

Tribhuvan University

Bibelot in Marcel Proust's *Swann's Way*: A Representation of Material Culture

**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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June 2010

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Tirtha Raj Bhandari has completed his thesis entitled “Bibelot in Marcel Proust’s *Swann’s Way*: A Representation of Material Culture” under my supervision. He carried out his research from October 2009 to June 2010. I hereby recommend his thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Bibelot in Marcel Proust's *Swann's Way*: A Representation of Material Culture" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Tirtha Raj Bhandari has been approved by the under designed members of the research committee.

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Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my respected supervisor Chitra Kumar Karki who provided me scholarly guidance to develop this thesis. I am very grateful to him who corrected my innumerable mistakes and made possible to develop the thesis into this form.

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Department, Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. Likewise, I acknowledge my gratitude to Prof. Dr. Krishana Chandra Sharma, Dr. Beerendra Pandey, Dr. Shiva Risal, Hem Lal Pandey and all my teachers for their invaluable suggestions. I extend my gratitude to all who have directly or indirectly helped me in the completion of this dissertation.

I would like to thank my father, Krishna Lal Bhandari, my mother, Khagisara Bhandari, my wife Nanda Bhandari and other family members for their overall support and perpetual encouragement.

I would like to thank Mr. Naradip Shahi, Headmaster, Mahadev Higher Secondary School, Phoikot, Kalikot for his kind co-operation and fruitful suggestions.

Finally I would like to thank my colleagues for their constant masterful co-operation, reliable guidance and advice which will always cherish.

June 2010

Tirtha Raj Bhanari

Abstract

Marcel Proust's novel *Swann's Way*, analyzes on the prospective of cultural materialism with reference to Bibelot, the household good of medieval society. In the novel, writer tries to illustrate the different versions of material culture. Through the narratives of Swann and Odette Proust shows the perception of material culture and compares it with various historical and philosophical landscapes. The novel captures the scene of early twentieth century's perception of material culture and compares it with bibelot culture of medieval French. There are various philosophical practices in the world about the material culture. Swann is the representative character of aristocratic aesthetic value of materialism. Odette loves Swann but she denies accepting bourgeois philosophy although both accept the existence of material culture.

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