

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The entire purpose of language teaching is to develop language competency in the learners including language skills and aspects. Teaching literature helps learners to make one's mind broader by learning factual information and others from different sectors. Then it enhances the language proficiency. It makes one capable of using language appropriately and accurately. The different genres of literature like poetry and prose (essays, drama, novels, and stories) are taught in language classroom for the vary purposes. Besides this, teaching literature in language classroom not only enables to learn language structures, functions, grammar and vocabulary for their language enrichment but also to comprehend and evaluate the underlying meaning conveyed in a literary text. Feminist literary theory enables ones to look on female issues underlying in any literary text.

Feminism is an ideology or theoretical commitments to the women's liberation movements. It refers to political, cultural and economic movements aimed at establishing greater rights and legal protection for them. It believes that all types of oppression, domination and discrimination upon women should be ended. It advocates for establishing equal opportunities for women in education and employment. Tyson (2006) states, "Feminism is a struggle to end sexist oppression, exploitation, sexism and patriarchy". In this definition, feminism is regarded as a movement or an effort against the practices of doing rape, sexual harassment, domestic violence, and mistreatment to women in male dominated society. Furthermore, in the words of Gerda Lerner has mentioned in (Attar & Patil, 2015), feminism is taken as not always a movement, for it can be a level of consciousness, a stance, an attitude, as well as the basis for organized effort.

The feminist consciousness is a consciousness of victimization by the dominating males of the society that leads to women subordinate status and

their consequent oppression. They have been victim of suppression from home to society everywhere as in social institutions and workplaces in different forms due to the patriarchal society. Regarding it, Mills (2005) states, "Most feminist hold a belief that woman as a group are treated oppressively and differently from men and that they are subject to personal and institutional discrimination (p.2).

Likewise, the socio-linguist Lakoff (as cited in Selden, 1985) believes that women's language actually is inferior since it contains patterns of weakness and uncertainty focuses on the trivial, the frivolous, the unserious and stresses personal, emotional response. She further argues that women should adopt utterances like male if they wish to achieve social equality with man. The idea shows inequality of men and women in terms of using language. Feminism pinpoints these kinds of discrimination and tries to solve it to maintain gender equality in the society.

Similarly, Simone de Beauvoir; a feminist (as cited in Selden, 1985) puts the idea that "one is not born but rather becomes a woman. It is civilization as a whole that produces this creature which is described as feminine (p.295)". From the very idea it can be said that women have been made inferiors and the oppression has been compounded by men's belief that women are inferiors by nature.

Eventually, Feminist theories focus on the above mentioned issues and also to end the stereotypes regarding women. Taking ideas from Basow (1992), these gender stereotypes can be of four basic kinds. They are:

-) Personality traits – women are often expected to accommodating and emotional while male are usually expected to be self-confident and aggressive.
-) Domestic behaviors – women taking care of children, cook and clean the home while male taking care of finances, work on the cars and do home repairs.

-) Occupations – women as teachers and nurses while men as pilot, doctors and engineers etc.
-) Physical appearance – women as thin and graceful while men as tall and muscular.

Therefore, feminist theory raises voice against these stereotypes which cause unequal and unfair treatment because of person's gender. The theory also has respect to the females and they are as equal as the male for the society.

Every piece of literature can be analyzed from different perspectives. I have selected the novel *Paheli* to analyze it from feminist perspective. This novel has been written recently. It is based on the story of a Nepalese woman. It is needed to know how females of 21 century are suffering from the existing patriarchal society. And the way they are dominated, discriminated, exploited in the society. It carries different feminist aspects such as social, cultural, religious, gender aspects, and how females has been misused by males for the sake of temporal pleasure of them.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

A single literary text can be understood, interpreted and analyzed from multiple perspectives. Many literary texts are taught and learnt focusing general aspects, surface meaning, and seem to have analyzed from single viewpoint but not critically from multiple perspectives. We cannot get wide information and multiple aspects of a literary text without viewing it critically. Many literary texts have carried feminism aspect but they are hidden. In my preliminary study of '*Paheli*' novel, I found many aspects of feminism in it. It needs to be analyzed to uncover and understand the deep- rooted gender inequality, taboos depicted in satiric mode, misuse of females, and so on. Therefore, I selected feminist literary criticism for analyzing the novel '*Paheli*' a Nepali version novel of 21st century from feminist perspectives.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were as follows:

- a) To identify the aspects of feminism in the novel "Paheli" in terms of social, cultural and religious aspects, gender aspects, domination upon women, place of women and women rights in the society, and the role of patriarchy; and,
- b) To provide some pedagogical implications.

1.4 Research Questions

This study had following research questions:

- a) What are the social, cultural, and religious and gender aspects of feminism depicted in the novel 'Paheli'?
- b) In what ways does Patriarchy treat female in the novel?
- c) How women are treated in the novel?

1.5 Significance of the Study

Teaching literature is essential for linguistic and cultural enrichment and social awareness for the learners. This study will be significant for language and literature teachers to know feminism aspect of the novel. These teachers will get some ideas about feminist literary criticism. They will be able to see different aspects of feminism in any literary text. Similarly, they can assign their students to analyze literary text to understand female domination and discrimination in the society. It will also help the language and literature students in various ways. It will help them for social awareness. They will be a good literary critic. They will develop the habit of studying literature deeply and they can develop more comprehensive power to understand any text. They will be able to see a single text from different spectacles. Likewise, it will help all others like readers of the novel Paheli to grasp the main ideas of it. It will help them to comprehend the changes of the time and impact of cyber culture

on women in Nepalese society. And its implication will be significant for teachers in classroom teaching. It will also be considered essential material for literature readers. It will be beneficial for literary critics in case of the novel; Paheli.

1.6 Delimitations of the Study

This study had following delimitations:

- a) Primary and secondary sources of data were used in this study; and,
- b) Only the feminism aspects of the novel 'The Paheli' were studied.
- c) It had been delimited to library based research.
- d) It had been delimited to document analysis and interpretative research under qualitative research design.
- e) Observation and in-depth study were used as tools for the study.
- f) It had been delimited to the analysis of female issues and social cultural issues in Nepalese context of 21st century.

1.7 Operational Definition of the of the Key Terms

Feminism: A sociopolitical movement which argues that legal and social restrictions on women must be deleted to establish equality between both sexes male and female in all aspects of social and private life. It raises voice to rise up the women from traditional restrictions in the society.

Feminist criticism: A distinctive and concerted approach to literature interrelated with the movement by political feminists for social, legal, and cultural freedom and equality.

Social aspects: Gender inequality practiced in social lives in terms of social rules and regulations, and stereotypes.

Cultural aspects: All the traditions and culture in which female are dominated and seen secondary to men.

Religious aspects: Religious faiths and religious doctrines dominating women relating to gender and gender roles.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Literature review throws insights on theoretical knowledge and enables researcher to widen their knowledge related to their research topic. This chapter includes several sub-chapters like review of related theoretical literature, review of related empirical literature, implication of the review for the study and conceptual framework.

2.1 Review of Related Theoretical Literature

Theoretical knowledge is significant for researchers to expand their knowledge about the selected topic of the research. The researcher cannot go further in research process without theoretical knowledge and concept of the research topic. The theoretical concepts of the study have been presented as follow:

2.1.1 Literature

Literature is the creative faculty of human mind. It is the product of imagination, originality, style of expression, thought, emotions, feelings, and different ideas. The term has been derived from Latin word 'Littera' which means letter. It was used to refer to all written accounts since then. The concept has changed meaning of literature over time to include texts that are spoken or sung and non-written verbal art forms. According to Oxford Advance Learners Dictionary, Literature refers to the pieces of writing that are valued as art, especially novels, plays and poems in contrast technical books and newspapers, magazines, etc. This definition focuses on the difference in literary writing from any other technical writing. Literature is both science and art of writing. It becomes scientific when it follows systematicity. For example, in the poetic language, a poet should follow certain rules of writing for composing poetry for its aesthetic and rhythmic beauty. It is an art of writing as it is a creative writing. It is the creative faculty of human mind. Writers use their creativity for

literary creation. It is an artistic, pleasant and attractively deviated form of language to express one's ideas, feelings and experiences. Furthermore it portrays the picture of any subject colored with imagination and has become a medium to express pain and pleasure of human mind.

Different scholars have defined literature differently. In this regard, Lazar (2009, p.1) states, "Literature means to meet a lot of people, to know other different points of view ideas, thoughts, minds to know ourselves better." This means one knows about oneself and one's language, culture, social convention by the help of view, ideas, thoughts, feelings and experience of other literary writers. Likewise, According to Collie & Slater (2009, P.3) say, "Literature is authentic material which says human issues." Here it is stated that literature is not only world of fantasy but also an authentic material which provides factual information. To add more, Brumfit and Carter (1986); (Extracted from Lazar:2010) defines "Literature is an expression of the fundamental structure of beliefs and interests which reflect the particular culture or section of society in to which they were born and in which they grew up." It means literature is writing about one's culture where one born and grow up and the fundamental beliefs of that society; medium of expressing one self.

The definitions above tell us that literature is the special form of language which is highly artistic, beautiful, pleasant, musical, eternal, universal, suggestive and creative. It is essential part of language. It plays vital role in language and culture enrichment.

2.1.2 Literature in the Language Classroom

Literature has very significant role in language classroom. It makes classroom interesting and motivates learners to learn language. It also provides sufficient input to the learners and encourages them to reflect on their own personal experiences, feelings, ideas, thoughts and opinions. According to Hirsh (1978), "Literature includes any text which is worthy to be taught to students." It means reading, writing, speaking and listening skills and grammar, vocabulary, and

language functions are worthy things for literary genres that help language development of the learners. Moreover literature is composed of literary works in a language by which a community defines themselves. Those literary works are defined as artistic and aesthetic (McFadden, 1978, p.56). Literature in the language classroom provides students opportunity to get access to those literary works to define themselves and become familiar with the beauty of it.

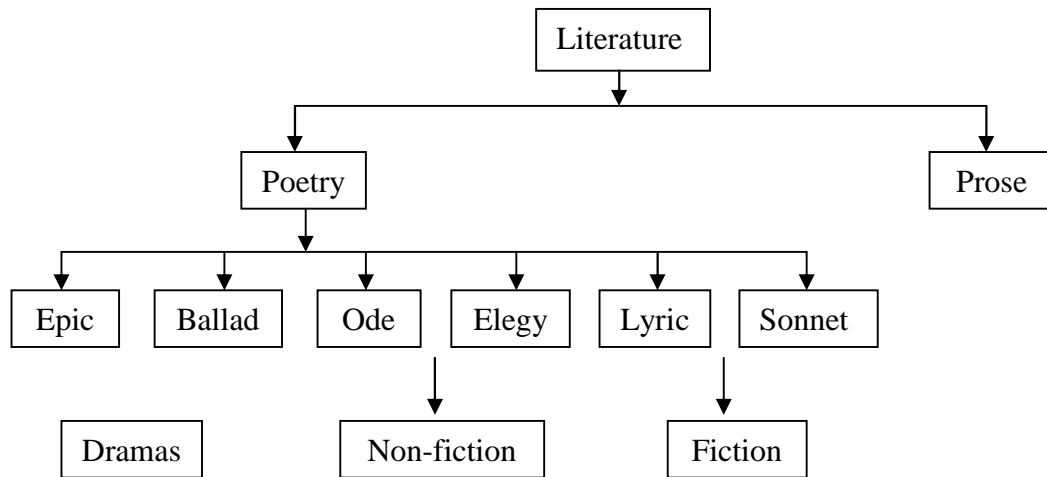
According to (Mckay, 2001), the major benefits of teaching literary texts in the language classroom are:

- specific communication goals
- an ideal resource for integrating the four skills
- Cross-culture awareness.

