

**Tribhuvan University**

**Domination of Patriarchy in Saudi Arabia: a feminist reading of Rajaa**

*Alsanea's Girls of Riyadh*

**A Dissertation Submitted to the Central Department of English in Partial  
Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in English**

**By**

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Letter of Recommendation

Miss Saraswati Sapkota has completed her thesis entitled “Domination of Patriarchy in Saudi Arabia: a Feminist Reading of Rajaa Alsanea’s *Girls of Riyadh*” under my supervision. She carried out her research from 2070/11/27 B.S. to 2071/11/13 B.S. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Domination of patriarchy in Saudi Arabia: a Feminist Reading of Rajaa Alsanea’s *Girls of Riyadh*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Miss Saraswati Sapkota has been approved by the Undersigned members of the research Committee.

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## **Abstract**

The present research entitled “Domination of Patriarchy in Saudi Arabia: a Feminist Reading of RajaaAlsanea’s *Girls of Riyadh*” fore-grounds the painful situation of women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century Saudi Arabian society in the matter of love and marriage. RajaaAlsanea depicts the sorrowful condition of divorced women very clearly in the novel. Gamrah and Um Nuwayyir are compelled to live sorrowful life after their husbands deserted them without any fault of them. Likewise, Sadeem has become victims in the male dominated society. In the beginning of the novel, she was deserted by her fiancé, Waleed and later on by her lover, Firas. Similarly, Michelle’s lover, Faisal betrayed her only lack of power to question the patriarchal rules and regulations. Moreover, love between Lamees and Ali end because of the norms and values of Saudi Arabian society which did not allow meeting between a girl and a boy in the public park. Revolving around these issues, this research unfolds the main story of the novel.

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