

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Politics of Empathy in *To Kill A Mockingbird*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Tribhuvan University, in Partial fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English**

By

Yashoda Bam

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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POLITICS OF EMPATHY IN *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

YASHODA BAM

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Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Ms Yashoda Bam has completed her thesis entitled “Politics of Empathy in *To Kill A Mockingbird*” under my supervision. She carried out her research from June 2008 to December 2008. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Dr. Deerendra Pandey

Supervisor

Date:

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Letter of Approval

The thesis entitled “Politics of Empathy in Harper Lee’s *To Kill A Mockingbird*” by Yashoda Bam has been submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. It has been approved by the undersigned of the Research Committee. Member of Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

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Abstract

This research has tried to explore Politics of Empathy in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* where racism becomes the main cause of social disintegration and racial hatred. So, this research work studies the roots of social hatred, defining Racism and Empathy. At the surface level, the novel attempts to show whites' empathy for blacks through the characterization of Atticus Finch, a white lawyer, deferring Tom Robinson's case who is falsely alleged of raping a white woman but the politics behind this projection is to represent white as moral, humanitarian, generous, and helpful towards blacks strengthening the agreed image of whites during racism and apartheid.

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