Thus literature has dominant role in language classroom. The study of literature also includes meta-language and critical concepts knowledge of conventions.

2.1.3 Genre of Literature

A literary genre is a category of literary composition. Genres may be determined by literary technique, tone, content or even length. The distinctions between genres and categories are flexible and loosely defined, often with subgroups. Genre, in broad terms, refers to any works that share certain characteristics. If enough characteristics are in common, then the pieces are said to be in the same genre. For example, literature has four main genres: poetry, drama, fiction, and non-fiction. These all genres are broadly categorized in to two genres, namely poetry and prose where drama, fiction, and non-fiction are prose genre of literature. All these genres have particular features and functions that distinguish them from one another. The chart below best clarifies about clarification of literary genres:



(Awasthi et al., 2011)

Poetry

Poetry is the first major literary genre. All types of poetry shares specific characteristics. In fact, it is a form of text that follows a meter and rhythm, with each line and syllable. According to Gill (as cited in Dharmawati, 2007), "Poetry says something about ideas, feelings, places, people, and events. It can argue, explore feelings, create pictures and tell stories". It is further subdivided into different genres, such as an epic poem, narrative, romantic, dramatic, and lyric. Dramatic poetry includes melodrama, tragedy, and comedy, while other poem includes ode, sonnet, elegy, ballad, song, and epic. Popular Examples of epic poem include Paradise Lost, by John Milton, The Iliad and The Odyssey, by Homer. Examples of romantic poems include Red Red Rose, by Robert Burns. All these poetic forms share specific features, such as they do not follow paragraphs and sentences; they use stanzas and lines instead. Some forms follow very strict rules of length, and numbers of stanzas and lines, such as Villanelle, sonnet, and haiku. Others may be free-form, like poetry uses figurative language, such as metaphor, simile, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, and alliteration to create heightened effect.

Drama

Drama is a form of text that is performed in front of an audience. It is also called a play. Its written texts contain dialogues, and stage direction. According

to Abrams (2005, P. 69) drama is "the forms of the composition designed for the performance in the theatre, in which actors take the role character, performs the indicated actions, and utters the written dialogue". This genre has further categories such as comedy, tragedy, and tragic comedy. William Shakespeare is known as the father of English drama. His well-known plays include Taming of the Shrew, Romeo & Juliet, and Hamlet. Greek Playwrights were the pioneers in this field, such as Sophocles' masterpiece Oedipus Rex, and Antigone, while modern dramas include Death of a Salesman, by Arthur Miller.

Fiction

Etymologically, the word fiction has been derived from Latin word 'fictus' which means 'to form'. It refers to literature in the form of prose, especially novels that describe imaginary events and people. In this regard, Abrams (2005, p. 94) broadly defines fiction as "any literary narrative, whether in prose or verse which is invented instead of being an account of events that in fact might have happened". Fiction has three categories that are, realistic, nonrealistic and semi-fiction. Usually fiction work is not real and therefore, authors can use complex figurative language to touch readers' imaginations. Unlike poetry, it is more structured, follows proper grammatical pattern, and correct mechanics. A fictional work may incorporate fantastical and imaginary ideas from everyday life. It comprises some important elements such as plot, exposition, foreshadowing, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. Popular examples of literary fiction include, James Joyce's novel A Portrait of An Artist as a Young Man, Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities, and Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird.

Non-Fiction

Non-Fiction is a vast category that also has sub-genres; it could be like a personal essay, or factual, like a scientific paper. It may also use figurative language, however, not unlike poetry, or fiction has. Sometimes, non-fiction may tell a story like an autobiography, or sometimes it may convey information

to readers. Other examples of non-fiction include biographies, diaries, memoirs, journals, fantasies, mysteries, and romances. A popular example of non-fiction genre is Michael Pollan's highly celebrated book, *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, which is an account of eating habits of Americans.

Hence, the genres of literature vary in their structures and subject matter and have particular features and functions that distinguish them from one another.

2.1.4 Contemporary Literary Theories

Literary theory in a strict sense refers to the systematic study of the nature of literature and of the methods for analyzing literature. It changes the way of thinking of literature, language, identity, and society. There are various existing literary theories of different scholars for literary criticism and an analysis of literary text from different perspectives from Aristotle to twentieth century. In this regard, Selden (1988) presents six contemporary literary theories. They are: Russian formalism, Marxist criticism/theories, Structuralist theories, Post-structuralist theories, Reader-oriented theories, and Feminist criticism. Some major literary theories have been described as below.

2.1.4.1 Psychoanalytical Criticism

Psychoanalytic literary criticism refers to literary criticism or literary theory which, in method, concept or form, is influenced by the tradition of psychoanalysis begun by Sigmund Freud. According to Tyson (2006, pp. 11-12), the theory has been propounded by Sigmund Freud. He believes that human mind have id, ego and super ego which determines different behavior of the people. Psychoanalytical criticism is the study of conscious and unconscious state of mind. The theory is used to analyze the literary text based on author's life, behavior of the characters used in the text. The critics should study the state of the writer's mind, reader's mind and behavior of the characters used in literary text while analyzing text from psychoanalytic perspective. The understanding of Personality, state of mind, feelings, and

desires of the author leads to find meaning of the text. It believes that the author's psychological conflicts are revealed in his or her work. Likewise it also assumes that readers can do an in-depth analysis of the characters as if they were people and the reader's psychological analysis of a piece of text might analyze the author's psychological state or the readers own psychological state of mind.

2.1.4.2 Marxist Criticism

Marxist theory was propounded by Karl Marx. According to the theory, society has been divided in to two classes, namely, the bourgeois and proletariat. As for Tyson (2006) states, " The bourgeois who control the world's natural economic and human resources and the proletariat (have not) who have been controlled by bourgeois class." It tells that there is a class struggle in a society. In which bourgeois have control over the supra structure including education, religion, government, the art, science, economy and so on. They dominate proletariats in the society. Furthermore, Marx believed that groups of people that owned and controlled major industries could exploit the rest of the population by forcing their own values and beliefs on to other social groups. And, Marxist literary criticism views literary works as reflections of the social institutions from which they originate. According to Marxists, even literature itself is a social institution and has a specific ideological function, based on the background and ideology of the author. A Marxist literary critic makes assessment of the political 'tendency' of a literary work that determines whether its social content or its literary form is 'progressive'. He or she also makes an analysis of class constructs demonstrated in the literature. Thus, for literary criticism from Marxist perspective, critic needs to understand class, ideologies, economic power of the writers and of the characters used in the literary text.

2.1.4.3 New Criticism

New criticism developed in the 1920s-30s and peaked in the 1940s-50s. It was a movement in literary theory that dominated American and had an impact on English literary criticism in the middle decades of 20th century. The movement

later named as new criticism after publication of the book entitled *The New Criticism* in 1941 by John Crowe Ransom. It was reaction towards biological and traditional criticism. It focuses on close reading of the text particularly poetry. To analyze a text, new critics take any text as an autonomous and focuses on image, symbol, and meaning existed in that. Likewise, they discard the author's belief, attitudes, values, emotions and they have nothing to do with reader's response only text is everything for them. Regarding this what Tyson (2006) says is "New criticism concerns the nature and importance of textual evidence." It means the use of concrete and specific examples from the text itself validates our interpretation. We need to understand text fairly while analyze it.

2.1.4.4 Reader Response Criticism

Reader response criticism is a school of literary theory that focuses on the reader or audience and his or her experience of a literary work, in contrast to other schools and theories that focus attention primarily on the author or the content and form of the work. It recognizes the reader as an active agent who constitutes meaning to the work and completes its meaning through its interpretation. It argues that literature should be viewed as a performing art in which each reader creates his or her own, possibly unique, and text related performance. It stands in total opposition to the theories of formalism and the new criticism in which reader's role in re-creating literary works is ignored. Reader response theorists share two beliefs: one is the role of the reader cannot be omitted from our understanding of literature and next is readers do not passively consume the meaning presented to them by an objective literary text; rather they actively make the meaning they find in the literature.

2.1.4.5 Structuralist and Post-Structuralist Criticism

Structuralism originated in the structural linguist of Ferdinand de Saussure and the subsequent Prague and Moscow schools of linguistics. It appeared in academia in the second half of the 20th century as structural linguistics was

facing serious challenges from the likes of Noam Chomsky. Later it grew up in academic fields concerned with the analysis of language, culture, and society.

Structuralism is an approach, which believe that every system has a structure and that structures are the real things that lie beneath the surface or the appearance of meaning. It talks about structure. Everything in this universe is structure and in order to understand the elements of structure, we need to understand other elements of that structure. For example, in order to understand Nepal we need to understand what Asia is, what earth is, what solar system is, what universe is, and so on. Everything in a structure can be understood in relation to the other things which are the parts of that structure. We can understand a novel by understanding its structure of words, sentences, paragraphs, and structure of the language used in the novel. Under this theory, the most important theorist Ferdinand de Saussure has given theory of semiotics. It is the study of sign that is made up of two things signifier and signified. Signifier is a word and signified is the concept. Both of them help to comprehend anything. Hence critics say that everything that is written is governed by a specific set of rules; a grammar of literature.

Post structuralism on the other hand came as a reaction to structuralism. It is very close to post- modernism theory. It has belief that the reader can find endless meaning and there is no single center, essence or meaning in the literature. The post- structuralist approach includes the rejection of the self-sufficiency of the structures that structuralism posits and an interrogation of the binary oppositions that constitute those structures.

2.1.4.6 Deconstructive Criticism

The term deconstruction has been introduced by French philosopher Jacques Derrida in 1967 from the book of Grammatology. Deconstruction refers to a process of exploring the categories and concepts that history and tradition has imposed on a word or a work. It suggests analysis with high precision. Derrida while describing the term deconstruction observed that "there is nothing outside

the text". That is to say, all of the references used to interpret a texts are themselves texts, even the "text" of reality as a reader knows it. There is no truly objective, non-textual reference from which interpretation can begin. Thus, deconstruction then can be described as an effort to understand a text through its relationship to various contexts.

2.1.4.7 Post-colonial Criticism

Post-colonialism in literature includes the study of theory and literature as it relates to the colonizer –colonized experience. Edward Said is the leading theorist of this field. Post-colonialism criticism refers to the criticism on the human consequences resulting from exploitation and control of colonized people on their lands. The purpose of post-colonial study is to study and know residual (social, political, cultural) effect of colonialism up on the once ruled and exploited by the mother country. The critics of this theory should observe the texts regarding how they reflect the domination of one group over another in terms of culture, language, fashion, neutrality, education, thoughts and so on while analyzing the text from post-colonial perspective.

2.1.4.8 Feminist Literary Criticism

Feminist literary criticism refers to the literary criticism that analyzes text from feminist perspective. The literary critics of it try to explain how power imbalances due to gender in a given culture. It analyzes the way women are suppressed and dominated by males and also evaluates the role of female as subservient, unimportant, marginal, secondary, and ordinary. This criticism examines the way in which literature reinforces the economic, political, social, cultural, and psychological oppression of women. In the literature, women have been ignored or mostly considered secondary for a long time. The feminist criticism aims to view them in a different perspective and discover the women's contribution to the history of literature. It also aims to reinterpret the old text and establishing the importance of women's writing to save them from being lost or ignored in the male dominated society. It also examines and studies

domination and discrimination on women in the society in terms of various cultural, social, religious, and gender aspects through the writing of literature. Likewise, it advocates the women rights. It also looks on the role of patriarchy for all kinds of discrimination against women.

