

Tribhuvan University

Tagore's Denunciation of Armed Rebellion for Independence in *Four Chapters*

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By

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This thesis entitled "**Tagore's Denunciation of Armed Rebellion for Independence in *Four Chapters***" Submitted to the Central Department of English, by Mr. Hari Prasad Gaire, Tribhuvan University, has been approved by undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

Four Chapters (1934) manifests Tagore's deep aversion to any nationalist commitment through Ela, female protagonist of the novel, who comes to realize the call of soul later on her life-that here love for Atin is prior to her involvement and responsibility in revolutionary Camp. Tagore is never tired from criticizing the promises of young revolutionaries in *Four Chapters*: Indranath is a distraught product of European education who tames his desire for power in young souls at the cost of their love life. The denial of love brings forth the decadence and even claims the lives of characters. *Four Chapters* specifically introduces and deals with the problem of violence in politics. Tagore rebelled against the strongly nationalists and virulent form of the nationalist movement in *Four Chapters*. Humanity is Tagore's sole refuge. He wouldn't buy independence at the cost of humanity and self love: Tagore's approval for his efforts in *Four Chapters* echos with Gandhian promulgation of Non-violence, 'Ahimsa', through the idealization of self-love in the relationship of Atin and Ela. Tagore publicly denounced the fascists of his time Mussolini and others across the globe-that-secured his place as humanist among thinkers and philosophers. Freedom, For Rabindranath Tagore, best exhibits itself in self-love, sovereignty of self to the so-called societal necessities. To live a life devoid of love of self is no better than death. Freedom and change, that revolutionary politics movements promise to vouchsafe, is trivial to recognition of self, has been best manifested through Ela and Atin in *Four Chapters*.

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