

Tribhuvan University

A Voice of Freedom for the Stranded: *In a Free State*

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This thesis entitled "A Voice of Freedom for the Stranded *In a Free State*", submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur by Atmaram Adhikari has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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ABSTRACT

Naipaul's *In a Free State* is a sequence of five works--two short journal extracts (the "Prologue" and the "Epilogue"), two short stories and a novella-linked by a common theme. All are about individuals stranded in foreign countries and confronted by alien cultures. So, the novel is a treatise on post-colonial studies and cultural identity formation. All the protagonists in the novel are placed in a supposedly "free" state but, ironically, they are trapped in the context of a free world having lost their cultural identities.

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