

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

**Coetzee's Ethical Response to Human Treatment of Animals:
A study of *The Lives of Animals*, *Elizabeth Costello* and *Disgrace***

A Thesis submitted to the Central Department of English
in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Masters of Arts in English

By

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This thesis entitled **Coetzee's Ethical Response to the Human Treatment of Animals: A Study of *The Lives of Animals*, *Elizabeth Costello* and *Disgrace*** submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Sundar Raj Shrestha has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

In the long run of human civilization human beings have proved through unbelievable achievements with the utmost use of rationality that they are the best creatures in the universe. But, it is alarming that they pay no heed to the existence of rest of the beings. Though it is true that they have created a different sort of identity of their own among the beings, they are not the only one. They have no right to suppress and deny the rights to others because they are the 'best'. Unlike the rest of the writers and animal right activists, J.M. Coetzee, in his texts, has tried to remind the human beings of their duty and responsibility towards the other beings through his sensitive characters. By departing from the other writers and advocates of animal rights, he urges all the human beings to treat the animals ethically because they are also living beings like us. In short, Coetzee wants all the human beings to treat the animals with love, affection, sympathy and kindness that should come from their inner heart.

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