

# **THE LIFE ALTERED AND THE SELF DISAPPEARED IN V.S.NAIPAUL'S *HALF A LIFE***

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## **ABSTRACT**

The predominant theme of diasporic literature is dislocation of an individual and eventual alienation. Alienation drives individual to sense of rootlessness which is the central theme of V S Naipaul. His novels are profoundly autobiographical. Naipaul, in an interview with Ronald Bryden, says, "All my work is really one. I am really writing one big book. I come to the conclusion that, considering the nature of the society I came from, considering the nature of the world I have stepped into and the world I have to look at I could not be professional novelist in the old sense...". V S Naipaul spits himself into his characters through whom his subtle shades of his emotions and minute aspects of his characters are manifested. His leading theme of rootlessness, alienating effects of colonial past on present postcolonial people are transparent in his characters.

**KEYWORDS:** Alienation, V S Naipaul, Postcolonial, Colonial.