

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Masculine Sovereignty and Family Relationship in Anita Desai's *Clear Light of Day*

A Thesis

Submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara

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by

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Letter of Recommendation

This is to certify that Mr. Shyam Krishna Poudel with Class Roll No. 165/065, Exam Roll No. 480397 and T.U. Reg. No. 6-1-48-2231-2003, has prepared this thesis entitled “Masculine Sovereignty and Family Relationship in Anita Desai’s *Clear Light of Day*” under my supervision, following the format as specified by the Research Committee, Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara. Therefore, I forward it to the Research Committee for final evaluation.

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Masculine Sovereignty and Family Relationship in Anita Desai’s *Clear Light of Day*” submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara by Mr. Shyam Krishna Poudel has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

Anita Desai's *Clear Light of Day* depicts gruesome picture of partition violence perpetrated upon women during the partition of India in 1947. Since females become the extreme sufferer during the apocalyptic events of partition, the study is analyzed from the perspective of feminism. By dramatizing, the politics of partition and the consequential violence inflicted upon women, the novelist has fore grounded the pathetic condition of women at the time of war. However, in *Clear Light of Day*, Desai highlights women's emancipation, but without showing the resolution of the difficulties of their protagonists. The central consciousness, Bimla in *Clear light of Day* whose self is wounded and called just only Bim; suffered by the callous behavior of her parents and her brother, very often compares her relations and their memory to mosquitoes. Thus, comparison is the real reflection of Indian society where male values marginalize female existence. In short, Desai exposes the male domination in a patriarchal society.

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