream of African American women of 1950s. In this thesis, it has been portrayed the real condition of immigrant black women, their dreams, their struggle with family and society and their difficulty to attain their dream through the three women characters of the play such as Lena, Beneatha and Ruth.

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