

Tribhuvan University

Gendered Subalternity in Munshi Premchand's Selected Stories from *The Shourd:Stories*

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

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April 2018

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Approval Letter

This thesis entitled "Gendered Subalternity in Munshi Premchand's Selected Stories from *The Shourd: Stories* " submitted to the Central Department of English, by Mr. Dila Ram Pun Magar has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Acknowledgements

I would like to express my profound gratitude to the respected supervisor Keshab Sigdel whose sincere effort, helpful suggestions, continuous scholarly guidance, valuable criticism and instructions' made this work complete.

I am heartily thankful to, Professor Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Department of English for providing me an opportunity to work on this project by accepting my proposal. Similarly, I heartily express my gratitude to the respected Lectures of the Department who equally provided me invaluable advices and suggestions.

In addition to this I would like to offer my respect to my parents, father late Dharma Jit Pun and Mrs Sitali Pun Magar. And my special thankfulness goes to my life partner Susmita Singh who always gives me her hands on me. Similarly, I remember my sisters Dipa Pun and Lalita Thapa who always encourage and support me including other family members, who directly or indirectly support to complete my academic research. Moreover, I would like to thank my friends and other who provided invaluable suggestions during my research.

Dila Ram Pun Magar

Abstract

The study analyzes how the female characters of Munshi Premchand's selected stories live as subaltern women and how the socio-economic structure compelled them to live in a subaltern status. For this, six stories have been selected from his collection *The Shroud : Stories*. They are "Two Graves", "The Farce of Brahm", "The Price of Milk", "The Co-wife", "Newly Weds" and "The Shroud". Sulochana, Virinda, Rajia, Dasi, Leela, Asha and Bhangi and Bhudhiya are the main female characters of these selected stories who belong to marginalized community and are suppressed by the higher class people. More than that Indian patriarchal Indian family structures and male dominated cultural religious values of the society compelled them to live in a lower status than the males. So they are double victimized and have become gender subaltern characters. This thesis employs theories related to gender subalternity. It basically borrows insights from Gayatri Spivak and other subaltern studies scholars like Partha Chatterjee.

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