

Tribhuvan University

Female Resistance to Patriarchy: A Character Study of Astha in Manju Kapur's *A Married Woman*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English**

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Rabindra Kumar Jha has completed his thesis entitled “Female resistance to Patriarchy: A Character Study of Astha in Manju Kapur’s *“A Married Woman”* under my supervision. He carried out his research from September, 2012 to December, 2012 A.D. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.



Prof. Dr. Gita Khadka
Dissertation supervisor
December 2012

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Letter of Approval

The undersigned members of the Research Committee have approved this thesis entitled “Female Resistance to Patriarchy: A Character study of Astha in Manju Kapur’s *A Married Woman*” submitted by Mr. Rabindra Kumar Jha to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University in the fulfillment of the requirement of Masters Degree in English.

Members of the Research Committee



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Abstract

This dissertation explores the protagonist; Astha is suffered and victimized by the typical Indian society under Hinduism in Manju Kapur's *A Married Woman*. The Patriarchal rules and regulations maintained by the society are gendered biased, which leads to the suppression and objectification of women. In *A Married Woman*, Astha is objectified as socially excluded like other women in society despite her innocent behavior. Females are treated by the society nothing more than the child producing machines, which benefits male to fulfill their interests, but the females are in opposition to it which later on, is proved by the character Astha that marriage is a kind of suppression and subjugation against woman.

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