I attempt, in these pages, a study of the image of woman in the novels of Buchi Emecheta whose fictional modes bring into sharp focus the African woman's struggle to act out her destiny in a tradition-bound society dominated by patriarchal attitudes. A study of this kind appeared to be context of the changing perceptions about woman's role and place in the modern society. While the emphasis in the study is, therefore, naturally on how the images of women come across in the novels of Buchi Emecheta, there is no attempt to project an overtly feminist angle or present a specifically subversive feminist argument.

The study has been a rewarding experience, in spite of the difficulties encountered in securing the necessary books and journals. I have freely drawn upon, and benefited from, the various published critical commentaries to which I have had access. I am deeply indebted to all those scholars and critics.
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