

Tribhuvan University

Resistance against Patriarchy: Emerging Concept of New Women in Stephanie
Forward's *Dreams, Visions and Realities*

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English,

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Bishnu Raj Paudyal has completed his thesis entitled “Resistance against Patriarchy: Emerging Concept of New Women in Stephanie Forward's *Dreams, Visions and Realities*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from June 2019 to July 2019. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voice.

Hem Lal Pandey

Supervisor

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Resistance against Patriarchy: Emerging Concept of New Women in Stephanie Forward's *Dreams, Visions and Realities*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Bishnu Raj Paudyal has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

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Abstract

The main issue of this study is to analyze the emerging concept of new women in the selected short stories "The Mandrake Venus" by George Egerton, "A White Night" by Charlotte Mew and "Dream Life and Real Life: A Little African Story" by Olive Schreiner collected in an anthology, *Dreams Visions and Realities* edited by Stephanie Forward. In these stories characters like Venus, Ella and Jannta resist patriarchy and appear to be New Women. The main concern of this study is to analyze how these characters resist patriarchy and how writers of these stories project them as 'New Women'. Concept of new women has been used as the theoretical tool for this study. Female power, virtue and intelligence and self-exploration are the main subject matters of stories and the characters resist patriarchy by using their self- power, virtue and intelligence. Through the characterization of Venus and Ella, Egerton and Mew project the emerging concept of new women and explore the strength of women. Likewise, Jannita, female protagonist of Schreiner's story sacrifices herself for the sake of self- recognition and searches her identity in her family as well as in her society. In this way, the study scrutinizes the three different stories written by different writers and show how the concept of new women developed during nineteenth century Europe with reinterpreting, exploring and sacrificing the feministic issues.

Key Words: New women, female power, virtue, self-exploration, female identity resistance.

Table of Contents

	Page No.
Letter of Approval	
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
I. Female Voice in Selected Short Stories	1-14
II. Patriarchy: Emerging Concept of New Women in Selected Short Stories	15-33
III. New Women and Resistance	34-35
Works Cited	