Tribhuvan University

Rejection of Personality in T.S. Eliot's Selected Poetry

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, Tribhuvan University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

Rohit Dhakal

T.U. Reg. No.: 6-2-40-2477-2002February 2012

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled **"Rejection of Personality in T.S. Eliot's Selected Poetry"** submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, by Rohit Dhakal, has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

(Rudra Paudel)

Supervisor

External Examiner

(Chiranjibi Kafle)

Head, Department of English,

Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus,

Kathmandu

Date:

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to my supervisor, Rudra Paudel, Associate Professor of English, for his guidance, critical comments and valuable suggestions, which brought this thesis in completion.

Similarly, I like to extend my thanks to Chiranjibi Kafle, Head of the Department of English, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, Kathmandu for his kind co-operation. Keshab Kshetri and Yadu Kumar are cordially thanked for their kind support in typing, printing and setting of this thesis. Likewise, I would like to express my duly thanks to my friend Mahesh Chandra Gautam for his kind co-operation and valuable suggestions.

Rohit Dhakal

February 2012

Abstract

Eliot views that the poet's personality is just a medium to activate the re-action between emotions and feelings. Thus, the poet is not a creator but works as the catalyst. But if an art is full of emotions, how can it be an impersonal? Hence, Eliot focuses that the poet has not his personality to express but a particular medium. Eliot argues against the romantic poets insisting that the poetry is an escape from personality.

T.S. Eliot's selected poems ("Aunt Helen", "Morning at the Window", "Whispers of Immortality", "The Waste Land", "Macavity: The Mystery Cat", "Cousion Nancy", "Preludes" and "The Love Song of J.Alfred Prufrock") are the main source of this research. To justify the hypothesis Eliot's Impersonal Theory of Poetry is applied. His poems are found out of his feelings and emotions. He has been only a medium to express the contemporary situation in his poetic creation. Eliot has not given space to the emotions and feelings in his art but has only worked as the catalyst.

Contents

Page

Letter of Approval		ii
Abstract		iii
Acknowledgements		iv
Chapter I : Introduction		1
1.1	Eliot's Poetic Features	1
1.2	Judgement of Depersonalization in Eliot's Poetry	3
Chapter II : New Criticism and Impersonal Theory of Poetry		7
2.1	Introduction to New Criticism	7
2.2	Eliot's Notion of Impersonality in Poetry	10
2.3	Eliot's Stance towards Romanticism	11
2.4	Eliot's Notion of Tradition	14
Chapter III : Rejection of Personality in Eliot's Selected poetry		18
Chapter IV : Conclusion		38
4.1	Impersonality in Eliot's Poetry	38
Works Cited		40