

**Tribhuvan University**

**Masculinity**

**in Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew***

A Thesis submitted to

Department of English, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ratna Rajya

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for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

Bhupal Dewan

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Bhupal Dewan

## **Abstract**

This research intends to excavate the masculinity embedded in Shakespeare's early comedy *The Taming of the Shrew*, and attempts to mirror the contemporary socio-cultural structure, concept and tradition strictly based on traditional patriarchal norms and ideals. The work undertakes exploration of meaningful facts regarding the longstanding history of the domination and exploitation of women in the society, applying a different perspective or a unique tool of "Masculinity" which celebrates the strength, power and the wild realm of men to rule over others especially the weak women, due to which the level and status of women are crucially maimed, ridiculed and demeaned.

The playwright's attitude, influence, style and background of writing have been briefly discussed together with short plot of the play in the first chapter. Author's intention of selecting the plot having masculine issues, the socio-cultural structure during his time and general introduction of Masculinity also have been briefly discussed in the first chapter.

The second chapter includes detail analysis of gender theories specially about hegemonic masculinity and femininity. The entire interpretation of the text focusing to explore out the elements or the facts related to the masculinity issues embedded in the play has been carefully done in the third chapter. And the fourth chapter concludes the findings declaring the celebration of masculinity in the play.

## Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Masculinity in Shakespeare’s *The Taming of The Shrew*, submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, Tribhuvan University, by Bhupal Dewan, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

.....

Kamal Prasad Thoklihang  
Supervisor

.....

Chiranjeevi Kafle  
External Examiner

.....

Rudra Prasad Poudel  
Head of Department  
Department of English,  
Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus

Date:

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