

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Ethnic Tolerance and Nepali Nationalism in D.B. Gurung's *Breaking Twilight*

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

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Basanta Singh Limbu has completed his thesis entitled "Ethnic Tolerance and Nepali Nationalism in D.B. Gurung's *Breaking Twilight*". Under my supervision he carried out this research from May 2015 to February 2016. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

Prof. Dr. Sanjeev Upreti

Supervisor

Date: _____

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Ethnic Tolerance and Nepali Nationalism in D.B. Gurung's *Breaking Twilight*", submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University Kirtipur by Basanta Singh Limbu, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

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Abstract

This dissertation explores the issue of ethnic tolerance and Nepali nationalism that D. B. Gurung raises in his collection of short stories *Breaking Twilight*. If Gurung not only praises the ethnic tolerance feeling of his characters for their unity, but also critiques nationalism; especially Nepali nationalism for not being inclusive. The problem of nationalism in Nepal context is that, it does not promote cultural diversity, inclusiveness and heterogeneity but inspires exclusiveness and nativism or at least majoritarianism and coming close to racism. D. B. Gurung depicts these problems of nationalism in his novel through the technique of story telling and forwards the concept of multi nationalism by going beyonds the rudimentary concept of nationalism which is more inclusive and democratic. In *Breaking Twilight* his characters; Major Himal Ale, Kopila, Pashmina suffer a lot from the Nepali elitist, hierarchical nationalism because of its tendency of excluding the people in terms of race, religion, gender and ethnicity. Presenting the scholars views on *Breaking Twilight* and its presentation of social harmony D.B. Gurung expresses his vision of ethnic tolerance while presenting the tolerance and blurring the hierarchy between different problems. Gurung has justified his vision.

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