

Tribhuvan University

Dalit in Print Media: Politics of Representation in

The Rising Nepal and The Republica

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U,
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

Tam Bahadur B.K

Symbol No.: 282169

T.U. Regd. No.: 6-1-48-893-2006

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

April 2018

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Science
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Tam Bahadur B.K has completed his thesis entitled "Dalit in Print Media: Politics of Representation in *The Rising Nepal* and *The Republica*" under my supervision from 1 January 2014 to 1 February 2018. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for Viva voice.

Dr. Tara Lal Shrestha

Supervisor

Date:.....

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Science
Central Department of English

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Dalit in Print Media: Politics of Representation in *The Rising Nepal* and *The Republica*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Tam Bahadur B.K 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

Every research is an experience, an experience of triumph, failure and an experience that makes us look at a subject in a new light. This research is no exception. The satisfaction and jubilation that accompanies the successful completion of any task would be incomplete without mentioning the people who made it possible, whose constant guidance and encouragement crowned my efforts with success. This is my massive delectation to present the research for Master Degree in English.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to my supervisor Dr. Tara Lal Shrestha, Lecturer at Central Department of English T.U. for his consistent availability, hold up, and for informative discussion and guidance without whose valuable suggestions, my thesis would not been in its present form.

I would like to thank Prof Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of Central Department of English for providing me an opportunity to write this thesis. I am equally thankful to Lecturer Badri Prasad Acharya, Dr. Dhruva Karki, Raj Kumar Baral, Jiva Nath Lamsal, Komal Phuyal and all the respected teachers at the Central Department of English who helped me to enhance my knowledge through their intellectual suggestions during my academic year directly or indirectly.

Love and affection of my family always encourage and inspired me to perform any work intensively. I am indebted for the support from my parents in every turn of life but here I am unable to express my feeling in words. I owe all my success to them. Similarly, I cannot forget my wife, Buddhikala B.K and sister Bhagawoti Gotame B.K for their constant help during my stay in Kathmandu. Ultimately, my heartfelt thanks to all the friends who are the best friends I have ever met.

April 2018

Tam Bahadur B.K

Abstract

This research sheds light on the representation of Dalit in print media in Nepal. It focuses on the politics of representation of the government and private sectors during the course of giving space to the issues related to Dalit groups of people. Twenty newspaper articles from the English national dailies *The Rising Nepal* and *The Republica* that cover the duration from the January 2014 to March 2018 have been selected to analyze the politics of representation from the perspective of Subaltern Studies. Antonio Gramsci's notion of 'hegemony' and Stuart Hall's idea of 'representation' are the key concepts put into key consideration while analyzing the selected texts. The study also concentrates on the stereotypical concept regarding Dalit community that has been deeply rooted in Hindu society which has been changing gradually; but Media has been playing role to continue the traditional convention that suppress the real voices of the Subaltern subtly, that is Dalit groups of people in Nepalese context rather than playing role of deconstruct the hegemonic structures. It contributes to unveil how the state and private media represents Dalit issues in derogatory form in the print media as the role of *The Rising Nepal* seems to serve and become the manifesto of the government and *The Republica* is helping more to the elite power center while heading on the way to collect the capital. These print media thus fail to represent the liberation consciousness of the Dalits by not giving sufficient space to Dalit groups of people and their subtle issues even in the Republican period of new Nepal. The key concern of this research is on how the Dalits and their issues are being represented in mainstream media in Nepal and how representing them with stereotypes continues with reference to the two broad sheets in English, *The Ring Nepal* and *The Republica*.

Table of Contents

	Page No.
Letter of Approval	i
Acknowledgements	ii
Abstract	iii
I: Dalit as Subaltern in Nepalese Context	1-12
II: Representation of Dalit in Print Media	13-41
III: Representation of Dalit as a Subaltern in Print Media	42-45

Figures

Figure1: Poor Nepali Dalit

Figure2: Damai community struggling for livelihood