# TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Redrawing History as Fiction On Possession: A Romance

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of

English in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Master in Arts in English

By

Shankar Prasad Bhattarai

Central Department of English

Kirtipur

December 2012

# **Tribhuvan University**

# **Central Department of English**

# Kirtipur, Kathmandu

### **Letter of Recommendation**

Mr. Shankar Prasad Bhattarai has completed his thesis on **Redrawing History** as **Fiction on** *Possession: A Romance* under my supervision. He carried out this research paper from June 2012 to December 2012. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

Dr. Ram Chandra Paudel,
Supervisor
Date:

## **Tribhuvan University**

## **Central Department of English**

## Kirtipur, Kathmandu

## **Letter of Approval**

This Thesis entitled Redrawing History as Fiction on Possession: A Romance submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Shankar Prasad Bhattarai has been approved by the undersigned members of research committee. Members of the research committee: ...... ..... **Internal Examiner External Examiner** Head Central Department of English ..... ......

Date:....

## Acknowledgements

I am particularly grateful to my thesis supervisor Dr. Ram Chandra Paudel, a Reader, Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur for providing me with clear-sighted help and creative guidance at all stages during this research.

I am equally indebted to Dr. Amar Raj Joshi, Head of Central Department of English, TU, Kirtipur for allowing me to undertake this study.

I am also grateful to my venerable teachers Mr. Badri Prasad Acharya, Saroj Ghimire, Mahesh Paudel for their thorough and invaluable suggestion and help in the initial delusion regarding the research.

December 2012

Shankar Prasad Bhattarai

#### **Abstract**

This thesis is based on A. S. Byatt's *Possession: A Romance* published in 1990. The novel deals with the concept of discovery of lost history of the two mid-Victorian era poets – Randolph Henry Ash and Christabel LaMotte by two young Harvard academicians, Roland Mitchell, who is later on joined by Dr. Maud Bailey. In the course of their findings, the academicians come across the documents that lead them to the unexplored aspects of the poets that strand them in a fusion of history as fiction and vice-versa. Based on this idea of history as fiction, the present research will take on the novel to carry out the research work.

# **Contents**

	Page
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
Chapter 1. Redrawing History as Fiction through Historiography	1-15
Chapter 2. Historiography as a Post-Modern Approach to Dismantle History	as
Fiction	16-18
Chapter 3. Post-modern Recovery of History in <i>Possession: A Romance</i>	19-40
Chapter 4. Conclusion	41-42
Works Cited	