

Tribhuvan University

Postmodern Elements in Sheeba Shah's Novel *Facing My Phantoms*

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

Chiranjibi Guragain

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

September 2014

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Chiranjibi Guragain has completed his thesis, entitled “Elements of Postmodern Novel in Sheeba Shah’s *Facing My Phantoms*,” under my Supervision. He carried out this research from May 2014 to September 2014. I recommend this thesis be submitted for the *viva-voce*.

Saroj Sharma Ghimire

(Supervisor)

Date:

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Central Department of English

Letter of Approval

This thesis, entitled “Elements of Postmodern Novel in Sheeba’s Shah’s *Facing My Phantoms*,” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Chiranjibi Guragain, 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

Tribhuvan University

Date.....

Acknowledgement

I am grateful to express my deep sense of gratitude to Saroj Sharma Ghimire, Lecturer of Central Department of English T.U., Kirtipur, and the advisor of my thesis for this continuous supervision and encouragement, constructive criticism and invaluable suggestions during the period of writing.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. Dr. Ammaraj Joshi, head of Central Department of English T.U. for granting me to carry out this dissertation. I also express my gratitude to my teachers, Badri Acharya, Dr. Ani Rudra Thapa, Prof. Dr. Birendra Pandey, Hemlal Pandey and Dr. Shiva Rijal for providing constant encouragement and suggestions during the writing class course.

Likewise, I must unreservedly acknowledge my deep debt of gratitude to my family members for their great encouragement and financial support.

I also want to express my sincere thanks to all my friends Hem Pokhrel, Govinda Poudel, Jivan Budha Magar, Netra Bhatta, Shankar Poudel for their direct and indirect assistance. I also remember my brother Tulasi Prasad Guragain for his overall help.

Finally, my special thanks go to Naresh Kumar Sharma for his technical support in bringing out this dissertation in this form.

Kirtipur

September 2014

Chiranjibi Guragain

Abstract

Sheeba Shah's *Facing My Phantoms* carries the postmodern elements like parody, irony, intertextuality, metafiction as well as incompleteness to subvert the then Nepalese historical and political events after 1930s and also critique the ideologies like feudalism, patriarchy and Maoism. In doing so, Shah introduces the character, Sanjeevani who narrates the whole story in which the story of Sanat is overlapped. Sanat's story carries the history of Nepal after 1930s that is parodied with the modern story with the help of irony. Self-reflexivity is developed by narrator's references, allusions. To reveal the fictional nature of the work itself metafictional techniques are used. Bringing different ideas, references from the genres especially from the history in the literary text gives the sense of intertext. Similarly, Shah is very much careful in the matter of using language thus, she uses the postmodern techniques that *Facing My Phantoms* is structured as a postmodern experimental novel.

Contents

Page No.

Acknowledgements

Abstracts

I. *Facing My Phantoms* and the Politics of Postmodern

1-13

II. Postmodern Elements in *Facing My Phantoms*

14-36

III. *Facing My Phantoms* as a Postmodern Novel

37-38

Works Cited