

**TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**

**Representation of Female Characters in Devkota's *Laxmi Katha Sangrah***

**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**

**By**

**Laxmi Dotel**

**Central Department of English**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

**April, 2009**

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Central Department of English**

**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

Ms .Laxmi Dotel has completed her thesis entitled "Representation of Female Characters in Devkota's *Laxmi Katha Sangrah*" under my supervision. She carried out her research from 12 November, 2008 to 17 April, 2009 April. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

---

**Supervisor**

**Tara Lal Shrestha**

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

**LETTER OF APPROVAL**

This thesis titled "Representation of Female characters in Devkota's *Laxmi Katha Sangrah*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Laxmi Dotel 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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish sincerely thank to my research supervisor and teachers of the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, who helped me in bringing out this study.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Tara Lal Shrestha, my respected teacher and research supervisor. He has guided me through out the research by taking pains patiently going through the entire manuscripts, suggesting improvements, alternatives, and providing me the most valuable materials and constructive ideas.

I am especially thankful to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, the Head of Department of English, for his academic and administrative support. I

cannot forget the friends from Future Pack City Institute to thank for their sincere co-operation in typing of this thesis.

At last, but not least, I wise a lifelong debt of gratitude to my parents, sisters, husband and brothers for their patience, financial support, motivation and love.

April

Laxmi Dotel

## ABSTRACT

*Laxmi Katha Sangrah* (2032 v.s.) is an anthology of short fictions by Laxmi Prasad Devkota. The major female characters in the stories reflect the females' situation in patriarchal society who are victimized due to the male violence, domination and oppression. These stories show the females are given inferior and pathetic space in the Hindu culture and society. The patriarchal literary trend depicts the women as irrational, dependent, fragile, emotional and weak. It has created such dominated or evil image of females in society. The passive and negative image forces women to be more victimized. Feminism struggles against such representation of women. It tries to establish the free, independent, active and positive realistic image of females. Likewise Devkota's female characters resist the patriarchal domination. The female characters in the stories have marginalized and subordinated status. But the protagonists of those stories raise their voice against patriarchy. They challenge the role, space and stereotypical image provided to them. They resist the male ideology of keeping them out of mainstream. Each of the story, collected and compiled in *Laxmi Katha Sangrah* contains a separate, safe, and liberal space for the subaltern females. They get chance to be aware and conscious against the elitist patriarchal ideology there. These stories provide echo of the women from all class, caste and culture. Hence, through these stories writer exposes voice of the subaltern (females).

## CONTENS

	<b>Page No.</b>
RECOMMENDATION LETTER	
LETTER OF APPROVAL	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	
ABSTRACT	
CONTENCTS	
<b>CHAPTER-I</b>	<b>1-7</b>
Introduction	1-7
<b>CHAPTER- II</b>	<b>8-30</b>
Feminism	8-17
Issue of Representation and Feminism	17-24
Issue of Representation in Literature	24-30
<b>CHAPTER- III</b>	<b>31-67</b>
Historical Backgraound of Nepali Literature	31-33
Laxmi Prasad Devkota and His Literary Career	34-39
Representation of Female Characters in Devkota's Short Stories	39-41
Critical Analysis of Stories:	41-67
Critical Reading of "Shishili Afno Bihe Anphai Garchhin"	42-51
Critical Reading of "Vyaktitwa" and	
Critical Reading of "Marsyangdi"	51-67
<b>CHAPTER- IV</b>	<b>68-71</b>
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	

**Work Cited**