

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Quest for Female Identity in Anita Rau Badami's *The Hero's Walk*

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By

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Bishnu Prasad Bhatta has completed his thesis entitled "**Quest for Female Identity in Anita Rau Badami's *The Hero's Walk***" under my supervision. He carried out his research from November 2008 A. D to July 2009 A. D. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "**Quest for Female Identity in Anita Rau Badami's *The Hero's Walk***" submitted to the Central Department of English T. U.,Kirtipur, by Mr.Bishnu Prasad Bhatta, has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Abstract

This research explores a female's quest for identity in third world context. In the novel, *The Hero's Walk* Anita Rau Badami shows values and norms of patriarchal society and its impact upon women's lives. The female protagonist, Nirmala is portrayed as a dissatisfied woman confined within the conventional rules and values of patriarchy. The protagonist, Nirmala is fed up and tired with the society which does not let her to make self decision and create identity. She is not happy after her marriage because of her husband's uncommunicating, self centeredness, unaffectionate and dominating nature. She resists against patriarchal norms and values to get emancipation and to create her own existence. After her husband and mother-in-law's sickness, she goes to her neighbour's house who are from lower caste, she takes tea, and invites Mrs. Mannuiswamy in their house and talk about her sister-in-law Putti and Gopal's marriage by breaking the conventional pattern of patriarchal society. At last, Nirmala and Putti decide about Putti's marriage to Gopal challenging age old tradition and customs to crate the existence of women in society as like males'.

Contents

	Page
I. Anita Rau Badami and Her Feministic Vision	1
II. Theoretical Discourse: Feminism	8
Third World Feminism	13
III. Quest for Female Identity in Badami's <i>The Hero's Walk</i>	22
Resistance and Emancipation	33
IV. Conclusion	40
Works Cited	42