

Selected Individual Responses: Gyerang GM2

Interview carried out on Saturday 10th June, 11:00 am, Gyerang Village, Manang, Nepal
Audio recording with Marantz PMD660 and Audio-Technica omnidirectional stereo hand-held microphone

General and Personal Information

1. What is your age?
55

2. What is your mother-tongue?
Gurung

3. Where were you born and raised?
Gyerang village

4. Where were your parents born/raised?
Father born and raised in Gyerang
Mother born and raised in Gyerang

5. What language(s) did you use with your parents when you were a child?
Gurung

6. If you had siblings, what language(s) did you use with them when you were growing up?
Gurung

7. What language(s) did you use with friends/peers when you were growing up?
Gurung

8. Did you attend school as a child? If so, in what language(s) did you study?
Yes, upto Grade 3

9. If you are married now, and if you have children, in what language(s) do you speak to your family?
Gurung to wife, Gurung to children

10. What language(s) do you now use in your everyday life?
Gurung and for farming

11. Are your parents living now? What are/were their mother tongues? What language(s) did you use with them?
Mother and both Father passed away
Father: Gyerang Gurung
Mother: Gyerang Gurung

I spoke Gurung

12. Do you have siblings? If so, are you the eldest, the youngest, or in the middle?
I am the one of eight. I am the youngest of all.

13. As a child, what language(s) did you speak with your siblings?
Gurung

14. As a child, what language(s) did you speak with your friends?
Gurung

15. And now? Are you married and do you have children?
Married and 4 children

16. What language(s) do you speak with your spouse? With your children?
Gurung with wife; Gurung with children

17. Did you receive formal education as a child? In what language(s)?
I was educated up to grade 3; I studied in Gurung and Nepali

18. What is your occupation? What language(s) do you use in your occupation?
I am a Farmer and I use gurung language in farming

Subjective Contemporary

19. In which village in Manang is Manange spoken regularly?
Near Chame

20. In which village in Manang is Nar-Phu spoken regularly?
Khottar

21. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
Nache, Thace, Tilce, Thanju, Gelanju, Otargaun, Tal

22. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
Thonce, chame, Nar-Phu, Khottar

23. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?
Don't Know

24. In which village in Manang is Nepali spoken regularly?
Chame

25. In which village in Manang do people speak exactly like you?
Otargaun, Tal, Nache

26. In your opinion, in which villages is your own mother tongue spoken most purely?
Gyerang

27. In which villages in Manang do people speak just a little bit differently from you?
Tilce, Thace

28. If somebody wants to learn your mother tongue, which village would be the best location for them to learn?
Otargaun

29. 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 little

30. 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?
Understands little

31. 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 little

32. 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 little

33. 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 little

34. 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?
Understands little

35. 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 little

36. 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 little

37. 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?

Understands all

38. 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 completely

39. 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 completely

40. 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?

Understands completely

41. 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?

Understands little(25%)

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

Understands completely

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

Manange Understands but doesn't speak

Nar-Phu Understands but doesn't speak

Gurung Fluent

Gyalsumdo Somewhat

Tibetan Understands but doesn't speak

Nepali Fluent

English Don't know

Other

44. Currently in almost all Manang schools, the language of instruction is Nepali (with some English). Would the use of your mother tongue in local schools be helpful or hurtful/a hindrance to children?

Yes it will be helpful

45. If you want to get ahead financially, how useful is your mother tongue?

Just for the Gylsumdo language he sees economic benefits

46. In your opinion, will your mother tongue still have children learners in future generations (using 30 years from now as a guidepost)?

No prediction

47. What can, or should, people do to keep your mother tongue spoken for future generations?

Nothing more is needed

48. Is your mother tongue important for education?

It is very important

49. Is your mother tongue important for cultural traditions, celebrations, expressions?

It is very important

50. Should Nepal have only one language (Nepali) for official use (in banks, government offices, the media, etc.)?

There should be more than one language for official use

51. Should children be able to decide for themselves which language they want to learn and use at home?

Yes, learning Gurung should be optional

52. How many languages do you think are spoken in Manang District (excluding Nepali)?