

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**

**The Politics of Counterfocalization in Malla's *Kumari Shova***

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

**By**

**Krishna Giri**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

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**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Central Department of English, Kirtipur**

**Letter of Recommendation**

Mr. Krishna Giri has completed his thesis entitled "The Politics of Counterfocalization in Malla's *Kumari Shova*" under my supervision. He carried his research from August 2008. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Mr. Badri Prasad Acharya

Supervisor

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2009

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Letter of Approval**

This thesis titled “The Politics of Counterfocalization in Malla’s Kumatri Shova”  
submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Krishna Giri  
has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research committee.

Members of the Research Committee

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Internal Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

Head

Central Department of English

Date: .....

## **Abstract**

This dissertation is a critical discussion on Vijay Malla's *Kumari Shova* as an exposure of how the focalizer is influenced by the superstitious belief regarding ideology, race, and gender. On the surface, it seems that the focalizer represents new generation and is sympathetic towards the victims (Kumari Shova) and Upendra (her lover) but in fact the unrestricted narrator's prejudice towards Living Goddess Kumari affects the focalization as he freely enters the minds of characters. This shows the focalizer's will to govern the characters by exercising his power over the focalized only from the superstitious perspective. We cannot even claim whether the focalizer and the focalized are as they are understood by the focalizer; we cannot even claim whether it is the understanding of the focalizer only or it is the understanding of both focalizer as well as the writer. Therefore, Malla's *Kumari Shova* requires counterfocalization from readers' side that can only justify the characters by analyzing the focalizer's discursive form, which is guided by the particularities not only of space and time but also of gender, ethnic and sexual choice.

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