

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Decline of Moral Values in *Silas Marner*

A Thesis Submitted to

The Department of English, Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, Tribhuvan University,

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts in English

By

Shreehari Neupane

Roll No. 40

Academic Year-2059/60

July 2008

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

This thesis is submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, by Mr. Shreehari Neupane, entitled **Decline of Moral Values in *Silas Marner*** has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Research Committee Members:

Supervisor: _____

(Kamal Pd. Thoklihang)

External Examiner: _____

Head of the Department: _____

(Dr. Ananda Sharma)

Department of English

Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus

Exhibition Road, Kathmandu.

Date: _____

Acknowledgements

This thesis has highly profited from the valuable suggestions of teachers and friends who proposed changes and additions, enhancing the usefulness of my research work. I welcome this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to my advisor Mr. Kamal Pd. Thoklihang under whose guidance this dissertation has been prepared.

I am also indebted to the Department of English for providing me an opportunity to conduct this research work. I am grateful to my Department Chief, Dr. Anand Sharma for his constructive suggestions and scholarly guidance.

Mention must also be made about help received from my parents and to all my friends of the English Department for helping me one way or the other.

Finally, I thank Mr. Niraj B. Magar for his meticulous and timely typing of this dissertation.

Thanking everyone,

Shreehari Neupane

July 2008

Contents

Acknowledgements	ii
Contents	iii
Charter One: General Introduction	
Morality and Moral Values	1
Making of a Novelist: George Eliot	4
Chapter Two: Morality	
Social Changes in Victorian Period	13
Industrialization and Morality Decline	17
Impact on Moral Values of the Victorian People	19
Chapter Three: Textual Analysis	
Decline of Moral Values	23
Reflection of Transition in <i>Silas Marner</i>	25
Behavior and Moral Values of the Characters in <i>Silas Manner</i>	32
<i>Silas Marner</i> as a Reflection of Moral Values	41
Chapter Four: Conclusion	48
Works Cited	51