According to Tyson (2006), socially, politically, and culturally men and women have been treated differently. In the reality also women are discriminated in different sections of social institution and social system. They have been misbehaved by the males. And, women are viewed as emotional inferior, less intelligent, smart in gossip, interested in minor things, less courageous, quick decision making, and so on in patriarchal system. These all aspects should be taken in to consideration to analyze literary text from feminist perspective.

Similarly, Madsen (2000, pp. 184-185) further states, "Violence, pornography, working conditions, reproduction and sexuality are the issues that concern socialist feminism." She further says that rich oppress the poor and men oppress the women. Likewise, Madsen (2000) further presents about domination upon women by patriarchy in following way:

You grow up with your father holding you down and covering your mouth so another can make a horrible scaring pain between your legs. When you are older, your husband ties you a bed and drips hot wax on your nipples and brings in other man to watch and makes you suck his pennies ... In this thousand years of silence the camera is invented and pictures are made of you while these things are being done (p. 115).

This above mentioned extract shows that women are dominated, oppressed, faced injustice, and raped because of patriarchal structured society. Feminism takes rape and pornography as a crime and goes against it for women's freedom. Violence upon women, pornography upon women, working conditions of women, reproduction and sexuality all aspect should be considered while analyzing literary texts.

Furthermore, feminism also covers another major concept that of gender along with patriarchy. Where, gender is identified through the difference of males and females. In this regard, it is said that sex is to a very large extent biologically determined whereas gender is a social construct. And differences between men and women in language use may result from various socialization practices. To add more, Wardhaugh (2008, p.317) states, "women's speech is taken as trivial, gossip-laden, corrupt, illogical, idle, euphemistic, or deficient". This statement shows the status of female language use in male dominated society. In fact, the social practices teach them to do so. Again, Lakoff (1973, as cited in Wardhaugh, 2008) maintains, "adjectives such as adorable, charming, divine, lovely, and sweet are also commonly used by women but only very rarely by men (p. 318)". She further says that women are said to have their own vocabulary for emphasizing certain effects on them. It suggests that word and expressions such as so good, such fun, exquisite, lovely, divine, precious, adorable, darling, and fantastic suits only to women. A feminist literary critic should analyze these inequalities being based on the social life experiences.

Similarly, women and men are said to have different paralinguistic systems and move and gesture differently that often require women to appear to be submissive to men. They are also often named, titled, and addressed by their first names, by such terms as lady, miss, or dear and even baby or babe. They are said to be subject to a wider range of address terms than men. These all show the differences of language use due to gender inequality in society.

Likewise, the cultural rituals and values also make men and women behave differently. Wardhaugh (2008) says, "women are also sometimes required to be silent in situations in which men may speak." It shows that females are culturally discriminated and taken as less powerful in the society. Wives are not allowed to speak in the presence of their husband otherwise they are not called ideal wives by the people in the society. And at gathering where men are present they should talk only in a whisper, if they talk at all.

In addition, Ryan (2007) states, "Most traditional religions such as Catholicism, fundamentalist Protestantism, Islam, and Orthodox Judaism assign women to secondary roles, and some forbid them from participating in public activities with men (p. 132)." He further says, "They are forced to live in confined interior spaces and forced to wear body covering clothing that marks them out as their husband's property." That many women freely accede to such subordination is a sign of how successful cultural conditioning can be even when it works against one's interest.

Similarly, Mills (2004, as cited in Wardhaugh, 2008) says that 'politeness' is not a property of utterances; it is rather 'a set of practices or strategies which communities of practices develop, affirm, and contest' (p. 9). This idea suggests that it is the role given to females in the society due to which women behaves and are more polite than males.

To be precise, Wardhaugh (2008) in setting out a list of what she calls 'socio-linguistic universal tendencies', Holmes (1998) does offer some testable claims. There are five of these claims.

- 1) Women and men develop different patterns of language use.
- 2) Women tend to focus on the affective functions of an interaction more often than men do.
- 3) Women tend to use linguistic devices that stress solidarity more often than men do.
- 4) Women tend to interact in ways which will maintain and increase solidarity while men tend to interact in ways which will maintain and increase their power and status.
- 5) Women are stylistically more flexible than men.

The recent development of feminist literary criticism laid stress on the place of women in the society. It has created a lot of awareness in the writings of women including the above mentioned gender inequality. Moreover, feminist

literary criticism studies how the literature has expressed and represented the role of women. There are various theories propounded by different feminist scholars and practiced for literary text analysis. Selden (1998) has presented American and Continental or French feminism, Radical feminism and Marxist feminism.

According to Madsen (2000), American feminist approaches tend to be grounded in cultural and historical analysis and French feminism is grounded in Freudian psychoanalysis." American feminism focuses on feminine history, cultural aspects of society whereas French feminism focuses on language, discourse used in the literary text, conscious and unconscious state of writers and philosophy for literary text analysis. Likewise, she further says, "Radical feminism analyses the relationship between social inequalities and sexual differences (pp. 152-153)." It is needed to analyze social inequalities between men and women and sexual discrimination for the analysis of any literary text from radical feminist perspective. In the same way, Socialist feminism is another theory of feminism which focuses upon power relationships, especially the intersection of capitalism, racism, and patriarchy and the production of political personal life. And, according to Selden (1998), Marxist feminist theory situates gender relations as a reflection of economic class relations within the structure of family unit, the man is bourgeois and the women are proletariat. Similarly, eco-feminism analyzes the relationship between the patriarchal oppression of women and the human domination of nonhuman nature. It focuses on all the practices of domination within culture: racism, sexism, class oppression and the exploitation. All of these feminist theories have some characteristics. Some of the characteristics of feminism according to Poudel, et al. (2002, p. 293) are:

- a) Voices against canon's sexual exclusiveness.
- b) Rejection of the marginalization of all women.
- c) Disregard to culture as patriarchal culture.

- d) Examine the experiences of women from all areas and classes.
- e) Study sexual, social and political issues once thought to be outside the study of literature.

From the above discussion of feminist literary criticism, it can be said that feminism is not only the realization of the injustice carried out in the society with the women, but also to create awareness among them about the new role they have to play in the modern society. And feminist literary analysis examines images of women and representative of female experience in texts written by other of either sex. Besides, it also looks at literary forms, particularly the relationship between literary genre and gender.

2.1.5 Feminist Movements

Feminist movement also known as women's movement refers to a series of political campaigns for reforms on issues such as domestic violence, reproductive rights, maternity leave, equal pay, women's suffrage, sexual harassment, and sexual violence etc. Feminist movement began in the western world in the late 19th century. It has gone through three different waves:

- i. **First-wave Feminism:** - First wave feminism refers to movement of early 19th century. It involves some of the foremothers of liberal feminism such as Elizabeth Candy Stanton and Matilda Joslyn Gage who, in advocating for divorce laws to protect the rights of women, cited Iroquois laws that ensured a man provided for his family on pain of banishment. There was a strong influence of Native American women with whom white women shared land. The pioneers of the women's movement took cues from Native American ancestors such as the Iroquois system of election, whereby women choose their governmental representative from among eligible man. It was oriented around the condition of middle or upper class white women and involved suffrage and equal rights in politics. Writers such as Virginia Wolf are associated with the ideas of the first wave

feminism. She describes how men socially and psychologically dominate women in her book 'A room of one's own'.

- ii. **Second- wave Feminism:** - The second wave of feminist activity began in early 1960s and lasted till the late 1980s. This wave was concerned with gender inequality in laws and culture. 'Simon de Beauvoir' is associated with this wave because of her ideas of women as "the other". During this time, feminist campaigned against political and cultural inequalities. This movement encouraged women to understand aspect of their own personal lives as deeply politicized, and reflective of sexist structure of power.
- iii. **Third-wave Feminism:** - The third wave is considered as the timeframe from 1990s to present day. It is informed by postcolonial and postmodern thinking. The third wavers often mystify earlier feminists as many have reclaimed lipstick, high heels, and cleavage. This wave breaks constraining boundaries of gender, including what it dreams essentialist boundaries set by the earlier waves. It had a greater focus on developing the different achievements of women. It includes renewed campaigning for women's greater influence in politics.

In the years of movement women accomplished many of the goals they set out to do. They won protection from employment discrimination, abortion law reform, greater representation in media, and equal access to school, equal rights movements and many more.

2.1.6 Feminism and Literature

The term feminism and literature can also be called feminist literature. It is based on features of feminism, and refers to any literary work that centers on the struggle of a woman for equality, and to be accepted as human being, before being cast into a gender stereotype. It is literary work of either of male writers or female writers who understood women beyond the roles they were

expected to fit into, and delved in to their psyche to understand their needs and desires. Some works may be fictional, while others may be non-fictional. It brings out the reality of all types oppression, discrimination, violence, ideologies about women and so on. Taking ideas from Madsen (2000) and Tyson (2006), some features of feminist literature can be pointed as follows:

- i. Feminist literature carries principles, theories of feminism and it refers to any literary works which center on the struggle of women for freedom, equality, women rights and so on.
- ii. It may be fictional or as non-fictional.
- iii. Feminist literature always moves in female sphere.
- iv. Feminist literature is known to understand and explain the difference between sex and gender.
- v. All events, actions and stories in literature are always in favor of the women.
- vi. Women in literature of the feminist nature are always featured as the protagonist, who more often than not, does not readily accept the traditional role of women as decided by the society.

2.1.7 An Overview of the Novel Paheli

The novel entitled Paheli is a Nepali novel. It has been written by Pro. Dr. Vishnu Singh Rai. He was born in Sunsari district of Nepal on 1951 July 10 and is still living. He has been awarded by Rashtriya Shikcha Puruskar, Faculty of Education Award and so on. He has been completed M.A. and M.Ed. in English and later Ph.D. from university of Bern, Switzerland. He has been contributed writing in both Nepali and English languages. His some of the English writing includes: The Story of Khambuwan, Martus and other stories and the Nepali creative writings are Sudama, Jiwan (collection of poems), Nagaiyeko Geet: Nabhaniyeko Katha (novel), and others. He has been an emerging writer of Nepali literature.

The novel Paheli has been recently published from Sagun Aasra Publication. It is a beautiful and heart touching creation of the author. It is written being based on true events. In this novel, author has depicted the lively picture of destruction of Nepali values and assumptions with the novel use of cyber. It has been written in dialogue form. It has six chapters that tell story of the central character Ahilya; a female character from their viewpoint. There are seven characters described in it along with the subordinate ones. Ahilya is the heroine of this novel and the major character around whom other characters revolve. The novel starts from giving background of the heroine. There is a small and happy family in a big city near to Kathmandu. It is of middle class. In which, there lives a judge of seventy years old with his wife who is three years younger than him. He has a son of thirty years old. His son is a computer engineer who has gone to abroad for his training. He has a wife whose name is Ahilya six years younger than him. She is slim, long haired, and her height is of five feet and two inch an ideal one for any girls. She is beautiful and has one son of four years but she does not look as if she is mother of one son. She has been married from a simple village of Nepal in a rich family and for the name of education she has passed S.L.C., her father is a simple farmer. She is so innocent girl of a village. Her husband teaches her how to play with the mobile phone and makes her familiar with facebook chat, viber, and messenger. She has habit of making friends, talking with them. She has 500 face book friends in which males are more in number. She gets more likes in her post even stranger also likes and makes comment on it. She spends most of her time playing the cell phone and doing chat to her friends.

