

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Critique of Patriarchy in Defoe's *Roxana*

A Thesis Submitted to the central Department of English

In the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts in English

By

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## Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Tilak Raj Chundali has completed his thesis entitled. “Critique of Patriarchy in Defoe’s *Roxana*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from September 2012 to Jan 2013. I hereby recommended his thesis to be submitted to viva voce.

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Hem Lal Pandey

Supervisor

Date:.....

**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculty of Humanities and social science**

This thesis entitled “Critique of Patriarchy in Defoe’s *Roxana*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Tilak Raj Chundali, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research committee:

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Tilak Raj Chundali

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## **Abstract**

This research entitled "Critique of Patriarchy in Defoe's *Roxana*" analyzes the novel from the perspective of feminism. Roxana is the main character of novel who resists patriarchy by using her female sexuality. Roxana expresses arguments against the position of wives, and extols the status of mistress. Revolutionary nature of Roxana introduces her as revolutionary of contemporary society. Roxana criticizes ongoing male dominated marriage system of the time and both mentally and physically and fight against it. She breaks the contract of marriage which is almost impossible at that time and celebrates freedom in life. Roxana brings her voices and establish her as feminist and protest patriarchy. In 18<sup>th</sup> century, women began to get equal right and protest male domination though breaking social norms which made for women. This practice is very near to modern feminist theory so this study is based on feminist perspective.