

Tribhuvan University

The 'Non-Players' in British India: Subaltern Gaze in Mulk Raj Anand's *Untouchable*

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “The ‘Non-Players’ in British India: Subaltern Gaze in Mulk Raj Anand’s *Untouchable*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Suresh Datt Bhatta has been approved by undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Suresh Datt Bhatta has completed his thesis entitled “The ‘Non-Players’ in British India: Subaltern Gaze in Mulk Raj Anand’s *Untouchable*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from March 2008 A. D. to January 2009 A. D. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

.....
Dr. Rebati Neupane

Supervisor

Date:.....

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Abstract

The projects of Indian modernity and revolution for independence tend to marginalize and erase the experiences, intentions, and sufferings of the local subjects--sweepers, scavengers, washer men, etc--who do not belong to upper cast Hindu family. Focusing on the so-called untouchable's inability to resist against caste apartheid prevalent in Hindu society depicted that Mulk Raj Anand depicts in *Untouchable*, this research examines the disjuncture between Hindu religious practice and the world of untouchables. The radical encounter in this case is culturally mediated, as is the resistance to it. The outcome of Bakha's resistance points to the possibility that Indian nationalism and mainstream history has gauged the voice of lower strata working class peasants. This research reveals the structural contingencies in Hindu society from a subaltern perspective.

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