The family looks a complete and full of happiness. But when the first chapter begins it tells the destruction of that family. The chapter starts Ahilya regretting and assuming herself for lying down head of all who have respect and love for her because of her unforgivable mistake that she comes to commit in typical Nepali society. It happens when she comes to meet a face book friend named Indra who is of thirty years old. He is unmarried and loves to make girlfriends

and women friends by trapping them in his love. He calls himself a playboy. He serves the married ladies by giving them the sexual satisfaction and has been paid the salary for that. He also does the work of blackmailing. He describes these all things in the second chapter of the novel. When Ahilya comes to meet him through that she is living alone most of the time. Her father in law has to go Kathmandu for his work sometimes and her son has to go school. Her husband has gone aboard. She starts chatting with him. Both of them start posting their photos on the timelines of one another. She spends most of her time chatting to Indra than her husband it might be because he has become busy in his work in abroad. At the beginning Indra uses the idea of praising the girl and he praises her saying that she is not look like mother of a child as a result Ahilya thinks good about him. She begins chatting more and more. Later, He calls her Timi (you) word of Nepali language. It is used for friends; a familiar one of the same age in this context. She accepts it. She is asked to meet him then. But she replied ' Why?' in the cell phone. He answered to make love. She ends the call just after hearing it. She has been phoned and asked again. She replies no but later she calls him and asked him by telling that she has to go market to bring medicine for her mother in law. In the market Indra meets Ahilya and asked to go his room. He informs his friend to go out tomorrow for some time when Ahilya called him at night. Listening the proposal of Indra, Ahilya goes in his room. He offers her to have physical relationship with him to make love. She denies at first telling it as vile for a married women. But he convinces her telling that nobody knows about it and I am not going to marry you and tell anybody else, it is just for a pleasure. She replied no as she is so innocent. But when he takes her in his arm she melts as a candle and has sexual relationship with him. She loses her purity and responsibility for her husband according to Hindu culture.

It is regarded as a sin for any woman to have sexual relation with other man except her husband. She becomes habituated of calling him in the midnight and meeting him for sexual satisfaction time and again. One day Indra makes video

of their intercourse with her permission. She permitted by telling to delete it later. When her father in law knows their relationship, he becomes angry. He makes her feel shameful. He also suggests her and asks to give him vows not to meet Indra again and break the relationship with him. She realizes and gives him words for that. But when Indra starts blackmailing him, she comes to commit suicide being afraid of that video and thinking about her husband that she has deceived him.

2.2 Review of the Related Empirical Literature

To collect some ideas on thesis writing, I have reviewed different empirical literature. They are as follows:

Bhatta (2013) conducted research on "The Feminist Perspective in the Novel The Bell Jar." To identify the aspects of feminism in the Bell Jar and to provide some pedagogical implications were objective of that research. Survey design, and purposive sampling procedure was used and data were secondary from the novel 'The Bell Jar' for that research. Observation technique was used to collect require data. Some major findings of that study included that females are dominated by males even in developed countries, females are dominated by females as well and females are treated as secondary role in societies. It was also similar to my study in methodology but different from my research topic.

Similarly, Sharma (2017) carried out a research on "Feminist Perspective in the Translated Autobiographical Essay Jeevan Kaanda Ki Phool". The purpose were to identify the aspects of feminism from an anthology of autobiographical essay "A flower in the midst of Thorns" in terms of cultural, social and religious aspects, gender aspects, domination upon women, women rights, women's place in society and role of patriarchy, and also to provide some pedagogical implications. It was based on qualitative approach adopting survey research design. Purposive sampling under non-random sampling strategy was used and data were taken from secondary sources. Observation technique was to collect required data. The major findings of the very research incorporated

that there are many aspects of feminism depicted in the anthology of essays like, social, cultural and religious aspects of feminism, oppression and domination aspects of feminism, women rights and freedom aspects of feminism, women existence aspects, patriarchal aspect of feminism and gender aspect of feminism which shows the domination, gender discrimination and inequality, restricted women rights and freedom and secondary or subordinate position of females in Nepalese society due to the patriarchal system. Females have been dominated and taken as fine object of entertainment in Nepalese society. The study was close to my research many aspects but different from my research topic.

Jean-Anne Sutherland & Kathryn M. Feltey (2017) carried out a research on "Here's looking at her: an intersectional analysis of women, power and feminism in film" Objective of that research was to explore what makes a film feminist from a feminist sociological perspective with an emphasis on power and women in film. The study was based on intersectional approach to explore gender, race, ethnicity, and social class in film about women. Some major findings of that study were most feminist film revolves around stories about power to women; women finding the courage to individually confront and challenge existing norms and power to films are predominantly tales of white, middle class women. Likewise women of color are most likely to be featured in power over films and very few can be considered power with films that demonstrate solidarity among women. Although the study was related to my study on the basis of feminist analysis, it was completely different from my study in topic, objectives, and methodology.

Kim (2017) conducted research on "Agency of Rural Nepali Women as Moderated by Community Learning Centers: a Postcolonial Feminist Perspective". The objectives of the research were to investigate not only the benefits of the CLCs for women but the construction of women's agency and to examine women's experiences and their agency. It employed a post-colonial feminist lens and semi-structured interviews as tool and analyses the data

thematically. The major findings were there is no homogeneous "average Nepali women" archetype; however, there are women who are active in their responses to gender-ascribed unfavorable structures within which they situate with different individual and collective strategies, motivations and expectations. Although the study was similar in conducting research on Nepali women, it was different from objectives and other aspect of my study.

Likewise, Katuwal (2018) carried out a research on "A Feminist Perspective of The Color Purple." Objectives of that research were to find out aspects of feminism from the novel and to provide some pedagogical implications. The study was based on qualitative research design, purposive sampling procedure was used data were both primary; the original novel the color purple and secondary; others book taken for additional information for that research. Observation technique was used to collect required data. Some major findings of that study were females are dominated in male dominated society even in so called developed countries, they are dominated even by the females themselves who advice to follow the norms and values of the patriarchic society and the society and social aspects like religion and other social institutions favor the males where females are taken as subordinate of males. Although my research was similar in many aspects like data, design, analysis but it was different from my topic which is "The Feminist Perspective in the Novel Paheli".

Similarly, Jackson (2018) conducted research on "Young feminists, feminism and digital media". To explore how girls are using and producing digital media, what it means for them to do so and how their online practice connects with their offline feminism. The study was based on qualitative approach use of poststructuralist approach to teenage feminists. The major findings were three key constructions of digital media as a tool for feminist practice: online feminism as precarious and as knowledge sharing; and feminism as 'doing something' on/offline. There is mark continuity between girls' practices in "safe" digital spaces and feminism practiced in other historical and

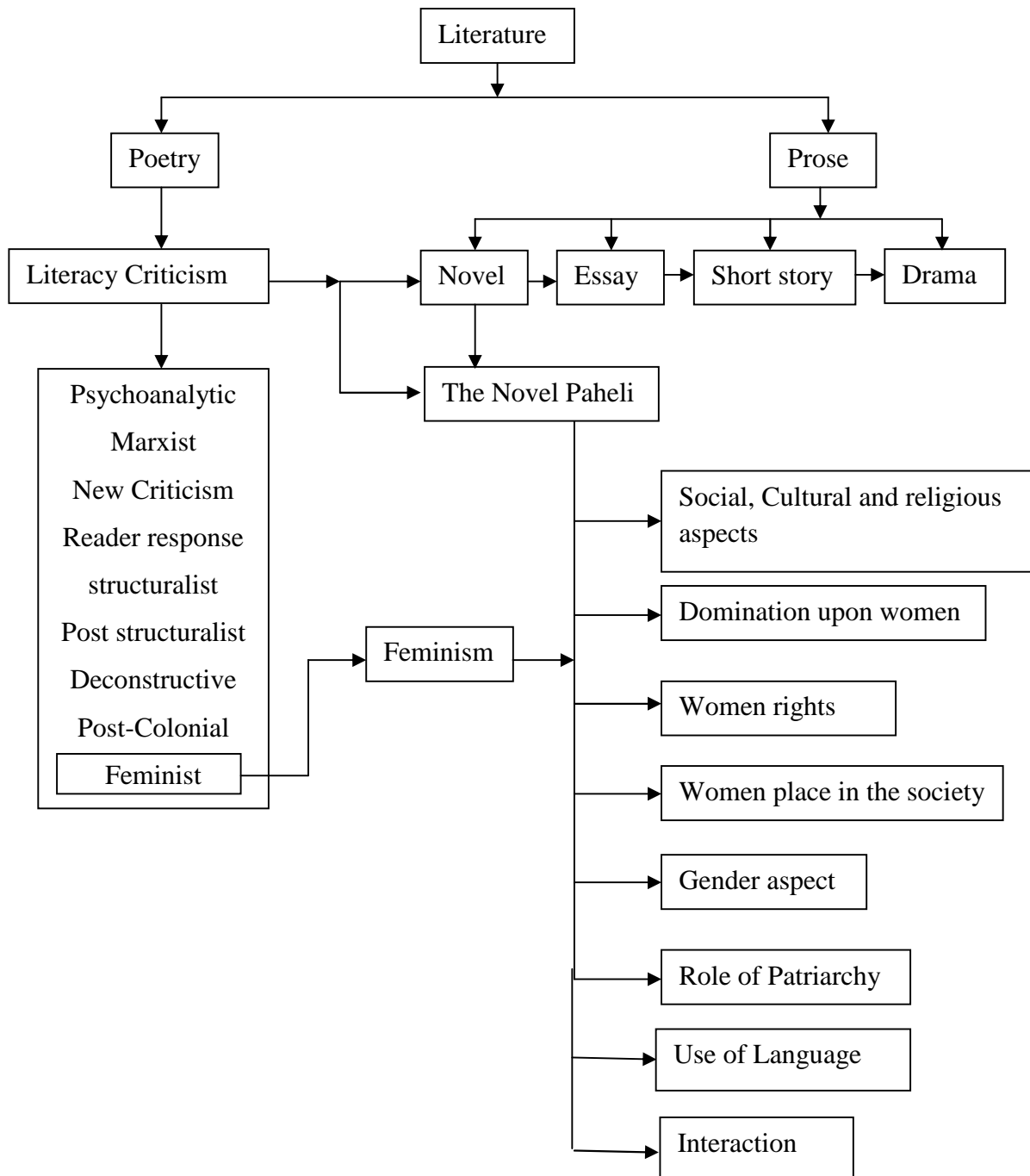
geographical locations. Though the study was similar in the area of mine, it was different from my study in many aspects from topic to methodologies.

2.3 Implications of the Review for the Study

Above reviewed literature was close, similar as well as helpful for my study. I got many ideas and information about my research which was more useful and helpful for my study based on procedure, methodology, sources of data, tools and so on. The review of the study obtained information from varieties of books, theses and internet. These all sources made me clear about research problems, challenges, selecting appropriate methodology. It also provided me idea about how to contextualize findings of my research. It also helped me to examine and evaluate the previous research done in this area and what was new for carrying out further research. The aforementioned reviews have their own value and importance in their respected fields. For the theoretical knowledge of literary criticism Selden (1998) and Tyson (2006) helped me to get the ideas and information. Likewise Wikipedia and Oxford advance dictionary helped me for the definition of different concepts and terms required for my study. Similarly Lazar (2009), Awsthi et al., (2011) assisted me to take some ideas about literature. In the same way, the empirical research mentioned above such as Bhatta (2013), Sharma (2017), Jean-Anne Sutherland & Kathryn M. Feltey (2017), Kim (2017), Katuwal (2018), and Jackson (2018) helped me to select appropriate tools and techniques for data collection. Most of them used secondary sources of data and I got the idea from that. I also got ideas about the choosing research design, techniques and sampling procedures. Most of the ideas about my study, I got from Sharma (2017). I accept it ideal for carrying out my study.

