

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Returns of the Repressed in R.L. Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, in Partial
Fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English**

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Prakash Acharya has completed his thesis entitled "**Returns of the Repressed in R.L. Stevenson's The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde**" under my supervision. He carried out his research. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

(Mr. Deepak Giri)

Supervisor

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "**Returns of the Repressed in R.L. Stevenson's The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde**" Submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Prakash Acharya has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Abstract

This research work studies R.L. Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* from the psychoanalytical perspectives. It explores the repressed psyche of the character which returns through the means of horror story. The fear about the future becomes repressed in the psyche of the main character Dr. Jekyll. A dual or split personality shows that the same person has both good as well as evil qualities which are exposed in different conditions. When people are in normal condition they seem good and gentle, and when they are intoxicated they show their true identity i.e. full of cruelty and irrationality. The major characters of the novella, Dr. Jekyll has two personalities: Dr. Jekyll (a good and professional physician) and Mr. Hyde (an evil and murderous character). Drug plays a major role to separate them from good to evil and vice versa. From the Freudian perspective, these two distinct personalities of the same person represent two different aspects of human psyche i.e. conscious and unconscious. Stevenson by describing the split identity of the character portrays the tendency of repressing excessive desire in the contemporary society. Outwardly, they seemed respectable, but inwardly were immoral and encompassed by dual characters like: Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. This is the psychic state that the research focuses on.

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