

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Trauma of Identity in John Steinbeck's *The Moon Is Down*

A Thesis Submitted to

Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts in English

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Milan Dahal has completed his thesis “Trauma of Identity in John Steinbeck’s *The Moon Is Down*” under my supervision. He carried out this research from 5th January 2009 to 27th March, 2009. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva.

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Supervisor

Date: -----

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled "Trauma of Identity in John Steinbeck's *The Moon Is Down*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Milan Dahal, has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

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Abstract

This research on *The Moon Is Down* by John Steinbeck attempts to show a vivid portrayal of traumatic experience in human life triggered by the violence of the war and colonization. In the age of total war, people lost their life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, along with people lost their identity by colonization. World war and its destruction and the frustrated world view where colonization has captured the identity of people. And the materialistic world 'machine and time' stand out of human values and sentiments. Here, Steinbeck portrays and explores the resistance of people against invading force and he also shows the pathetic condition of armed force, where both sides— townspeople and armed force lose their identity and make effort to revitalize the freedom. The longing of identity and freedom runs from top to bottom of this novel.

Contents

	Page No.
Chapter I: Traumatic Nature in Steinbeck's <i>The Moon Is Down</i>	1-11
Chapter II: Trauma Theory	12-27
Chapter III: Memory, Anger and Fear: Trauma of Identity in John Steinbeck's <i>The Moon Is Down</i>	28-46
Chapter IV: Conclusion	47-49
Works Cited	