2.4 Conceptual Framework

Conceptual framework refers to the mental picture of the things in consideration. When we think of something an image is created in our mind, that mental structure is referred as conceptual framework. The conceptual framework which is used in my study is:



CHAPTER THREE

METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY

Methodology and procedures are the vital elements of a research study. If any research work follows appropriate methodology and procedures, it will obtain its objective easily. Appropriate methodology helps the researchers to go in a right path in his/her research work. This chapter incorporates design of the study, population, sample and sampling strategy, research tools, sources of data, data collection procedures, data analysis and interpretation procedures, ethical considerations. To achieve the objectives of the study, the following methodologies had been adopted in the research process:

3.1 Design and Methods of Study

To conduct this research, I adopted qualitative design. Pressele (2006, as cited in Cohen, Manion & Morrison, 2007) remarks "Qualitative researchers cannot agree on the purpose of qualitative research, its boundaries and its disciplinary field (p.219)". She further says, "Qualitative research is characterized by a loosely defined group of designs that elicit verbal, aural, observational, tactile, gustatory and olfactory information from a range of sources including amongst others, audio, film, documents and picture and that it draws strongly on direct experience and meanings". Therefore qualitative research draws out verbal, observations, tactile, gustatory and proverbial information from audio, film, document and pictures. It provides in depth and detail understanding of meaning, actions, non-observable as well as observable phenomena.

This kind of research makes use of different varieties of interpretative research. Under this I had used survey research design as surveys are the most commonly used descriptive methods in educational research and may vary in scope from large scale governmental investigation to small scale studies carried out by a single researcher. Survey can be descriptive, exploratory and analytic to examine relationships (Cohen, Manion & Morrison, 2011). Therefore survey

research had been useful to complete this study. Here, I had tried to interpret different issues related to feminism such as; gender issues, social issues of the novel Paheli.

This research had been a form of qualitative research in the sense that it is related to documentary research. Regarding this Cohin, Manion & Morrison (2011) say, "Documentary research typically makes use of documents produced previously and by other rather than in the process of the research or by the researcher." This means documentary research conducting research on the document which are previously produced and published by other hands rather than researcher. These kinds of documents can be both primary and secondary. Primary documents are original materials. They are produced as a direct record of an event or process by a witness or subject involves in it; whereas secondary documents are produced through the analysis of primary documents. It means if the researcher witness or involved directly with related document it becomes primary for him/her but if a researcher is going to research on others documents that is secondary document. My research had been related to secondary document analysis.

According to Patton (1990, as cited in Best & Khan, 2009), "Qualitative research consists of three kinds of data collection tools; (i) in- depth open ended interview, (ii) direct observation, and (iii) written documents (p. 190). Qualitative analysis of documents refers to the analysis of expert quotations, memoranda and correspondence, official publications and reports, personal diaries and so on. My research had been related to written document analysis which was the analysis of a novel.

3.2 Population, Sample and Sampling Strategy

The population of the study is the written document, the Nepali novel Paheli written by Vishnu Singh Rai because my research is related to document analysis under survey research design by adopting qualitative approach. As sampling strategy, purposive sampling strategy is followed under nonrandom

or non probability sampling procedure. The selected novel was observed, studied in depth, and the sentences and or extracts were selected which were related to female issues and social cultural issues to complete the objective of the study.

3.3 Research Tools and Techniques

My study is the analysis of the novel Paheli from feminist perspective. Observation was taken as the main tool of the research and selection of extracts which are related to female issues were the techniques of data collection.

3.4 Sources of Data

The study was based on the original book written by Vishnu Singh Rai, the required information was taken from the novel Paheli in terms of obtaining the objectives of the research. And as secondary sources of data, analysis and views of others on the book are taken to get additional information about the book.

3.5 Data Collection Procedures

The following procedure of data collection had been applied for this study.

- i. The researcher read and re- read the novel.
- ii. The researcher underlined the female issues and gender issues related sentences or extracts.
- iii. The researcher noted down those extracts and sentences and categorized them in to different categories.

3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedures

Different procedures were applied to analyze the received data. First of all, data were categorized in terms of social, cultural and religious aspects, domination upon women, women's right, women's place or position in the society, gender aspect and the role of patriarchy. The data were tabulated and linked with

feminism by the help of feminist theories and criticisms. Then, qualitative approach of research had been adopted for analyzing the received data. They were analyzed and interpreted descriptively.

3.7 Ethical Considerations

Ethical consideration is an important part of the research in which the researcher needs to be serious in dealing with people involved in the study and using the ideas of other scholars to support their study. For this research, the following ethical considerations had been considered:

- i. Sources and quotations were acknowledged by citing and paraphrasing with authors' name and published date of book to avoid plagiarism.
- ii. Potentialities of the authors were respected from books the data will be taken.
- iii. The data were reported honestly.
- iv. Unbiased language was used to analyze data.
- v. People were thanked and given credit who help in my study.

CHAPTER FOUR

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RESULTS

Based on the collected data from secondary sources, data were analyzed and results were interpreted. Analysis of data and interpretation of results are presented in the following sub-headings.

4.1 Analysis and Interpretation of Results

On the basis of data obtained from analysis of the novel, data were analyzed and results were interpreted and discussed based on analysis as the following ways:

4.1.1 Social, Cultural and Religious Aspects

Here, some sentences or extracts which are related to social, cultural and religious aspects of feminism were selected from the novel 'Paheli', analyzed and interpreted. Related sentences or extracts and their analysis are presented as following:

(a) *Just as Sita, I too crossed the Laxman's line of the house. (religious aspect) (p. 10)*

Here, Ahilya; heroine of the novel presented the reason behind the destruction of her life. Hindu people have religious belief that the main cause for demolition of Sita's life was crossing the line drawn by Laxman. Since then she started getting trouble in her life. Likewise, Females have some restrictions set by males in the society and getting over that boundary line results in to the avoidance, negligence, disrespect, and agony of their life. They are not accepted and tolerated by their husbands. Not only the husbands but all the relatives either males or females start speaking abusively of them. Ahilya did the same she destroyed her life. She had nothing left except regretting in the male dominated society. It shows domination upon women by religious aspect of feminism.

(b) *When she phones, does message or comes a bit late a snake of doubt will start biting you. (social aspect) (p. 101)*

This sentence is an extract from one of the comments that people made on Ahilya in the context of her punishment. It shows the kind of traditional belief society has on females. It is believed that girls or wives should not be late to return their house; otherwise, it is doubted that there is some black in the lentils. Female are looked from doubtful eyes. Girls are not allowed to go out of the house without a male member of the family, the restriction becomes severe when they reach puberty in some of the community of Nepal. In Muslim community, women are asked to observe purdah (veil) and they are not allowed to step outside the house without permission of a male member. Hence, it represents domination upon women by the people due to misconception on females existed in the society.

(c) *Damn! This society and the presumed thought of it due to which she had to scarify her life. (social aspect) (p.129)*

Here, Laxmi; friend of Ahilya showed her disagreement on the presumed social thought. The society expects married women should have character like downright, guileless, reliant, dutiful, and unreserved and so on. They should be as pure as the river Ganga (religious assumption in India) even in this kalyug. A single mistake or black spot should not be tolerated on the part of women. Then there remains no option except suicide in female's life. This domination because of presumed social thought forced Ahilya to commit suicide.

(d) *This can be the sin of my previous birth or my weakness of the present. My unlucky days started when I came to meet Indra. (religious aspect) (P. 7)*

Ahilya expressed her feeling after being cheated by Indra. She thought herself unlucky because of the sin of her previous birth, her weakness of the present and eventually herself being a female that she came in contact with Indra. All

the things of her life were good and normal. She was living her happy life in a complete family. She had been mother of a son who was four years old. She felt then what the honor to be a mother is. The Nepalese society has culture to show respect for a mother having a son. People believe that son is necessary in the family. They have religious believe that a son can remove the obstacles of heaven for his parents and grandparents. They do careless and un-love the female children. Many females blame to have their unlucky fate because of their birth as a girl. They are restricted to perform many of the social work just because the religious believes do not allow them to do so. Ahilya met Indra and kept sexual relation with him that social norms do not allow a female. She lost all her respect and had to face unlucky days. Thus, this extract shows the domination upon women by religious aspect.

4.1.2 Gender Aspects

Gender is a factor to differentiate male and female which is also an aspect of feminism. Here, five sentences or extracts had been selected from the novel. Those sentences or extracts and their analysis have been presented as below:

(a) *It is because of being female otherwise have you ever heard any male committing suicide up to now because of this. (p.139)*

Here, Ahilya had to burn in the agony that had been caused by Indra. It shows there are two different punishments for the same crime because of gender inequality. If a man keeps a sexual relation with women, nobody bothers; male dominated society does not raise any questions. But, if a female has relation except her husband, society calls her sinner and punishes her disgracefully. Indra was free to live his life but Ahilya had to scarify herself when they were caught in relationship. It shows the gender discrimination between males and females. The society has made different rules for males and females from the primitive age where males are free to make relationship with other females but females are restricted. The result of disobeying the social rule is fearful. Not

only this, but females are seen to have been scolded on their husbands and son's mistake.

(b) *There are two different judgments for male and female in a society. Because of this mistake a female commits suicide feeling guilty on her. But that mistake even cannot touch males. Females are directly or indirectly dominated and disrespected. (p.140)*

Ahilya had given penalty for Indra's crime just because she is female. And Indra remained free with the advantage of being male. This is an example of gender inequality in Nepalese society. Females are discriminated from home to everywhere in the society.

(c) *99% of males are seen in relation to other female after marriage by cheating or telling a lie. (p. 129)*

In this extract, males are seen to have sexual relationship with others even after their marriage. Nobody cares of it. But females are restricted for even talking open heartedly to any other males of the society except their husbands. And, if they come to have in sexual relation with other male that can never be forgivable. It has seen many of the times that single mistake results in their death. It also tells gender inequality existed in the society.

(d) *Your daughter in law (buhari) is blemished, prostituted. (p. 68)*

Females are called using slangs for being trapped by males whereas; males are given credit that they have mannishness. The heroine of the novel had been called using slangs because she got trapped by a male.

(e) *When I tried to hold his hand calling him father, he neglected me as any leprosy and stinking dog has come closer to him. (p. 19)*

Ahilya was neglected by her father in law when she tried to touch his hand calling him father. It shows that females are not excused for the kind of mistake Ahiya did but males are forgiven thinking that they are small enough and still

have not got maturity. It also presents how females have been dominated in the family in patriarchal society. Therefore, it shows gender inequality in the family.

(f) *Ahilya: Why? Am I your wife that I should do all you said. (p. 53)*

When Indra told her that you should have to come otherwise you will have no relief. Ahilya replied him in that way telling him that she was not his wife who obeys all of his order. We, Nepalese people support the traditional thought that woman has to submit to the will of her husband. She must worship him like god and she should support and obey all of his decision whether it is right or wrong. She becomes property of her husband right from the day of her marriage. This represents a good of gender inequality and domination on females in male dominated society. There are customs and traditions where a women opinion even in matters related to her is not considered important because of the general assumption that women are weak psychologically.

