

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**

**Consciousness of Woman's Autonomy in James' *Daisy Miller***

A Thesis Submitted to

Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University

in Partial Fulfillments of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Arts in English

By

**Renuka Bhandari**

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

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**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Letter of Approval**

This thesis titled **Consciousness of Woman's Autonomy in James' *Daisy Miller*** submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Miss Renuka Bhandari has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee

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Internal Examiner

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External Examiner

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Head of the Department

Central Department of English, T.U.

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Date:

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## **Abstract**

Women have got the secondary position in the patriarchal society and due to the lack of consciousness and knowledge of their status they are happy with it. But some of them are gaining the consciousness of their woman's autonomy and do what is needed for their independent life which is exemplified in Henry James' novella *Daisy Miller*. Some characters follow the patriarchal norms and values whereas Daisy Miller fights against the patriarchal society so as to get freedom and liberty. Miller's ways of behaving, treating gentlemen and visiting different places at night are unexpected in the patriarchal society which makes her a scandal, an outrage and a heartbreaker. But social judgements do not touch her because all judgements are based on patriarchal norms, values and standards which fail to understand her. Rather she creates her own moral fibre and standards to judge her activities. James through this novel shows that defiance of the patriarchal society by female character who is motivated by her growing consciousness of woman's autonomous life.

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