

Tribhuvan University

Double Consciousness in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

**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

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Letter of Recommendation

Hansaraj Khatri has completed his thesis entitled “Double Consciousness in Maya Angelou’s *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*” under my supervision. He carried out her research from December 2015 to June 2016. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Thir Bahadur Budhathoki

May 2017

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Double Consciousness in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Hansaraj Khatri has been approved by the undersigned member of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

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Abstract

The present thesis reflects the multiple oppressions of black women in America in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* using the concept of 'Double Consciousness' developed by DuBois, Frantz Fanon and Bernard Bell. It depicts the relationships between black and white people through the experiences of a black girl in Southern America. The black woman protagonist of the novel, Maya faces discrimination, sexual abuse and segregation as race, gender and class issues were the general brands of black women's oppression. The white woman changes her name from Marguerite to Mary also she is also raped by the white man frequently. The researcher takes the idea of 'Double Consciousness' and shows how the protagonist rejects the domination and exploitation of all kinds. The protagonist Maya survives by shaping her own future despite the hardships.