

Tribhuvan University

Challenging the Traditional Gender Roles in Pradeep Nepal's Novel

21st Century's Sumnima

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

By

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Letter of Recommendation

This thesis entitled "Challenging the Traditional Gender Roles in Pradeep Nepal's novel, *21st Century's Sumnima*" by Keshmaya Sen has been completed under my supervision. She carried out her research from August 2008 to February 2009. I hereby recommend her thesis for upcoming VIVA Voce.

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Letter of Recommendation

This thesis entitled "Resistance Against Patriarchy in Rimal's *Masan*" by Sushila Paudel has been completed under my supervision. She carried out her research from August 2008 to February 2009. I hereby recommend his thesis for upcoming VIVA Voce.

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This thesis titled "Challenging the Traditional Gender Roles in Pradeep Nepal's novel, *21st Century's Sumnima*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Keshmaya Sen has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

This research work has studied Pradeep Nepal's novel, *21st Century's Sumnima* as a novel that projects the dynamic and courageous woman to resist the traditional gender roles, based on patriarchal ideology which is conventional, blind and biased. Pradeep Nepal has demonstrated a strong woman who is versatile with daring and revolutionary spirit against the biased concepts of patriarchal ideology. The gendered ideology is operating as the hegemony, which is the internalized concept of man as superior and woman as inferior. So, to deconstruct it, women consciousness and their resisting activities and behaviors are highly advocated in the novel by portraying a strong woman character, Sumnima. Sumnima is a rebellious lady who is much concerned about the women value and emancipation to subvert the male hegemonic supremacy existing in the society. She has crossed through the vicissitudes of life and has attained the strong conception of maturity. Thus, Sumnima is the symbolic representation of feminine strength and power.

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