(g) *To raise a son without his mother is how much difficult you will know when you become father. (p. 34)*

Ahilya was expressing her feeling that she endured being a female to raise a child in the form of suggestion to her son in the letter that she had written to her son. She said the pain of a mother to look after her child his son will only understand when he becomes father. Women are given responsibility to stay home and take care of children. It is the women's job, simply because of her sex to stay home and take care of her children. It shows women are facing gender inequality and they are dominated in patriarchy system.

4.1.3 Domination upon Women

Domination upon women is another aspect of feminism in which women are dominated. Some sentences or extracts from the novel which are related to domination aspects of feminism had been selected and their analysis has been presented as follows:

(a) *Her habit is to speak less and work after beaten from her mother in law (sasur). (p. 144)*

This extract has presented a form of domination upon female by the female. Ahilya's mother had to work under the leadership of her grandmother by being scolded and beaten from her. It shows females are dominated not only by males but also by females in houses of the Nepalese societies.

(b) *He had recorded the video. Later, he showed me that and threatened me saying that I still have that video. I can keep it on face book if you do not come. (p. 13)*

Here, Ahilya was trapped in the fake love of Indra. He made her a victim of his lust. He recorded the video and later started blackmailing her. She was compelled to go to him. She was afraid of leaking her video. He threatened her that he will keep the video in social media and spoil her life if she refuses to come and entertain him. This presents to what extent a male can show his inhumanity on female. Thus it depicts the domination of males on females.

(c) *Do not worry my son. Your mother is mine. Now, see how your mother comes to sit in my arms. (p. 39)*

Indra cast lustful look at married women. He spoke abusively about her to himself. It showed he had no respect for her though he claimed he loves her more than anyone else in his life in front of her. It presents married women whose husbands live in abroad have been targeted most of the time by males for their own benefit and sexual pleasure in the name of love in the society. It also tells females are dominated, abused by males in the society. Hence, it gives an example of male domination upon female.

(d) *This woman cast is like this once you did sexual intercourse then anything thing can be done. (p. 52)*

Here, Indra presented his sick ideology on women cast. He slept with her and satisfied her at once. He got emotionally attached. Then, he began to violate her by dominating her to perform the sexual activities that entertain him all the time. He started calling her when he wanted to have sex. And, he had planned to ask money from her for feeding himself. Later, she committed suicide for not to be exposed. It shows what kind of ideology male comes to develop for women and how women are dominated and oppressed by males.

(e) *She comes quickly at once threatened. (p. 54)*

This sentence presents domination on female. Indra forced Ahilya for sex even after she realized her mistake and refused to do so. He intimidated her of leaking the video of their privacy. He knew it can make her homeless and destroy her life. He misused her giving that the name of love.

(f) *He told me to sit and talking to me, he slowly tried to clench up me in his arms, I escaped. (p. 11)*

This extract exhibits how a monster who, blinded by lust tried to violate a married woman scared honor. He showed his strength on an innocent married woman to take her in his arms though she was not willing to have that much relation.

(g) *Did not you feel shame and fear there? She was listening silently with her head down. (p. 73)*

In this extract, the domination upon daughter in law (buhari) by her father in law (sasura) has been shown. Ahilya had to face the anger of her father in law in the family. He scolded her and she remained silent. She could not raise her head to answer him. It is believed that females are bounded to show the anger because it is the property of males to show with the females. It tells how

females have to suffer from family to outside places in the society. Females have to give justification for being trapped by males.

(h) *He does not have any motive except physical relation and exploitation of your body. (p. 74)*

A male with his sick mentalities looks at a married woman. He appraises her to the extent she starts feeling love on him. But, his aim is to exploit her body and have sexual relationship with her behind all his appraising of her. Male loves woman to perform painful, humiliating and violent sexual acts. Here, Ahilya's father in law suggested her why that young man came to love a married woman.

(i) *No one said a single word of sympathy though have feeling of mercy on me. (p. 28)*

It exhibits the domination on woman and gender discrimination by the people of the society. Nobody sympathized on Ahilya in her painful situation though they had feeling of mercy on her. She was discriminated only because she is female.

(j) *I cried a lot returning at home. I regretted on what I came to do. But, my body which was hunger of sex entertained it. (p. 11)*

People take women as a toy and fine object of playing. Indra played with the body of Ahilya and left nothing except her regretting and crying. It happened because of the society's convention where males have given freedom but women are restricted to talk about sex, health and reproduction.

(k) *My heart cries now. I am suffering from agony inwardly like someone slowly squeezing out lemon. (p. 6)*

This extract represents the painful situation of a married woman led by a male. He used her in the way she was neither alive nor dead. She had been

suppressed like someone slowly squeezing out lemon. Hence, it represents the domination of males on females.

(l) *He phoned me few days later, I refused to go. He talked some sweet words for me like any woman has never loved me like you and it is the first time I experienced what love if from you. (p. 12)*

Indra had already slept with dozen of girls/women. He did not get as much satisfaction as he got from Ahilya. When she refused to go, he started describing his hunger of sex as his love and she got convinced from the few sweet words of love spoken for her. It also shows that males thought women are soft hearted and to sentimental than them. They take advantage of it to dominate female.

(m) *I too have did sin. That sin which cannot be forgiven by males. (p. 14)*

Here, this extract represents the domination upon women and gender discrimination by the people in the societies. It is called sin for women to have sexual relationship except their husbands while for the males it is usual and normal. Males dominate women to have physical affair and again give punishment calling them sinner.

(n) *Oh god! I only pray to make my body awkward on which I remained no control so that no one looks at me again. (p. 25)*

The extract shows how a woman rues something for which she was not to blame. Ahilya was praying not to give female a perfect body shape that she cannot have control on and males make it impure in male dominated society. Females are surrounded by males for when to get chance so that males can play with that body.

(o) *I made many girlfriends but no one had perfect body like Ahilya. (p. 37)*

Indra's habit of making girlfriends tells that for male love is merely the source of getting pleasure and entertainment but for female it remains everything of

her life. With this ideology, male plays with the emotion of female and that habit results into dozen of girlfriends. They do so because different women have different tastes for them.

(p) *But, why to show mercy? When I show mercy on her then what do I eat?*
(p. 54)

Males destroy the life of females by interfering in their married life or leave the girls unmarried by making them impure in return they get advantage by getting pleasure and economy. It has become source of income for some of the people in our society. That's why Indra did not showed mercy on Ahilya.

(q) *If he does not get penalty, he will spoil many families and distort many females.* (p. 114)

Some males spoil the females' life. They become the causes of distorting many females in the society. Even though, they are seen to have given freedom. It dominates female.

(r) *Does my son keep silently when I say this thing to him? Who can tolerate notoriety of his wife living with another man? If my son murders his wife, then what willbe the result?* (p. 84)

Ahilya's father in law thought himself that when I say to my son that your wife was in affair with other man in your absence, I am sure he will kill her. It is very hard for any man to tolerate his wife's affair as it raises question in his virility and weakness that he cannot control his wife and she comes to have in relation with other man. In our male dominated society women have been disadvantaged from both of the sides. Most of the time we hear news that either a woman is killed by her husband finding her with other man or she is blackmailed by her boyfriend. There are various ways women are dominated in the society. The male dominated society has traditions of killing girls in the stomach of her mother at the time of pregnancy, if she gets born; she has been raped and killed in 12/13 years old. And if she saves herself from that her

family marries off her at a young age to lessen the burden and also to secure their future. And then she has been inhumanly beaten for not bringing dowry and that is not much she is burnt lively. Not only that, when she becomes old then she has been tortured in the blame of witch. Females' life is full of thorns in male dominated Society.

(s) *If I were at the place of you, I would give her physical punishment. I would hit on her buttock with the lash. That would have been more effective. (p. 120)*

A male provided his suggestion for the kind of punishment suitable for Ahilya as per her crime. It presents the sexual violence and exploitation of males on their wives after catching them in relationship with other man. Some of the males finding the opportunity take advantages of it. They start showing animals behavior on females. They begin to play inhumanly with the body of females despite their will. They torture them and take some high power or long staying tablets and do some brutal sexual activities like hitting hardly on the buttock with lash. They badly dominate the females.

4.1.4 Women Rights

Women right is also an aspect of feminism. Five related sentences or extracts had been selected for the analysis. Related sentences or extracts and their analysis have been presented as below:

(a) *I wish for all gentle sisters like me to have knowledge and consciousness and never got trapped. I will take leave after writing my crime confession letter. (p. 30)*

This extract presents women existence, freedom and their rights. In the novel, Ahilya was not free. She got trap in and remained victim of males' conspiracy. Then after, she lost her right to live with dignity. She did not get much respect in her family after her mistake. Eventually she committed suicide.

(b) *She: I have to work; work in the house and work for my baby. I am not free like you. Bye now. (p. 41)*

Here, Ahilya expressed her feeling to Indra that she was not free like him. She had to do house hold works. Again here is question mark in women's liberty. They are restricted to giving birth and look after the children or as house hold matters. They do not have freedom to see outer world instead they are kept within the four walls. They are not free to work or do jobs out of the house. People assume that educating girls is also considered a bad investment because they are not permitted to go out and work in the society. Girls are not allowed to pursue education and their basic right to get education is denied.

(c) *We have more lived experiences, first they complain and later being afraid of notoriety they change their statement. (p. 87)*

The policeman; sub police inspector told there is risk of losing dignity of Ahilya to the father in law at first when he wanted to report complain on Indra. He said that we can write your report but later it should not be changed. Here, it is clear that females are deprived from freedom to speak freely and ask for justice because of being afraid of getting dishonor in the society.

(d) *There is no alternative left of suicide or getting lost. (p. 75)*

This extract presents that female's right to live has been denied for a single mistake of her. In the novel, Ahilya had no alternative left after being misused by Indra. She had to commit suicide or leave the house as the social rule would not accept her in that way.

(e) *After passing S.L.C. and without completing intermediate, she got married and came to my house. She has not much studied. (p. 2)*

The extract tells girls are pulled out of schools when they hit puberty because they are considered ready for marriage and babies at the age of twelve or thirteen. They are anxious of whether they can get good house and bridegroom

later or not in our Nepalese society. A basic human right as health care is denied just because they are women.

4.1.5 Women's Place in the society

Women place refers to the existence or position that women have in the society. The main concern is how people perceive them in the society. There are some sentences or extracts which are related to existence or place of the women and their analysis have been presented as below:

(a) *I allowed a man to loot my chastity; I lost everything but still could not get consciousness. (p. 11)*

Here, Ahilya expressed her feeling that she permitted a man to despoil her purity. Then she had nothing left in the society. She lost her respect and her existence too, as for any female her character and purity are seen her existence in any patriarchal society. She was regretting now that still she could not get her sense after the blunder she did. It presents Females are valued for their character and her attractive body in the society. They are worthless otherwise. They are regarded as inferior than males. They use females for their entertainment and benefit. It also represents that females are discriminated naturally. They are biologically weaker than men. They are soft hearted that males do not find hard to play them.

(b) *Ahilya is emotional otherwise does anyone commit suicide on this simple thing. (p. 57)*

In this extract, Indra expressed his view on Ahilya committing suicide. He said her too sentimental that she could not control her sense and herself for the simple thing and decided to take her own life. It shows how hard hearted Indra is that he takes her suicide so easy and he seems to have commenting on her weakness. It presents females are too emotional, less courageous, and less intellect for males in our society.

