

Tribhuvan University

Exploration of Self: A Third-World Feminist Reading in Parajuly's

The Gurkha's Daughter

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

By

Thaneshor Pokhrel

Symbol No: 281181

T.U Regd. No: 6-2-40-1891-2006

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

May 2016

Tribhuvan University
Central Department of English
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Letter of Approval

This Thesis entitled “Exploration of Self: A Third-World Feminist Reading in Parajuli’s *The Gurkha’s Daughter*” submitted to Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Thaneshor Pokhrel has been approved by the undersigned members of research committee.

Members of the research committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

Tribhuvan University

Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Thaneshor Pokhrel has completed his thesis entitled "Exploration of Self: A Third-World Feminist Reading in Parajuly's *The Gurkha's Daughter*" under my supervision. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Prof. Dr. Ram Chandra Poudel

Supervisor

Date:

Acknowledgments

First, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Professor Dr. Ammaraj Joshi, Head, Central Department of English for offering me a chance to carry out this research. I also owe my gratitude to Professor Dr. Ram Chandra Poudel without whose kind cooperation and guidance, the work would have remained incomplete.

I must also thank lecturer Mr. Prakash Subedi, who provided me precious support with materials and suggestions. I must say thanks to the respected teachers Mr. Harihar Gyawali, Mr. Hem Lal Pandey, Mr. Raju Baral, Mr. Chitra Kumar Karki who taught me several theories of literature.

At the same time, I must express infinite thanks to all the teachers, lecturers, readers and professors at the Central Department of English, TU, Kirtipur at present who helped me in different ways in the course of my study.

I am much indebted to my parents: Mr. Mukti Prasad Pokhrel and Mrs. Laxmi Pokhrel. Thanks to my friends Mr. Benu Pokhrel and Deepak Mishra who helped me by assisting in searching the necessary materials to carry out this research.

Last but not least, I am thankful to Mr. Chandan Thakur who helped me to print out this research paper.

Thaneshor Pokhrel

May, 2016

Abstract

This research focuses on the exploration of the self regarding the self-identity of women as depicted in Prajwal Parajuly's *The Gurkha's Daughter*. It stresses on women's struggle for equal rights; and, against the subordination of women themselves. It explores the idea of searching position against traditional society and self by opposing any specific forms of exploitation propagated by male ideology and female submission. At the same time, it highlights on the suffering of the female characters as a result of traditional gender roles which creates dichotomies between the so called masculine and feminine—masculine and feminine are all the traits that are learned, not in born. In order to deal with gender issues, this research adopts Third-World Feminism as the theoretical framework. It especially adopts the notion of Uma Narayan's gender essentialism and culture essentialism. This research emphasizes on shifting tendency of Nepali women going through transformation themselves from the position of victimized object to the disobedient rude women. Thus, this research studies the representation of the changing image of women as depicted in Prajuly's *The Gurkha's Daughter* thereby commenting on the Third-World Women's experience and exploration of their self.

Contents

Acknowledgements

Letter of Approval

Abstract

- | | | |
|------|---|-------|
| I. | Self Explored Through Third-World Feminism | 1-7 |
| II. | Exploration of the Self in Parajuly' <i>The Gurkha's Daughter</i> | 8-39 |
| III. | The Emergence of a Triumphant Woman | 40-41 |

Works Cited