

**Tribhuvan University**

**Power and Social Discipline in Thomas Hardy's *The Return of The native***

**A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in  
Partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Keshab Adhikari**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**July, 2010**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Power and Social Discipline in Thomas Hardy's *The Return of The native***

**A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in**

**Partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of**

**Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Keshab Adhikari**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**July, 2010**

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Central Department of English**

**Letter of Recommendation**

Mr Keshab Adhikari has completed his thesis entitled **Power and Social Discipline in Thomas Hardy's *The Return of the Native*** under my supervision. He carried out his thesis from March 2008 to May 2010. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

---

Mr. Sharad Chandra Thakur

July,2010

**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

The undersigned members of the Research committee have approved this thesis entitled **“Power and Social Discipline in Thomas Hardy’s *The Return of the Native* ”** submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Keshab Adhikari.

Members of the Research Committee:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Internal Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Head of Department

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Acknowledgements**

This thesis owes its existence to Sharad Chandra Thakur who not only supervised me throughout the work or went through every line of the manuscript but also gave me consistent encouragement and supporting materials so as to materialize it. Special thanks go to Prof. Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, the Head of the Department of English, for his innovative guidelines. I cannot help thanking my respected gurus Mr. Shiva Rijal and Mr. Puspa Acharya and friends Keshab Mohan adhikari, Krishna Prashad Adhikari and Deb raj Acharya for their necessary help in collecting materials and giving relevant suggestions. I would like to express heartfelt gratitude to my parents Mr. Bhuraman Adhikari and Eaku Maya Adhikari, my wife Sudha Adhikari who always encouraged me to continue my study. Likewise I would like to remember my kids Utsab and Sampanna in this moment.

Lastly, I express my thanks to all the friends and relatives who supported me giving valuable suggestions along with typing, formatting and printing out the materials into the present form.

Keshab Adhikari

July 2010

## **Abstract**

Thomas Hardy in his widely acclaimed novel *The Return of the Native* has shown the theme of power and social discipline by showing the relationship between different characters set in Victorian period. The researcher claims that by presenting different events and complex relationship of characters the writer shows the relationship between power social discipline and female's status in the society of the novel. The main victims of the novel are Eustacia and Thomasin. These female characters are forced to live in a narrow restricted world due to male domination and male hegemony in the society. These female characters are compelled to face many difficulties created by male discourses of the society.

## Contents

Acknowledgements

Abstract

I.	Thomas Hardy and His Novels	1-9
II.	Power and Discourse	10-38
III.	Power and Social Discipline in the novel	39-62
IV.	Conclusion	63-67

Works Cited