

### Editorial

English Studies has gradually broadened its scope and has covered extra-literary concerns such as critical theory, linguistics and cultural studies. On this backdrop, this issue of *JODEM* has covered six areas with the focus on Nepali language and literature: popular culture, gender studies, marginalization, poetry, drama and linguistics. The first article is on touristic gaze on popular culture reflected in the songs on Kathmandu. Arvind Dahal explores how the popular culture dating back to 1970s and now represent Kathmandu City metaphorically. It is a fresh look at the related songs.

There are two articles in the area of gender studies. Asmita Bista discusses how B.P. Koirala's novel *Narendra Dai* represents gender roles in the then Nepali society. The next article by Indira Mishra's is a fresh reading of Sanjeev Upreti's novel *Hansa* to explore the masculine mindset of the characters. As these articles indirectly touch upon the plight of the women in Nepali society as marginalized in the family and society, two other articles directly deal with the issue of marginalization. One of them is Jiwan Kumar Rai's research on Upendra Subba's story "Laato Pahaada" [Dumb Hill]. Here, Rai deals with the plight of the marginalized Limbu community in the eastern hills of Nepal. In tune with this study, Man Kumar Rai's article deals with the condition of Nepali society where the political leaders marginalize the rest of the citizens in the nation. Based on Rupesh Shrestha's collection of poems entitled *Ghintang Ghishi Twank* Rai explores the use of satire in the selected poems.

There are other three articles on poetry. Bam Dev Adhikari's study on Laxmi Prasad Devkota's Bapu sonnets deals with how the poet idealized Gandhian myth in these creations. The next article on poetry is Mohan Kumar Pokhrel's ecocritical reading of the *Śrimad Bhāgavata Mahāpurāna*. Pokhrel explores how nature is projected in this poem. The next article in this area is by Ramji Timalisina who explores how Nepali migrants' literature in West Asia exhibits causes, effects and consequences of cultural differences between the Nepali migrants and West Asian mainstream society. Reading the culture from transnational and diasporic perspectives, he concludes that the Nepali migrants have to undergo multiple miseries in that location. The next article in literature is by Rupak Shrestha who has juxtaposed Sama's play *Bhimsenko Antya* with Shakespeare's *Richard II*, and concludes that these two creations have many similarities.

The next area of articles covered in this issue is linguistics. Three studies on the languages of Nepal have been included. One of them is Min Pun's study entitled "Global and Local Perspectives on the Preservation of Linguistic Diversity: A Nepali Experience". This review article explores the studies in this area. The other two articles are on the language of

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Mundhum. Mohan Kumar Tambahang explores the linguistic features of Limbu Mundhum; whereas, Ramesh Kumar Limbu studies how Limbu Mundhum and its rituals use language as the means of cultural expression. Finally, a review of Orhan Pamuk's novel *Snow* written by Uday Adhikari is included.

Thus, this issue of *JODEM* covers multiple aspects of English studies that the department of English has been dealing with. The researchers' focus on language, literature and culture of Nepal shows the gradual shift of English Studies from the native English speaker's creations to glocal creativity. It also indicates the extension of English as a medium of expressing multiplicity in this world full of diversity. With this trend, the board of editors feels happy to be able to address the contemporary concern of English Studies with the publication of this journal.