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Slave and Slavery in Herman Melville's *Benito Cereno*

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Slave and Slavery in Herman Melville's *Benito Cereno*

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Letter of Approval

This thesis titled “Slave and Slavery in Herman Melville’s *Benito Cereno*” submitted to the Central Department of Tribhuvan University by Bhim Yadav has been approved by undersigned members of the research committee.

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Abstract

Melville is critical of the all-pervasive slavery during his time. His tilt towards abolitionist movement, however, sidelines blacks' lethal means of resistance while abolishing slavery which, in his view, is a deep-rooted social evil, and must be uprooted from the face of every society. Melville presents Babo as an oppressed slave attempting to overturn what his white oppressors see as a natural social hierarchy. But he also foregrounds White's view of slavery. Melville's attitude seems to be mixed. On the one hand, he voices for the abolition of slavery system. On the other hand, he opposes the use of violent means of resistance by showing the consequences.

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