

Tribhuvan University

Representation of Rootedness of Racism in Ali's *Brick Lane*

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Central  
Department of English in the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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**Letter of Recommendation**

Sapana Timalshina has completed her thesis, entitled “Implications of Racism in Ali's *Brick Lane*” under my supervision. She carried out her research from May 2016 to March 2017 I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Raj Kumar Baral

March, 2017

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**Letter of Approval**

This thesis, entitled “Implications of Racism in Ali’s *Brick Lane*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Sapana Timalshina have been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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## Abstract

This research explores various crosscurrents and undercurrents of racism, which creates adverse conditions for Muslim immigrants in Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*.

Racism is a politically motivated and manipulated strategy to assert the hegemony and supremacy of one race over other. When racism takes an institutionalized form, it becomes a serious stumbling block. Racism is the biased programs to assert the superiority and hegemony of certain groupings of people. When the notion of race is used to dominate, exclude and oppress people of different socio-cultural and religious background, racism comes into practice. In *Brick Lane*, the whites are demonstrative of grudge against non-white immigrants. The white discriminates immigrants even in the supply of basic items which every human being expects from the sphere of humanity. For the white people, it seems inferior. Immigrants do not get a promotion if there is any white man waiting on the list. There must have been a number of signs showing prejudice in his working environment as Chanu reaches this conclusion of cultural biases. Karim is aggressively made the victim of anti-Islamic campaign. He feels so dehumanized and alienated that he could not help forming Muslim gang to respond to the white men's anti-Islamic campaign. Nazneen and Chanu get low pay not because they work for fewer hours but because they are treated as outsiders by the white inhabitants and employers of London. The racist arrogance of the British people is directed towards the Bangladeshi immigrants. They are discriminated, dehumanized and exploited because they are Muslims. In the midst of prejudice and other anti-Islamic hassles, Islamic immigrants do not hesitate to adapt the shifting cultural locale. The dynamics of inclusion and exclusion, communication and excommunication surround social space in the last part of the novel. It can be found that racism is the unavoidable phenomenon. The phenomenon of racism paves the

way for the emergence of various cultural groupings and alliances. Racism is inevitable in the current politico-cultural context in England

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