BIOGRAPHY OF BRAHMLAL SHRESTHA AND HIS CONTRIBUTION IN NEPALESE MATHEMATICS

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THESIS

 \mathbf{BY}

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LETTER OF CERTIFICATE

This is certify that Mr. Krishna Prasad Kandel a student of academic year 2068-2069 B.S. with thesis number 988, exam roll No. 281651and T. U. Regd. No. 9-2-344-45-2005 has completed this thesis under my supervision during the period prescribed by the rules and regulation of Tribhuvan University, Nepal. The thesis entitled *Biography of Bramha Lal Shrestha and his contribution in Nepalese mathematics* conducted during the period 2015 at the department of Mathematics Education, University Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu. I recommend and forward this thesis to be submitted for the evaluation to award the degree of master of education.

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Date: 23rd March, 2015

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the study was to pose the biography of Bramha Lal Shrestha, to explore his contributions in Nepalese Mathematics and characterize his book 'Vichitra Ganita'. Furthermore, the researcher intent to explore the mathematics practiced around 1918 A. D. in Nepal. To archive the objective of this study, the researcher conducted within qualitative paradigm and design of the study was historical content analysis and biographical study.

The primary and secondary source of the data consisting of the study of profiles, consulting with the resource persons and study of related journals, books etc are used as tools of data collection for this study. Researcher used in-depth interview with resource persons for the biography of Bramha Lal Shrestha and snowball sampling was used. In the introductory part, Bramha Lal's biography is described to point out some of the formative instances in the creation of one of the important mathematicians of the first half of the nineteenth century.

Finding of the study shows that by means of publishing the book 'Vichitra Ganita', Bramha Lal Shrestha had played the great role in the development of mathematics. He was inspired with the educational environment in his surroundings, the good company with his colleagues, and the works in accountancy in the office. And the inspiration and his prolonged attention in every terms of mathematics made him to write the book of mathematics. The book 'Vichitra Ganita' is no more in practice these days, however, the content of the book are still being practiced in a reformed manner. Moreover, Vichitra Ganita was mainly based on the practical mathematics. Shrestha focused on arithmetic although mensuration and simultaneous equations in addition to us cannot see a problem of geometry.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- A. D. -Anno Domini
- A. P. -Arithmetic Progressions
- B. C. Before Christ
- BCE Century of Before Christ
- HCF Highest Common Factor
- K. U. Kathamandu University
- LCM Lowest Common Multiplier
- SLC School Leaving Certificate
- T. U. Tribhuvan University