

**Tribhuvan University**

**Reconstructing Female Sexuality as Social and Cultural Constructs**

**In Golden's *Memoirs of a Geisha***

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U.**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of**

**Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Anjita Lama**

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**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

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**Tribhuvan University**

**Central Department of English**

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**Letter of Recommendation**

Ms. Anjita Lama has completed her thesis entitled “Reconstructing Female Sexuality as Social and Cultural Constructs in *Memoirs of a Geisha*” under my supervision. She carried out her research from August, 2009 to February, 2011. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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**Letter of Approval**

This thesis entitled "Reconstructing Female Sexuality as a Social and Cultural Constructs in *Memoirs of a Geisha*" submitted to the Central Department of English by Anjita Lama has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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**Anjita Lama**

## Abstract

The thesis, with the close observation of many negative images prevailing in the text, attempts to synthesize general issues pertaining to femininity and female sexuality using revolutionary texts contesting traditional, male dominated history and culture are Foucault's *History of Sexuality* (1976) and Judith Butler's *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (1990). In the text, Golden's claims to depict the entire Japanese geisha traditions is just his illusion, rather, he presents Japanese geisha culture as irrational, inferior, dependent, erotic and 'other' whereas men are rational, superior, independent, modern and self. The reason for this partiality is none other than pleasing male readers who always tries to disdain and subordinate female gender and sexuality as weak, exploitative, submissive and sensitive. So that male could feel proud, superior and independent over the female gender and sexuality.

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