

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Homosexual Gaze in Thomas Mann's *Death in Venice*

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By

Basanta Bahadur G.C.

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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Tribhuvan University
Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences

Approval Letter

This thesis entitled “Homosexual Gaze in Thomas Mann’s *Death in Venice*”
submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Basanta
Bahadur G.C. has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date: _____

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Abstract

This research work explores German author Thomas Mann's homosexual inclination through his famous novella *Death in Venice* (1912), which has fascinated a number of critics in the literary field. Mann's protagonist, Aschenbach's obsession for the fourteen-year-old Polish boy named Tazido from whom Aschenbach can never remove his gaze which reflects his homosexual desire. He tries to fulfill his fantasies just by watching and staying beside the boy. The attachment between Aschenbach and Tadzio is unique and remarkable as Aschenbach is tormented unrequitedly with his homoerotic fantasies. His devotion and dedication to praise the beauty of the boy which he elevates to the object of perfect beauty further proves his homoerotic desire. This phenomenon of homoerotic reaches to its climax at the end of the text. We observe not aggressive, wild and homoerotic scene, but lovely mild and lucid one. Such slow and harmonious development of homosexual urge available in the text, I think was still unexplored by the researchers, which is successfully done in the work

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