

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Illusion of Love and Marriage in Youths of Modern Society in Joseph Conrad's

Selected Short Stories

A Thesis

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Master of Arts in English

By

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TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

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Supervisor's Recommendation

This is to certify that Samjhana Kandel with Class Roll No. 508/ 070 B.S., T.U. Regd. No. 9-2-534-34-2009 and Exam Roll No. 480105 has prepared this thesis entitled “Illusion of Love and Marriage in Youths of Modern Society in Joseph Conrad’s Selected Short Stories” under my supervision, following the format as specified by the Research Committee of the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara for final evaluation.

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Approval Sheet

The thesis entitled “Illusion of Love and Marriage in Youths of Modern Society in Joseph Conrad’s Selected Short Stories” submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Samjhana Kandel has been approved by the undersigned members of the Evaluation Committee.

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Abstract

This paper analyses Joseph Conrad selected short stories, 'The Lagoon', 'Amy Foster' and 'Youth'. It examines the illusion of love and marriage in youths of modern society where the youths experience the different feelings and emotions. Providing stereotypical characteristics to characters, Conrad depicts the state of contemporary society which has picked fall marriage and love, addressing the lost immigrants, dreams of youth and struggle of youths for their existence. Conrad attempts to visualize the love and marriage that has been imagined and practiced through the modern society which has been affected by illusion. The paper contends issues of illusion which creates the clash of identity and human relation with the relation of modern society. The theme of the stories shows the consequences of modernism in youths in modern society. The central theme of these selected stories is that modernism creates illusion in which the youths neither totally avoid the traditional values and beliefs nor accept the modern norms and concepts. The characters undergo high level of illusion on the cultural and social myth, which limits and controls modern- day society leading towards upheaval and struggles in their life. In this way, this paper discloses new avenues examining a particular theme with special attention to contextual relations.