(c) *Anyway, she is gentle. She blindly believed on me. I did intercourse with dozen of females neither anyone had not been trapped quiet easily nor had on believe on me like her. (p. 52)*

Here, Indra's making relationship with dozen of females shows that males take females as not argumentative and illogical. They are so straightforward that they cannot make difference in true love and fraud. Males keep appraising them and they love to listen that as they are not given that much love by their family members. It seems they are not taken significant member in their family. For avoiding that loneliness and finding themselves important in any male's eye they come to believe blindly on males and make relation with them. It shows females are taken insignificant, less intelligent and quick decision making in male dominated society where males come to dominate her taking the advantage of it. They always try to keep females under them.

(d) *Daughter in law (buhari) comes asking for recourse and cries. (p. 116)*

Ahilya's going to her father in law for asking help presents females are given second place or position in the patriarchal society. She was living under the guardianship of her father in law. She went to him asking for help and got tears in her eye in return. It shows that all the rules are set by males for females to live their life. They have to work accordingly under the leadership of males. Their work is to only support the males' decision. Her feelings might have been understood if she had been lived under the guardianship of any females.

(e) *It happened without getting any fix work, sitting in house, small family, generation gap in the family, face book and chat etc. (p. 133)*

The extract indicates that there are many marginalized groups in the society and women are one of them. They are limited to household works, giving birth to the children and rearing the child. They are unaware of the cyber crime and the negative impact of face book in female's life. And, these are the causes that Ahilya came to meet Indra in face book and later she committed suicide.

4.1.6 Role of Patriarchy

Patriarchy is another aspect of feminism which is a system of social construction in which males' role is primary and dominant in everywhere and in every matter whereas; women's roles as secondary and inferior. There are some sentences or extracts which show role of patriarchy had been selected for analysis. Related sentences and their analyses have been presented as below:

(a) *Father: The sin that you did has no excuses. (p. 21)*

Father: What not? Blemished, have not you done misdeed. He pushed me in disgusting manner. (p.22)

Here, this extract shows the role of male is dominant in the family. Male member of the family has control over the entire family members. And females are more observed and restricted for some of the works in the society. Every father in every family controls to their children especially female child. Females are limited to certain boundaries of social norms, culture, discipline, and religion by parents and crossing that limit has no excuses. The social norms and culture do not allow Ahilya to have sexual relationship with other male except her husband. But when she came to do so, her father in law who rules the family scolded her, made her realized her mistake and pushed her in disgusting manner showing inhumanity on her. Thus females are given secondary role and they are dominated in patriarchal society.

(b) *Ahilya is beautiful: idle height of five feet and two inch, white colored like honey and milk complexion, slim body; no where one cm more flash in the body, long black haired, and breast size like an orange or an apple not too big as Kuvindo (a vegetable in Nepali) nor too small as Aaru (a vegetable). (p. 36)*

This extract presents Indra describing the beauty of Ahilya. He looked on her outer physical appearance that any male's eyes love to watch because it pleases him. It shows males are interested in the perfect body shape of females that

gives them a kind of satisfaction and then they never stop praising their body parts and them. They start following that ladies saying them queen of beauty. They use their full strength to get them in male dominated society. Woman's beauty is always compared to outer physical appearance but inner capacity is ignored in patriarchal system. That's why a girl with her short height faces problem of not getting a good bridegroom for her marriage in our society. Her inner capacity is ignored telling her dwarf in many of the Nepalese society especially in Terai region.

(c) *Only two or three males stated that the male who destroyed Ahilya's life should be punished. This might be the reason that they think Ahilya is only responsible for the mistake. (p. 112)*

Majority of people found Ahilya did wrong. They thought that she slept with other male in the absence of her husband and remained deceitful. And, suggested to give her divorce. On the other hand, Indra who is play boy by his profession and has habit of trapping girls/women for his lust seemed to have declared innocent. It presents the ideas that in male dominated society, Majority of people blame and give trouble to females either divorce or kills them with the conspiracy but males who are real delinquent are declared innocent and people encourage them for getting marriage to other female in the similar kind of event in our society.

(d) *Scoundrel gives drink mixing drugs in it just making the prey does favor. (p. 79)*

This extract presents, females have been targeted in many ways in the patriarchal system. Ahilya's father in law suspected that Indra should have mixed drugs in her drink to make Ahilya do favor.

(e) *Why do you need condom? Take pills, I do not have AIDS. She accepted easily. (p. 55)*

Here, Indra convinced Ahilya to take pills as contraceptive telling her that I don't have AIDS. But the reality was that he did not want to use condom

because he like to have sex natural and stay erect longer. He had experienced that it reduces sexual pleasure, sleeping with many women. In patriarchy system, most men even women support the traditional thinking that woman have to submit to the will of a man. Because of this, males enjoy natural sex and females are forced to take contraceptive pills even after their two or three month's pregnancy. Sometimes they have to face the problem of aborting the child after five or six months when the family members come to know the gender of the child as girl. This results in to heavier vaginal bleeding and ovarian cancer to the females and they have to lose their life. It shows the women right to health care is denied and they have to kill themselves by obeying their husbands in all of their decisions in patriarchal system.

(f) *Oh! Almighty God, give me strength that I can bear it and raise and release myself from all these things. Whose mistake is this? Who did crime? And what should be punishment? (p. 141)*

Ahilya's husband was asking some questions to the almighty god in sixth chapter. According to him she had been his good wife. She had kind and pure hearted with her guileless character before. Then, how she came to be sinner and impure. The letter that she had written before leaving her house, her regret, and asking her father to forgive her all these things are proofs that show she was still innocent after in the relationship with Indra. But the patriarchy system could not see these all. Nobody tried to listen and understand the feelings of her. There was no any examination even hardest test (Agani Pariksha) that was able to prove that she has still the same love for her husband. There was conflict in her husband's mind. He wanted to free himself from all these conflicts and his desire was to see his wife the same that she once had been in his life. It shows in patriarchy system, women had to go through the hardest test to prove the purity of their character and still they are not believed. In fact, there is no any examination that can prove a female to have the same love for her husband after been in relationship with another man.

CHAPTER FIVE

FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the discussion of the novel from feminist perspective, the major findings, the conclusion of this study and the recommendations are provided as follows:

5.1 Findings

From the analysis of the data which are related to feminism, depicted in the novel 'Paheli', I identified many feminist aspects such as social, cultural and religious aspects of feminism, domination aspects of feminism, women rights, and women's place in the society, gender inequality aspects, and patriarchal aspects of feminism. These all aspects has significant role in feminism. I have drawn some findings which have been deduced from the study are put forward as follows:

- i. From the analysis of the novel, it is found that religious belief prohibits women to cross the restrictions set by males in the Nepalese society. Ahilya; a married woman was caught in sexual relationship with other man in the novel. It resulted in to the avoidance, disrespect, and agony of her life.
- ii. Females have been dominated in our society because of different social, cultural, and religious rules and convention. The traditional social thought found in novel is females are looked from doubtful eyes for arriving late to their house.
- iii. Females have been dominated because of presumed social thought. The central character of the novel was forced to commit suicide because of not being pure, reliant and dutiful wife.
- iv. Ahilya's mother had been scolded and beaten for her household works by her grandmother. It shows that females have been dominated not only by males but also by the females.

- v. Males are seen casting a lustful look at women as Indra; a male character in the novel blinded by his lust violated a married woman's scared honor.
- vi. The novel also showed the finding that female has been dominated by her family and society.
- vii. In the novel, Indra threatened Ahilya that he would leak their private video if she refused to come and entertain him again. It shows that females have been blackmailed in the name of love by males.
- viii. Females are forced to make physical relationship not based on their consent in many times by males. They violate females by dominating them to perform sexual activities that entertain males all the time as Ahilya had to suffer in the novel.
- ix. A married woman whose husband lives abroad has been targeted by the male having sick mentalities for sexual pleasure and other benefits in our society. Indra was found doing the same in the novel.
- x. Women rights and freedom have been restricted in the society. Ahilya was found limited in giving birth, look after the children and household works in the novel.
- xi. Girls are pulled out of schools when they hit puberty considering that they are ready for marriage and babies. A basic human right as health care is denied just because they are female. Ahilya was married before completing her intermediate in the novel.
- xii. The society has two different standards for male and female. Males are said to have mannishness when they make physical relation with more than one girl whereas; females have to scarify her life found to have relation except their husbands as found in the novel.
- xiii. Patriarchal society looks the beauty on women's outer physical appearance not in inner capacity or beauty as presented in the novel.

- xiv. Women are considered weak psychologically as found in the novel. They are restricted from decision making.
- xv. From the analysis of the novel it is found that woman has to submit the will of a man because people support the traditional thought that a married woman should support and obey all of his husband decisions.

5.2 Conclusion

To conclude, there are many aspects of feminism such as social, cultural, and religious aspects, domination upon women, women's rights, women's place in society, gender aspects, and role of patriarchy found in my study. Women have been dominated, discriminated, oppressed, and treated differently due to those aspects. They are cheated, blackmailed, and forced to commit suicide in the society. Males are seen casting lustful look at women. Females have been victim of cyber crime. They have not been provided much rights and freedom in the society. Most of the time females are trapped in love for merely sexual satisfaction of males in the society. These behaviors of males ruin the life of females, and throw them in painful situation. Similarly, there is gender inequality existed in the society because of those aspects. And if there are such practices alive in the society then that society can be never developed. Women are the greatest boon god has granted to men. Male and female are the two parts of the same coin. We should respect women. We need to remove gender inequality domination and oppression upon women from our societies. Then only we can rise from the undeveloped situation of our family, society and nation. For this, we should start from our home, from our institutions, offices, schools and from our work places. Social transformation is possible when we reform all the injustice, exploitation, biasness and discrimination upon women. And when the society gets restructured our country will surely develop. It is needed in deed. And for these all language is a major factor as it helps to raise social awareness. Hence, Feminist literature needs to be promoted in language courses.

5.3 Recommendations

On the basis of the deduced findings and conclusion, the policy, practice and further research related recommendations are as follows:

5.3.1 Policy Related

Educational policy makers need to promote and include feminist literature in the course of language and literature. Feminist literature will be fruitful and powerful means to raise awareness and establish gender equality in the society by developing sense of respect for women and avoiding the culture of domination, oppression, suppression, and all kinds of gender inequalities on females in the society. The policy makers can include feminist literature right from basic level as students can learn to respect women from early age which becomes foundation for their whole life.

5.3.2 Practice Related

The environment of classroom should be free from any kinds of domination between males and females. Teachers and students should treat equally to both males and females in schools, classes, and in their homes and societies as well. Teacher should explain any literary text not only being based on surface meaning but also deeply and from feminist perspectives to uncover many aspects of feminism. The study suggests some more recommendations for the practice level as following:

- i. The literary texts need to be analyzed from feminist perspective in teaching learning process.
- ii. Language teachers should assign their students to analyze literary text for developing their critical thinking and raising their awareness.
- iii. Teacher and students should be careful of using their language. They should be aware of gender sensitivity.

- iv. Classroom should have equally important learning environment for both males and females. There should sense of harmony among all.
- v. Language teacher should encourage students to read novels of different languages and try to uncover feminism aspects. This will help them to enhance language competency.

5.3.3 Further Research Related

This study is only limited on the aspect of feminism. The differences in language use, discourse, and styles by males and female in the novel 'Paheli' can be other issues of feminism which need to be studied as further research. It will provide more insights about feminism.

