

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**

**Irony in Victorian Liberalism: A Study of Trollope's *The Warden***

**A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of Master of Arts in English**

**By**

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**Letter of Recommendation**

Mrs. Binita Khadka has completed her thesis entitled “ **Irony in Victorian Liberalism: A Study of Trollope’s *The Warden*** ” under my supervision. She carried out her research work from August 16, 2007 to March 25, 2011. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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**Letter of Approval**

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “ **Irony in Victorian Liberalism: A Study of Trollope’s *The Warden*** ” by Binita Khdka submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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## **Abstract**

Trollope's *The Warden* ironically unearths the sway of liberalism in Victorian England and its negative effect on the city of Barchester. The irony lies in the objective of Bold which turns into opposite direction at the ending. People like John Bold and the bedsmen of Hiram's Hospital try to exercise liberalism with hope of getting benefits from it without caring its negative result. Because of over exercising freedom and liberty , it not only ruins the life of Mr. Harding, but they also overcome to pathetic situations. this ironical turning in the disillusion the hope of liberalism is false like the chimera. The chimera of liberalism victimizes Septimus Harding, John Bold and the bedsmen until they cease to follow it. In this light, the concept of liberalism is not always good and beneficial - it is ironical. The whole foundation of novel is the attempt to get the promise of liberalism and its ironical tone because of the futile hope of the characters like Bold and the beds men. The ironical device has been enacted in this novel to portray the real, bitter and somehow negative effect of liberalism existed in Victorian society.

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