

**Tribhuvan University**

**Irrationality in both State and Its Resistance in Heller's *Catch-22***

**A thesis submitted to the Central Department of English  
in partial fulfillment of the requirement  
for the degree of Master of Arts in English**

**by  
Bhabani Subedi**

**Central Department of English  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu  
March 2007**

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

The thesis entitled “**Irrationality in both State and Its Resistance in Heller's *Catch-22***” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mrs. Bhabani Subedi has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of Research Committee:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Internal Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_  
External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Head

\_\_\_\_\_  
Central Department of English, T.U.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Acknowledgements**

I would like to express my hearty respect and gratitude to my supervisor Mrs. Anju Gupta, at the Central Department of English, for her perennial support, help and encouragement in pursuing my research.

I would like to thank Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, Head, Central Department of English, Kirtipur for granting me the opportunity to carry out this study.

I'm deeply indebted to Dr. Sanjeev Upreti and Dr. Arun Gupto for their valuable suggestions. Similarly my sincere gratitude goes to Prof. Dr. Abhi Subedi, Prof. Chandra Prakash Sharma, Dr. Sangita Rayamajhi, Mr. Amma Raj Joshi, Dr. Beerendra Pandey, Dr. Shreedhar Gautam, Mr. Sajag Samsheer Rana, Mrs. Anita Dhungel, Mr. Hem Sharma Paudel and Mr. Shankar Subedi for their kind help and frequent suggestions.

I am also thankful to my parents, brothers— Sushil and Umesh, and friends— Sabitra, Srishti, Narayani and Rajendra and, other family members. I am specially obliged to my dear husband Mr. Shiva Raj Pokhrel and son Popular Gentle Pokhrel for their endless encouragement, interest and creating suitable environment during my thesis writing.

I would also like to offer thanks to Students' Computer Center, Kirtipur for assisting me in creating drafts of this study.

March 2007

Bhabani Subedi

## **Abstract**

Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* examines irrationality in between state and its resistance during Second World War for their own interests. In the novel Colonel Cathcart, the representative of the state, constantly launches many missions to trap armies during the war period using rule of *Catch-22*. The rule itself is irrational. In the same way Yossarian, the protagonist, violates the rules of the nation and flees to Switzerland. Being a national army, he only sees his personal interests rather than his country.

## Contents

Acknowledgements	iii
Abstract	iv
<b>Chapter I. Rationality, Non-rationality and Irrationality</b>	<b>1-10</b>
<b>Chapter II. Rationalism: A Historical Perspective</b>	<b>11-30</b>
<b>Chapter III. Violation of Rationality in <i>Catch-22</i></b>	<b>31-49</b>
<b>Chapter IV. Conclusion</b>	<b>50-51</b>
Works	Cited

**Irrationality in both State and Its Resistance in Heller's *Catch-22***

**– Bhabani Subedi 2007**

**Irrationality in both State and Its Resistance in Heller's *Catch-22***

**– Bhabani Subedi 2007**