

Tribhuvan University

Misrepresentation of Female Characters in Siddhicharan Shrestha's
Selected Poems

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U.
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

Janak Prasad Dhungana

Symbol no. 281857

Reg. no.6-2-399-8-2008

Central Department of English

Kritipur, Kathmandu

March, 2018

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English,
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Janak Prasad Dhungana has completed his thesis entitled
“Misrepresentation of Female Characters in Siddhicharan Shrestha's Selected Poems”
under my supervision. He carried out his research work from November, 2015 to
February, 2018. I hereby recommend this thesis be submitted for viva voce.

.....
Keshab Sigdel

Supervisor

Date:.....

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Misrepresentation of Female Characters in Siddhicharan Shrestha's Selected Poems” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Janak Prasad Dhungana, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head of Department of English

Date: _____

Acknowledgements

I am very much thankful to my thesis supervisor, Keshab Sigdel, lecturer at the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, for his guidance, genuine suggestions, support and responses for bringing this thesis into this form.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University for his help in allowing me to conduct research in this interesting topic. Similarly, I am indebted to Mahesh Poudel, faculty of English, for his insightful guidance throughout the class and in the preparation of proposal for this research. Dr. Anju Gupta has equally been my mentor who has assisted so far in concretizing my abstract thoughts and proposals. Likewise, I am grateful to Jiblal Sapkota, a member of research committee, for his immense insights to give final shape of this research work. I am indebted to all the respected teachers of the Central Department of English, my senior researchers and my colleagues, for their support, intellectual encouragement and continuous inspirations.

A special word of thanks must go to my parents, my father Kali Prasad Dhungana, my mother Parbati Dhungana, for being considerate and understanding and providing blessings, moral support and space within which to complete this study. My beloved better half Binita Dahal (Dhungana) has always inspired me. My dearest son Bijan is always in my heart wherever I am. My brothers Ram, Raj and Dhiraj have directly and indirectly helped me to bring this thesis into this form.

Janak Prasad Dhungana

March, 2018

Abstract

This thesis explores the issue of misrepresentation of female characters in Siddhicharan Shrestha's semi-epics Urvashi: Khandakavya and Mangalman: Khandakavya. Shrestha's poems deal with both common people's aspiration for social change by retelling the myth of Arjun and Urvashi. In Shrestha's poems, male characters are depicted as rational, intellectual and visionary while female characters are shown physically weak and emotional who are even held responsible for the downfall of male characters. And hence, women characters are misrepresented despite their contributions in the personal and social life. This study employs theoretical concept of misrepresentation as discussed by Stuart Hall and other feminist theorists like Simon de Beauvoir and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak.

Key words: misrepresentation, empowerment, social-justice, dichotomy, patriarchy, hegemony, stereotypical