

Selected Individual Responses: Nace GM1

Interview conducted 27th July, 3:30 pm, (½ time in Khotro and ½ time in Nace due to rain)

Manang, Nepal

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

General and Personal Information

1. What is your age?

61

2. What is your mother-tongue?

Gurung

3. Where were you born and raised?

Nace village (moved to Khotro 15 years back)

4. Where were your parents born/raised?

Father born and raised in Nace.

Mother born and raised in Lamjung.

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?

SLC in Nepali

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 and Nepali to daughter in law.

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

Gurung and Nepali

11. Are your parents living now? What are/were their mother tongues? What language(s) did you use with them?

Mother and Father both passed away

Father: Nace Gurung

Mother: Lamjung 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 five. I am the second.

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 have 5 children

16. What language(s) do you speak with your spouse? With your children?
Gurung with husband; Gurung with children and Nepali with daughter in law.

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

18. What is your occupation? What language(s) do you use in your occupation?
I am a Teacher ,Hotel Owner and a Farmer ; I use Nepali language when I am teaching,
Nepali and English with tourists in Hotel and Gurung language in Agriculture

Subjective Contemporary

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

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

21. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
Tal to Khangsar

22. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
Bagarchhap, Chame, Thonce, Tilce.

23. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?
It is same as Gyalsumdo.

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

25. In which village in Manang do people speak exactly like you?

All villages have same varieties with few different words.

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

Tilce, Nace, Tace

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

All villages have same varieties with few different words.

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

Tilce, Nace, Tace (any of these three)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit (25%)

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 bit(25%).

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?

Just few words(5%).

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?

Just few words(5%).

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 Not at all

Tibetan Not at all

Nepali Fluent

English Somewhat

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 if Gurung speaking teacher is available.

45. If you want to get ahead financially, how useful is your mother tongue?
Not sure.

46. In your opinion, will your mother tongue still have children learners in future generations (using 30 years from now as a guidepost)?
If children will continue to go to the boarding school it will be endangered.

47. What can, or should, people do to keep your mother tongue spoken for future generations?
Teaching in mother tongue will keep Gurung language alive.

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.)?
It should have more than one language.

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)?