CONTENTS

PREFACE

CHAPTER - I  :  INTRODUCTION

  - The American Drama and
    Arthur Miller

CHAPTER - II  :  PROBLEM OF IDENTITY IN
               ARTHUR MILLER'S PLAYS

CHAPTER - III :  EARLY PLAYS (1947- 1955)

  - All My Sons (1947)
  - Death of a Salesman (1949)
  - The Crucible (1953)
  - A View from the Bridge (1955)

CHAPTER - IV  :  LATER PLAYS (1964 - 1980)

  - After the Fall (1964)
  - Incident At Vichy (1964)
  - The Price (1968)
  - The American Clock (1980)

CHAPTER - V  :  CONCLUSION

BIBLIOGRAPHY  :

Page

1-III
1-17
18-32
33-182
183- 275
276-295
i - viii
PREFACE

Arthur Miller is an outstanding American dramatist of the twentieth century who is still alive and who is reported to be still doing some critical work in America. In one sense he has not still completed his career as a creative writer. Although it is generally agreed that he has already touched the peak of his dramatic career with his two significant plays, Death of a Salesman (1949) and A View from the Bridge (1955), yet I would stress that his play The Crucible (1953) should also belong to the peak with other important plays -- Incident At Vichy (1964), After the Fall (1964) and The American Clock (1980). Miller touched on the economic (impact of depression), political (racial discrimination) and moral (man's innate sinfulness) aspects of his central theme of the problem of identity. My purpose in this dissertation is to argue that in all his dramatic works beginning with All My Sons (1947) to his last play The American Clock (1980) Miller is concerned with the central issue of identity. His plays deal with the exposition of this problem from several angles in different ways which I have tried to demonstrate in the course of the analyses of each of the plays relevant to my subject and discussed in this dissertation.

For doing this research I have relied upon and consulted for my primary material only the plays and dramatic essays of Arthur Miller such as, "Introduction" to his Collected Plays, "Preface" to A View from

First of all I would like to show my due respect and gratefulness to my Supervisor Professor S. K. Tikoo, Department of English, Manipur University for his valuable help and guidance in writing out this dissertation in its present form. I would also like to show my respect to all the faculty members of the Department for their advice and encouragement.

Most of the American critical works on Arthur Miller were collected and consulted during my stay at the American Studies Research Centre, Hyderabad. I sincerely acknowledge the kind help and co-operation given me by the Library staff of the Centre which greatly helped me to complete my work. I also acknowledge with thanks the help given me by the staff of Manipur University Library from time to time to enable me to do my work.
I am extremely grateful to the authority of my college, The Biramangol College, Sawombung, Manipur for kindly granting me study leave for carrying out my research project.

I would also like to express my gratefulness to Dr. B. Manlhar Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Life Sciences, Manipur University for his help and encouragement to complete the work.

I am thankful to Md. Rashid Khan, Senior Stenographer, M.U. for working very hard to type-out my dissertation for presentation and submission to the University. I would also like to thank Shri Ph. Iboyaima Sharma, Senior Binder, M.U. for binding the dissertation within a limited time.

I shall also remain deeply indebted to all my family members, relatives and friends who gave me all kinds of help and encouragement for the completion of my research work.

[Takhenchangbam Nandalal Sharma]  
Ph.D. Registration No. 733 of 1992  
Department of English  
Manipur University