

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

The Tragic Vision in Melville's *Billy Budd, Sailor*

A Thesis submitted to the Department of English, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, 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 “The Tragic Vision in Melville’s *Billy Budd, Sailor*”, by Gita Giri has been submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus. The undersigned members of Thesis Committee have approved it.

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Abstract

Billy Budd, Sailor, written by the famous American writer Herman Melville exposes the tragic vision. Therefore, the title is chosen “The Tragic Vision on Melville’s *Billy Budd, Sailor*”. As there are different types of tragic experience in modern period, attempt has been made to explore tragic experience as a real experience of life. In the novel, Billy Budd follows the peaceful resistance though he is accused by Claggart. There is numerous tragedies through the novel. However, tragedy is for the real experience of life in true sense.

The academic significance of this research will provide a new kind of approach while studying the modern tragedy of a modern man. It equally focuses on the existence of good that is crucified at the hand of evil. This thesis is based on textual analysis by applying the modern tragedy as methodology. This thesis is oriented towards the tragic experience in modern society. Thus, the tragic hero takes pride in his single-handed battle against the destiny, though he is destroyed physically. He automatically feels proud sense of being undefeated after pain, suffering, trouble and sorrow. As a result, this tragic experience makes the life meaningful and real.

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