

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Representation of Female as the 'Second Sex' in Hesse's *Siddhartha*

A thesis submitted to the faculty of Humanities and Social Science Central
Department of English In the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Ms. Diksha Koirala has completed her thesis entitled "Representation of Female As 'Second Sex' in Hesse's Siddhartha" under my supervision. She carried out her research from November 2012 to April 2013 A.D. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Badri Prasad Acharya

Supervisor

Date: 10th April 2013

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Representation of Female as the 'Second Sex' in Hesse's *Siddhartha*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by MS. Diksha Koirala has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Member of the Research committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: 2013

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Diksha Koirala

Date: 10th April 2013

Abstract

This research entitled "Representation of Female as the 'Second Sex' in Hesse's *Siddhartha*" explores Hesse's male mentality to portray weak female character in his novel. This novel revolves around a male character Siddhartha. There are very few female characters including Kamala, Siddhartha's beloved and Siddhartha's mother whose name is not even mentioned in the novel. Both of them are victims of patriarchal society. Kamala is used by Siddhartha to fulfill his sexual desire. Kamala is an example of poor female who is dominated in the patriarchal society. She is represented as a weak and helpless female. Siddhartha is a gambler, a drunkard, lady killer who always runs away from his responsibilities. Hesse on the one hand presents such image of Siddhartha and on the other hand he compares him with Lord Gautam Buddha which is clearly a result of Hesse's masculinist mind set. This research reveals how this novel *Siddhartha* fails to produce correct image of a hero and how females are marginalized in the text.

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