

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences

Central Department of English

Yalang and Palam of *Limbu* Culture in the Changing Context

A Dissertation Submitted to the Central Department of English in

Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Philosophy in English

By

Madan Kumar Budhathoki

September 2014

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences
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Letter of Recommendation

Madan Kumar Budhathoki has completed his dissertation entitled “Yalan and Palang in the Changing Context” under my supervision. He carried out his research from October 2013 to September 2014. I hereby recommend that his dissertation be submitted for viva voce.

Dr. Shiva Rijal

Central Department of English

Tribhuvan University
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Approval Letter

This dissertation entitled “Yalan and Palang in the Changing Context”,
submitted by Madan Kumar Budhathoki to the Central Department of English,
Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Philosophy in English has been approved by the undersigned members of
the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

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Madan Kumar Budhathoki

Abstract

This research explores the performativity of *Yalang* and Palam in the changing context. *Yalang*, meaning Dhannach, and Palam, a song, are one of their most celebrated forms of rituals, performed especially during the paddy harvesting season. This dance was originated to thrash the grains from dried paddy plants in the past when there was no custom of using oxen to thrash rice grains as done now a days and the song which they sing while they perform Dhannach is called Palam. This trend of singing and dancing, after a long span has turned into a popular culture of *Limbus*. This ritual performance associated with *Limbu* community since time immemorial is believed to be life giving tonic for them. It embodies a strong bond of mutual understanding and affection among the people in *Limbu* community. Over the years, these folk performances have undergone immense transformations, primarily in forms.

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