

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Dialectics of Eros and Thanatos in Ammaraj Joshi's *A Night's Drama*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of Masters of Arts in English**

By

Hem Kumar Rai

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

March 2012

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Hem Kumar Rai has completed his thesis entitled “Dialectics of Eros and Thanatos in Ammaraj Joshi’s *A Night’s Drama*,” under my supervision. He carried his research from August 2011 to March 2012. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for *viva-voce*.

Mr. Saroj Sharma Ghimire

Supervisor

Date:

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Approval

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “The Dialectics of Eros and Thanatos in Ammaraj Joahi’s *A Night’s Drama*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Hem Kumar Rai, has been approved by undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of the Research Committee

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date:

Acknowledgements

This thesis has profited from the suggestions of my respected teacher and supervisor Mr. Saroj Sharma Ghimire at the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal. I am deeply indebted to him for enabling me to bring this thesis to its present form. Any endeavor to thank him would prove to be inadequate.

I am grateful to my respected teacher, the head of the central department of English and the author of *A Night's Drama* for his encouragements and suggestions for the study, and equal debt to all my respected teachers at CDE.

I would like to thank all my family members, especially my wife Smita Tamang and my little daughter Shangken Rai for their constant supports and valuable suggestions. Similarly, I would like to thank all my friends, especially Durga Bdr. Tamang, Prakash Rai and Arjun Sunuwar for their helps in my research task.

Hem Kumar Rai

March 2012

Abstract

This thesis explores the dialectics of life and death in Ammaraj Joshi's *A Night's Drama* from the perspective of Freudian psychoanalysis, especially through the lens of Eros and Thanatos. Although Joshi's stories are the reflections of Nepalese socio-cultural realities, his dramatization of human sexuality and human deaths gives the logic that the whole collection is an inquiry into human instinctual drives of Eros and Thanatos. Juxtaposition of the life drive and the death drive makes it possible to analyze the text from the psychoanalytical theories and to study how the instinctual forces of human psychology functions as the ultimate source of all human activities, attitudes, behaviours and ways of thinking as they are implied in Joshi's stories.

Contents

	Page No.
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
I. Joshi's <i>A Night's Drama</i> and Psychoanalysis	1-17
II. Eros and Thanatos in <i>A Night's Drama</i>	18-76
Overwhelming Eros in <i>A Night's Drama</i>	19
Antithetical Power of Thanatos in <i>A Night's Drama</i>	51
III. Juxtaposition of Eros and Thanatos in <i>A Night's Drama</i>	77-79
Works Cited	80