#### TRIBHUWAN UNIVERSITY

Depiction of Social Realism in Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things

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

By

Achut Pandey

Roll No.: 064/2064

Exam Roll No.: 480098

T.U. Regd. No.: 6-1-312-1-2001

Department of English
Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara
January 2012

## Tribhuwan University

## Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

## Department of English

#### **Letter of Recommendation**

This is to certify that Mr. Achut Pandey, with class roll no. 64/064, exam roll no. 480098 and T.U. regd. no. 6-1-312-1-2001 has prepared this thesis entitled "Depiction of Social Realism in Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* under my supervision, following the format as specified by the Research Committee, Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara. I, therefore, forward it to the Research committee for final evaluation.

•••••

Rajendra Prasad Tiwari

Reader and Head

Department of English

Prithvi Narayan Campus

Pokhara

January 2012

# TRIBHUWAN UNIVERSITY

# FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

# Approval Letter

This thesis entitled "Depiction of Social Realism in A	rundhati Roy's The God of			
Small Things"				
submitted to the Department of English, Prithivi Nara	ayan Campus by Mr. Achut			
Pandey has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.				
Members of the Research Committee:				
	Advisor			
	External Examiner			
	Head of English Department			
Date:				

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my thesis supervisor Mr.

Rajendra Prasad Tiwari, Reader and Head of Department of English, Prithvi Narayan

Campus, Pokhara. Without his scholarly guidance and suggestions, his in-depth

knowledge and constructive ideas during the work, this thesis would not have been in

its present form now as it is. I am highly indebted to him.

I owe my gratitude to all those people who have helped me with the

preparation of this thesis. I am grateful to Dr. Man Bahadur K.C., Dr.Dhruba K.C.,

Dr. Sunita Gurung, Dr. Saroj Koirala and Mr. Hom Nath Sharma Paudyal for giving

me invaluable suggestions and guidance. I am also thankful to the research

committee, English Department of Prithvi Narayan Campus for giving me permission

to write the thesis in the area of my interest.

I feel a great sense of reverence to my father Kula Raj Pandey, and mother

Ambika Pandey without whose blessings, the work would not have been possible. I

am pleased with my friends Mr. Mohan Prasad Poudel, Mr. Yogendra Regmi, and Mr.

Dilip Devkota for extending their helping hands to me.

I feel beholden to my better half Mrs. Sushila Pandey, whose regular support

and help prompted me to go through the challenge. I can not describe her role by

hoarding mere words. Last but never least; I pay my special thanks to my sons,

Ashwin and Aman, whose lovely smile made this job easy.

Achut Pandey

Date: January 2012

# **CONTENTS**

Acknowledgement	IV
CHAPTER ONE: A Short Glimpse on Roy's The God of Small Things	1-9
The God of Small Things	1
Review of Literature	5
CHAPTER TWO: Realistic Perspectives	10-24
An Outlook on Realism	10
Influence of Realism on Literature	17
Features of Realism	22
CHAPTER THREE: Depiction of Social Realism in The God of Small Th	
Projection of Indian History, Politics and Sexual Hierarchies	25-51 30
Gender Inequality	34
Mainstream Culture and Subalternity	38
Caste System, Untouchability, Transgression and Punishment	42
Love Laws and Sexuality	49
CHAPTER FOUR: Consequences of the Tragic Struggle of the Margina	llized
	52-55
Works Cited	56-58