TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

New Woman in Liminal Space: A Study of Ibsen's *A Doll's House* and *Hedda Gabler*

A thesis submitted to Central Department of English

in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree

of the Master of Arts in English

by

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Tribhuvan University

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Recommendation Letter

This is to certify that Ms. Sushma Rijal has completed this thesis entitled

"New Woman in Liminal Space*:* A Study of Ibsen's *A Doll's House* and *Hedda*

Gabler" in my supervision. She carried out her thesis from 2009- 2010. I hereby

recommended her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Mr. Deepak Giri

Supervisor

Date: ....

Tribhuvan University

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Letter of Approval

This thesis title "New Woman in Liminal Space: A Study of Ibsen's *A Doll's House* and *Hedda Gabler*" submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Ms. Sushma Rijal has been approved by the undersigned member of the Research Committee.

Members of the research Committee

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Abstract

The plays *A Doll's House* and *Hedda Gabler* begin with the union of couple through their marriage and end with their separation from home and society. Nora and Hedda are women who seek to fight against patriarchy on the one hand and accepts the same patriarchy by their deeds on the other hand .They do not confort a challenge to assert their autonomy and to prove themselves as new women. They get nothing in life except making themselves participant in a loosing battle. Their ideal thinking and their real activities are unbalanced and they themselves become the victim of their own effort. The escapist nature of both protagonists is nothing but the surrender. So, Nora's and Hedda's escapist nature show not any bravery of them but their surrender to patriarchy. However much they try to resist patriarchal domination they themselves prove them into the space of liminality in course of being new women.

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