

Tribhuvan University

Representation of the Subaltern Characters in Selected Songs of Bob Dylan

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of
Masters of Arts in English

By

Ashish Duwal

Symbol No.: 280242

T.U. Regd. No.: 6-2-40-1906-2007

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

April, 2018

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Central Department of English
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Representation of the Subaltern Characters in Selected Songs of Bob Dylan” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Ashish Duwal, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

Acknowledgements

There are some individuals and institutions that have significantly contributed to the completion of this dissertation. I, thus, wish to express my profound gratitude to them. My greatest debt is to my supervisors; Taralal Shrestha and Sarbagya Kafle. I am very grateful to them because they, not only guided me seriously in this research work- reading word by word, repairing every fractured or awkward sentence, retrieving in appropriate word or expression with right diction, but also provided me with the enough courage to do this thesis work.

My gratitude is due to Prof. Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, and Prof. Badri Acharya along with other lectures of the department.

I want to express my love and gratitude to my parents and other members of the family for their continuous support and motivations. Thanks to all my friends esp. Binod Acharya, Sandeep Ale, Bikram Basnet and Ashish Thekare for their motivations and immense guideline.

Finally, I am grateful to all my best wishers who belong to Central Department of English.

Ashish Duwal

April 2018

Abstract

This research is an analysis of representation of subaltern character in the selected songs of Bob Dylan. Subalterns are politically dominated and kept aside from the state hegemonic power. This research work reveals that Dylan's work criticizes the function of popular culture institutionalized by hegemony through political domination. He addresses the dominated and subaltern class to seek the salvation and freedom from hypocritical authority. Bob Dylan's literature stands unparalleled with other form of American literature because of his attempts to question the authority and quests on the emancipation of poor and helpless. His songs are the songs of revival for the subaltern and victim of war. Dylan criticizes the technique of domination established by the elites. He also examines how this method makes individual conform to the rules and regulations, exposing them submissive and helpless. By using theory on subaltern propounded by scholars such as Gramsci, Spivak and Guha, this research examines the relation between the elites and subaltern with regard to their hegemonic power structure.

Keywords: Subaltern, Representation, hegemony, emancipation, domination, Hypocritical, Power.