

Selected Individual Responses: Ghayru_MF1

Interview carried out at Ghayru, Manang, Nepal

Audio recording with Marantz PMD660 and Audio-Technica omnidirectional stereo hand-held microphone

General and Personal Information

1. What is your name?
Rama Gurung
2. What is your age?
41
3. What is your mother-tongue?
Manange
4. From what clan are you?
Now Gurung, before Lama.
5. What languages do you speak now in your regularly daily life?
Nepali, Manange.
6. Where were you born and how long did you live there?
Ghayru. 10 years ago, relocated to Kathmandu. Now living in Kathmandu.
7. Do you live in Kathmandu all year through?
Mostly in Kathmandu.
8. Does your whole immediate family live in Kathmandu?
Yes. Parents.
9. How frequently do you return to your village?
Does not come back often. Once every few years.
10. How long do you stay in village?
This time 3 years.
11. How often do you travel outside of your village?
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12. Where do you typically go to, or for what purpose?
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13. Are your parents living now?
Both living.

14. Where are your parents from? Are their mother-tongue languages the same as yours? If not, what are their mother-tongue languages?
Both from the Ghyaru. Both speak Manange.
15. Do you have siblings? Are you the eldest, or the youngest, or are you in the middle?
6 children. She is youngest.
16. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your siblings?
Manange.
17. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your friends?
Nepali.
18. Are you married, and do you have children?
Married. 1 daughter.
19. What languages do you speak with your spouse? With your children?
Mostly Nepali and slightly Manange with spouse. Nepali and a bit of Manange with children. Daughter understands Manange but speaks "broken" Manange.
20. Did you receive formal education as a child? In what language? Did you use any other language(s) at school?
Up to grade 6. School in Kathmandu. English and Nepali were medium.
21. How many years (what levels) of formal education did you receive, and where?
Up to grade 6 in Kathmandu
22. What is your current occupation? What language(s) do you use at work?
Are these different than the languages you use at home/with family/in domestic environments?
Housewife. Mostly Nepali.

Subjective Contemporary

23. In which village in Manang is Manange spoken regularly?
All villages.
24. In which village in Manang is Nar-Phu spoken regularly?
No knowledge.
25. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
No knowledge.
26. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
No knowledge.

27. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?
No knowledge.
28. In which village in Manang is Nepali spoken regularly?
All villages.
29. In which village in Manang do people speak exactly like you?
Each village has small differences.
30. In your opinion, in which villages is your own mother tongue spoken most purely?
Big Manang village.
31. In which village in Manang do people speak just a little bit differently from you?
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32. If somebody wants to learn your mother tongue, which village would be the best location for them to learn?
My choice but some small differences across villages.
33. If you meet someone from Nar village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands.
34. If you meet someone from Phu village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
A few words only.
35. If you meet someone from Manang village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands all.
36. If you meet someone from Braga village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands all.
37. If you meet someone from Ngawal village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands all.
38. If you meet someone from Ghyaru village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
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39. If you meet someone from Khangsar village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands all.

40. If you meet someone from Pisang village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands all.

41. If you meet someone from Chame village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Does not understand.

42. If you meet someone from Tal village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands a little bit.

43. If you meet someone from Nace village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Understands some "pure Grung".

44. If you meet someone from Thancowk village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Does not understand.

45. If you meet someone from Otargaun village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Does not understand.

46. If you meet someone from Thonce village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Does not understand.

47. If you meet someone from Tace village for the first time and s/he speaks his/her own mother tongue, how well do you understand him/her?
Does not understand.

48. In addition to your own mother tongue, which of these local and national/international languages can you speak and how well?

Somewhat: English

Not at all: Gurung, Gyalsumdo, Nar-Phu, Tibetan

49. In addition to your mother tongue, which language do you speak with other people who also speak your mother tongue?
Nepali.

50. Currently in almost all Manang schools, teaching languages is Nepali. Would the use of (Manang, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo) in your local school help or hurt children?
If kids stay in local schools, it would be helpful.

51. Should local languages be an optional or compulsory subject?
Optional.

52. If you want to get ahead financially, how useful is language (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English)
It is useful to locals.

53. In your opinion, these local languages (Manange, Gurung, Nar-Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English) will still have children learners?
In village perhaps not in Kathmandu, some will slowly continue to use language.

54. What can, or should, people do to keep (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo) spoken?
Parents should use with children daily.

55. (Manange, Gurung, Nar-Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English) is important for education
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56. (Manange, Gurung, Nar-Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English) is important for your culture
Strongly agree.

57. Should Nepal have only one language for formal use?
Nepali and English. Manange in local context only.

58. Should children in your community be made (to force) to learn local language?
In family should be forced to use.

59. Children should be able to decide which language they want to learn
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60. How do you feel about these questions?
Good

61. In your opinion, is there only one language throughout all of Manang District, or are there several languages in Manang?
Lower Manang is a different language. Upper Manang languages with small differences.