

Tribhuvan University

Search for Authentic Female Space in C. B. Divakaruni's *Sister of My Heart*

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

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Aug 29, 2008

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Letter of Recommendation

Mis. Pramila Sharma completed her thesis entitled "**Search for Authentic Female Space in C.B. Divakaruni's *Sister of My Heart***" under my supervision. She carried out her research from Jun 2008 (A.D.) to December 2008 (A.D.), I, hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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This thesis titled "Search for Authentic Female Space in C. B. Divakaruni's *Sister of My Heart*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Pramila Sharma, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Acknowledgements

Inspiration always plays a vital role in every progress in human life.

I am greatly indebted to my respected teacher Hem Sharma Paudel whose suggestion and guidance helped me to prepare this thesis. Likewise, I express my deep sense of respect to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, Head of the Central Department of English, for his valuable suggestion to complete this task. I heartily express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Abhi Subedi who persistently encouraged me providing genuine ideas and suggestions. I am also thankful to my respected teachers Dr. Beerendra Pandey and Saroj Ghimire who provided me many ideas including authentic materials. Similarly, I am grateful towards all the teachers of the Central Department of English who directly or indirectly helped in course of my writing.

I want to acknowledge my parents Durga Prasad Paudel and Shanta Paudel and my brothers Prakash Paudel and Pramod Paudel for their valuable ideas and support. I sincerely thank my husband Tek Nath Acharya, colleagues Lokmani Sharma and Pushpa Basyal for their encouragement and Bishnu Sharma for computer typing and printing.

Pramila Sharma

Dec. 14, 2008

Abstract

Divakaruni illustrates the female space in her novel *Sister of My Heart* by challenging the patriarchal code and conduct as well as the literary tradition which locate men at centre and female a margin. The absence of male characters is the main focus of this research. Although the protagonists, Sudha and Anju, reject the patriarchal support, their socio-economic background is strong. Moreover, the writer shows that female-female relationship is necessary to challenge the patriarchal ideology. Their social and economic position allows them to transcend the restrictive demands of traditional gender notion that might eventually restrict them to fulfill the roles of wife and mother. As a result, they are privileged to be able to concentrate on their career. Divakaruni, therefore, insists on the significance of the authentic female voice for all female not only to resist the effects of patriarchal norms and values but also to create a culture in which female have equal economic, social and political rights with men.

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