

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Feminist Re-writing of the Myth of Radha in Krishna Dharawasi's *Radha*.

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English.

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This Thesis entitled “**Feminist Re-writing of the Myth of Radha in Krishna Dharawasi’s *Radha***” has been prepared by **Mr. Bikram Bahadur Khatri** under my supervision from June 29, 2008 to December 10, 2008. I recommend this Thesis to be submitted for the viva voce.

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

This thesis entitled “**Feminist Re-writing of the Myth of Radha in Krishna Dharawasi’s *Radha***” prepared by **Mr. Bikram Bahadur Khatri** has been submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. It has been approved by the undersigned members of Research Committee.

Members of Research Committee:-

Internal Examiner

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Date:-_____

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Doing a dissertation is not an easy job that I understood when I required to do it. A thesis for M. A. English on a Nepali text that is not translated yet became an alarming task for me. I dared to do it because I was not alone for this juncture.

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Bikram Bahadur Khatri

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Abstract

The blurred metal inscriptions found during an archaeological excavation and their reading by an ascetic begins the narration of Krishna Dharawasi's novel *Radha*. With the words of the saint, we come to know that, those inscriptions are auto-biography of one of the major women characters of Hindu mythology, Radha. The novel describes how Radha had become the victim of conventional patriarchal society. She was mercilessly forgotten by Puranas. After the departure of Krishna, her beloved from the village, Puranas ignored her and followed 'him' blindly. They did not even try to think what happened to Radha after the departure of Krishna, the male protagonist of many Hindu mythological narratives. Radha was badly astonished by the activities of Krishna. Krishna promised to come back but never did so. Krishna neither respected his love, nor his marriage! Without consulting his beloved Radha, he went on to collect 16108 wives! Ruminating, after this fact finally led to the realization of Radha and to her self-questioning. Radha dreadfully imagines- What would happen if she was his first wife! The novel has defined love in a unique and appealing way. Radha still loves Krishna by heart, but refuses to get married with him because she does not want to be his 16109th wife. She is presented here as an intelligent, mature woman through a fine rewriting and practical use of Leela Lekhan in creative writing.

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