

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Science

Humanizing the Transhumanism: Humanistic Force in Philip K. Dick's

Martian Time-Slip

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Master of Arts in English

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Ashok Bhattarai has completed his thesis on “Humanizing the Transhumanism: Humanistic Force in Philip K. Dick’s *Martian Time-Slip*” under my supervision. He carried out this research work between November 2016 and March 2017. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

This Thesis entitled “Humanizing the Transhumanism: Humanistic Force in Philip K. Dick’s *Martian Time-Slip*”, submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Ashok Bhattarai, has been approved by the undersigned members of research committee.

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Abstract

The thesis projects the transhumanistic approach to study Philip K. Dick's novel *Martian Time-Slip*. It takes the comparative study of humanism and transhumanism and proves that excess use of technology or tendency of transhumanism has brought negative impacts in society rather than positive implications. Humanism is the study of human power that focuses on human creativity and capacity over the invisible and supernatural power. As the human power increased, human beings started using technology in such a way that they multiplied their power with the use of ultramodern technology. However, the use of such technology has become excess now so that human beings fully depend on the machines leaving aside the human power. In the beginning of human development, the invention of technology was like the blessings. As the time passed it became problematic to humanism. As a result of excessive use of technology, the thought reversed back to dependency on others like past. In the past, humans depended on god or invisible power, again in the modern era they depended on machines lessening human power.

Philip K. Dick's *Martian Time-Slip* tells the story of human power going beyond imagination. The modern people have migrated to Mars and performed their extraordinary activities there. The novel presents the character like Arnie Kott and Jack Bohlen who like to make a device for communicating with the nonverbal, autistic child, Manfred Steiner. They do not think that he can be treated with human communication. It is an example of dependency of the people on machines. The native Martians, Bleekmen, recognize the flexibility of time and understand the value of Manfred's gifts although the colonists debate the value of keeping abnormal children alive.

Table of Contents

Letter of Recommendation	ii
Letter of Approval	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Chapter I: Transhumanistic Approach in <i>Martian Time-Slip</i>	1-9
Chapter II: Humanism and Transhumanism	10-33
Chapter III: Transhumanistic World: Negative Implications	34-36
Works Cited	37-38