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APPENDIX -I

COMPARISON: CONTEXT AND FEMINISM

S.N.	Aspects	Sentences or Extracts	Relation to Feminism
1.	Social, Cultural and Religious Aspects	Just as Sita, I too crossed the Laxman's line of the house. (religious aspect) (p. 10)	Here, Laxman's line is a boundary (religious belief) set by males for females, crossing that limit means destruction of them. Then, they should not be accepted and tolerated by their husbands.
		When she phones, does message or comes a bit late a snake of doubt will start biting you. (social aspect) (p. 101)	It is believed that girls or wives should not be late to return their house. Females are looked from doubtful eyes in the society.
		Damn! This society and the presumed thought of it due to which she had to scarify her life. (social aspect) (p.129)	The society expects married Women should have character like downright, guileless, and reliant and so on. A single mistake should not be tolerated on the part of women.
		This can be the sin of my previous birth or my weakness of the present. My unlucky days started when I came to meet Indra. (religious aspect) (P. 7)	Here, a woman believes to have unlucky fate that she came to meet Indra and destroyed her life. it is related to domination of women.
2.	Gender Aspects	It is because of being female otherwise have you ever heard any male committing suicide up to now because of this. (p.139)	There are two different punishments for the same crime. Ahilya had to suicide whereas Indra remained free.
		There are two different judgments for male and	Ahilya had given penalty for Indra's crime just because she is female. It is an

	female in a society. Because of this mistake a female commits suicide feeling guilty on her. But that mistake even cannot touch males. Females are directly or indirectly dominated and disrespected. (p.140)	example of gender inequality in the society
	99% of males are seen in relation to other female after marriage by cheating or telling a lie. (p. 129)	Males are seen to have sexual relationship with others even after marriage. Females are strictly restricted. It shows gender inequality.
	Your daughter in law (buhari) is blemished, prostituted. (p. 68)	Females are called using slangs for being trapped by males whereas; males are given credit that they have mannishness. This shows gender inequality.
	When I tried to hold his hand calling him father, he neglected me as any leprosy and stinking dog has come closer to him. (p. 19)	Females do not have excuses for the kind of mistake Ahilya did but males are forgiven thinking that they are small enough and still have to get maturity.
	Ahilya: Why? Am I your wife that I should do all you said. (p. 53)	Society has traditional thought that a woman has to submit to the will of her husband. A female obeys all her husband's order.
	To raise a son without his mother is how much difficult you will know when you become father. (p. 34)	Women are given responsibility to stay home and take care of her children. It is women's job simply because of her sex to stay home and take care of her children.

3.	Domination upon Women	Her habit is to speak less and work after beaten from her mother in law (sasur). (p. 144)	This extract has presented a form of domination upon female by female.
		He had recorded the video. Later, he showed me that and threatened me saying that I still have that video. I can keep it on face book if you do not come. (p. 13)	Here, Indra made Ahilya a victim of his lust in the fake name of love. She was threatened and blackmailed by him.
		Do not worry my son. Your mother is mine. Now, see how your mother comes to sit in my arms. (p. 39)	Females are dominated and abused by males in the society. Married women are targeted most of the time by males for their own benefit and sexual pleasure.
		This woman cast is like this once you did sexual intercourse then anything thing can be done. (p. 52)	Here, Indra presented his sick ideology on women cast. It shows what kind of ideology males come to develop for women and how they are dominated and oppressed by males.
		She comes quickly at once threatened. (p. 54)	Indra forced Ahilya for sex even after she realized her mistake and refused to do so. He intimidated her of leaking the video of their privacy. It presents domination on females.
		He told me to sit and talking to me, he slowly tried to clench up me in his arms, I escaped. (p. 11)	This extract exhibits how a monster who, blinded by his lust tried to violate a married woman scared honor.
		Did not you feel shame and fear there? She was listening silently with her head down. (p. 73)	In this extract, the domination upon daughter in law (buhari) by her father in law (sasura) has been shown. He scolded her and she remained silent. She could

			not raise her head to answer him.
		He does not have any motive except physical relation and exploitation of your body. (p. 74)	This extract presents intension of male's domination and sexual exploitation on females.
		No one said a single word of sympathy though have feeling of mercy on me. (p. 28)	It exhibits the domination on woman and gender discrimination by the people of the society. Nobody sympathized on Ahilya in her painful situation though they had feeling of mercy on her. She was discriminated only because she is female.
		I cried a lot returning at home. I regretted on what I came to do. But, my body which was hunger of sex entertained it. (p. 11)	People take women as a toy and fine object of playing. Indra played with the body of Ahilya and left nothing except her regretting and crying. It happened because of the society's convention where males have given freedom but women are restricted to talk about sex, health and reproduction.
		My heart cries now. I am suffering from agony inwardly like someone slowly squeezing out lemon. (p. 6)	This extract represents the painful situation of a married woman led by a male. He used her in the way she was neither alive nor dead. She had been suppressed like someone slowly squeezing out lemon. Hence, it represents the domination of males on females.
		He phoned me few days later, I refused to go. He talked some sweet words for me like any woman has never loved me like you	Males thought that women are soft hearted and too sentimental then them. They take advantage of it to dominate female.

		and it is the first time I experienced what love is from you. (p. 12)	
		I too have done sin. That sin which cannot be forgiven by males. (p. 14)	It is called sin for women to have sexual relationship except their husbands while for the males it is usual and normal. Males dominate women to have physical affair and again give punishment calling them sinner.
		Oh god! I only pray to make my body awkward on which I remained no control so that no one looks at me again. (p. 25)	The extract shows how a woman rues something for which she was not to blame. Ahilya was praying not to give female a perfect body shape that she cannot have control on and males make it impure in male dominated society.
		I made many girlfriends but no one had perfect body like Ahilya. (p. 37)	Indra's habit of making girlfriends tells that for male love is merely the source of getting pleasure and entertainment but for female it remains everything of her life. With this ideology, male plays with the emotion of female and that habit results into dozen of girlfriends. They do so because different women have different tastes for them.
		But, why to show mercy? When I show mercy on her then what do I eat? (p. 54)	Males destroy the life of females by interfering in their married life or leave the girls unmarried by making them impure in return they get advantage by getting pleasure and economy. It has become source of income for some of the people in our society. That's why Indra did not show mercy on Ahilya.

		If he does not get penalty, he will spoil many families and distort many females. (p. 114)	Some males spoil the females' life. They become the causes of distorting many females in the society. Even though, they are seen to have given freedom. It dominates female.
		Does my son keep silently when I say this thing to him? Who can tolerate notoriety of his wife living with another man? If my son murders his wife, then what will be the result? (p. 84)	In our male dominated society women have been disadvantaged from both of the sides. Most of the time we hear news that either a woman is killed by her husband finding her with other man or she is blackmailed by her boyfriend.
		If I were at the place of you, I would give her physical punishment. I would hit on her buttock with the lash. That would have been more effective. (p. 120)	It presents the sexual violence and exploitation of males on their wives after catching them in relationship with other man. They start showing animal's behavior on females.
4.	Women Rights	I wish for all gentle sisters like me to have knowledge and consciousness and never got trapped. I will take leave after writing my crime confession letter. (p. 30)	This extract presents women existence, freedom and their rights. In the novel, Ahilya was not free. She got trap in and remained victim of males' conspiracy. Then after, she lost her right to live with dignity. She did not get much respect in her family after her mistake. Eventually she committed suicide.
		She: I have to work; work in the house and work for my baby. I am not free like you. Bye now. (p. 41)	Women are restricted to giving birth and look after the children women's liberty to work outside of the house is denied.
		We have more lived	Here, it is clear that females are deprived

		experiences, first they complain and later being afraid of notoriety they change their statement. (p. 87)	from freedom to speak freely and ask for justice because of being afraid of getting dishonor in the society.
		There is no alternative left of suicide or getting lost. (p. 75)	This extract presents that female's right to live has been denied for a single mistake of her. In the novel, Ahilya had no alternative left after being misused by Indra. She had to commit suicide or leave the house as the social rule would not accept her in that way.
		After passing S.L.C. and without completing intermediate, she got married and came to my house. She has not much studied. (p. 2)	The extract tells girls are pulled out of schools when they hit puberty because they are considered ready for marriage and babies at the age of twelve or thirteen. A basic human right as health care is denied just because they are women.
5.	Women's Place in the society	I allowed a man to loot my chastity; I lost everything but still could not get consciousness. (p. 11)	It presents Females are valued for their character and her attractive body in the society. They are worthless otherwise. They are regarded as inferior than males. They use females for their entertainment and benefit.
		Ahilya is emotional otherwise does anyone commit suicide on this simple thing. (p. 57)	It presents females are too emotional, less courageous, and less intellect for males in our society.
		Anyway, she is gentle. She blindly believed on me. I did intercourse with dozen of females neither anyone	Here, Indra's making relationship with dozen of females shows that males take females as not argumentative and illogical. They are so straightforward

		had not been trapped quiet easily nor had on believe on me like her. (p. 52)	that they cannot make difference in true love and fraud.It shows females are taken insignificant, less intelligent and quick decision making in male dominated society where males come to dominate her taking the advantage of it.
		Daughter in law (buhari) comes asking for recourse and cries. (p. 116)	Ahilya's going to her father in law for asking help presents females are given second place or position in the patriarchal society.
		It happened without getting any fix work, sitting in house, small family, generation gap in the family, face book and chat etc. (p. 133)	The extract indicates that there are many marginalized groups in the society and women are one of them. They are limited to household works, giving birth to the children and raring the child.
6.	Role of Patriarchy	Father: The sin that you did has no excuses. (p. 21)Father: What not? Blemished, have not you done misdeed. He pushed me in disgusting manner. (p.22)	Here, this extract shows the role of male is dominant in the family. Male member of the family has control over the entire family members. And females are more observed and restricted for some of the works in the society.
		Ahilya is beautiful: idle height of five feet and two inch, white colored like honey and milk complexion, slim body; no where one cm more flash in the body, long black haired, and breast size like an orange or an apple not too big as Kuvindo (a	Woman's beauty is always compared to outer physical appearance but inner capacity is ignored in patriarchal system.

		vegetable in Nepali) nor too small as Aaru (a vegetable). (p. 36)	
		Only two or three males stated that the male who destroyed Ahiya's life should be punished. This might be the reason that they think Ahiya is only responsible for the mistake. (p. 112)	Majority of people blame and give trouble to females either divorce or kills them with the conspiracy but males who are real delinquent are declared innocent and people encourage them for getting marriage to other female in the similar kind of event in our society.
		Scoundrel gives drink mixing drugs in it just making the prey does favor. (p. 79)	This extract presents, females have been targeted in many ways in the patriarchal system. Ahilya's father in law suspected that Indra should have mixed drugs in her drink to make Ahilya do favor.
		Why do you need condom? Take pills, I do not have AIDS. She accepted easily. (p. 55)	In patriarchy system, most men even women support the traditional thinking that woman have to submit to the will of a man. Because of this, males enjoy natural sex and females are forced to take contraceptive pills even after their two or three month's pregnancy.
		Oh! Almighty God, give me strength that I can bear it and raise and release myself from all these things. Whose mistake is this? Who did crime? And what should be punishment? (p. 141)	It shows in patriarchy system, women had to go through the hardest test to prove the purity of their character and still they are not believed. In fact, there is no any examination that can prove a female to have the same love for her husband after been in relationship with another man.