

Tribhuvan University

Tagore's Ambivalence towards Women: A Study of His Selected Short Stories

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English, Faculty of Humanities and Social
Sciences in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Shankar Paneru has completed his thesis entitled “Tagore’s Ambivalence towards Women: A Study of His Selected Short Stories” under my supervision. He carried out his research from July, 2014 to November 2014. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Tagore’s Ambivalence towards Women: A Study of His Selected Short Stories” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Shankar Paneru has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

Third World feminism is one of the critical tools for representing women's issues of the Third World developing countries because the Western Anglo- American feminism cannot represent the distinct experiences and problems of the non- Anglo- American women. The issues of the color and South Asian women's issues are much distinct than the issues of the so-called First World women. Female characters of Rabindranath Tagore's stories, being set in the Third World, undergo many distinct issues such as complexities of widowhood, ingrained Kulinism, early marriages and its repercussions, dowry and dowry related violence, age-old traditions and customs, and the issue of sexuality. Tagore's ambivalence is noticeable in his representation of these female characters in his short stories. On the one hand, they seem submissive, emotional, docile, and the sheer victim of patriarchy. And, at the same time, they are represented as inspiring heroines.

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