

Selected Individual Responses: Phu_F2

Interview carried out at Phu, Manang, Nepal

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

General and Personal Information

1. What is your name?
Karsang Omji
2. What is your age?
33
3. What is your mother-tongue?
Phu
4. From what clan are you?
Gurung, Lama.
5. What languages do you speak now in your regularly daily life?
Nepali, Phu, Gurung.
6. Where were you born and how long did you live there?
Born and lived all life in Phu.
7. Do you live in Kathmandu all year through?
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8. Does your whole immediate family live in Kathmandu?
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9. How frequently do you return to your village?
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10. How long do you stay in village?
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11. How often do you travel outside of your village?
Kathmandu, Pokhara sometimes.
12. Where do you typically go to, or for what purpose?
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13. Which months do you travel in, usually?
Cold months.

14. Are your parents living now?
Father living, Mother passed.
15. 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 Phu. Both speak Phu.
16. Do you have siblings? Are you the eldest, or the youngest, or are you in the middle?
1 younger sister.
17. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your siblings?
Only Phu.
18. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your friends?
Only Phu.
19. Are you married, and do you have children?
Married. 1 son, 1 daughter.
20. What languages do you speak with your spouse? With your children?
Phu and Nepali with husband because husband is Sherpa. Phu with son and Nepali with daughter.
21. Did you receive formal education as a child? In what language? Did you use any other language(s) at school?
No formal education.
22. How many years (what levels) of formal education did you receive, and where?
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23. 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?
Agriculture and Hotel. Uses Phu language.

Subjective Contemporary

24. In which village in Manang is Manange spoken regularly?
Braga, Manang, Ngawal, Ghyaru, Pisang, Tengki, Khangsar.
25. In which village in Manang is Nar-Phu spoken regularly?
Phu and Nar.
26. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
Thanchowk, Tace, Tilce, Otargaun, Gyalanchowk, Thonce, Taal.

27. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
Bagarchhap, Chame.

28. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?
Phu, Nar, Gyalsumdo people, Thanchowk, Taal.

29. In which village in Manang is Nepali spoken regularly?
Found everywhere.

30. In which village in Manang do people speak exactly like you?
Nar only.

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

32. In which village in Manang do people speak just a little bit differently from you?
No such place.

33. If somebody wants to learn your mother tongue, which village would be the best location for them to learn?
Phu is the best place, Kathmandu is okay.

34. 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 all.

35. 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?
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36. 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.

37. 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.

38. 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.

39. 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 all.

40. 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.

41. 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.

42. 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 a bit.

43. 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 all.

44. 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 all.

45. 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?
Understands all.

46. 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 all.

47. 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 a bit only.

48. 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?
Understands all.

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

Speaks well: Manange, Nar, Nepali
Speak a bit: Gurung, Gyalsumdo, English

50. In addition to your mother tongue, which language do you speak with other people who also speak your mother tongue?
Only Nepali with family and friends.

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?
It could be difficult, could be confusing.

51. Should local languages be an optional or compulsory subject?
Even as an optional subject could be difficult.

52. If you want to get ahead financially, how useful is language (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English)
Useful for business in local area.

53. In your opinion, these local languages (Manange, Gurung, Nar-Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English) will still have children learners?
Maybe they will not be able to. Not sure of future of Phu.

54. What can, or should, people do to keep (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo) spoken?
Parent should teach language to children.

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
Important.

57. Should Nepal have only one language for formal use?
Yes possibly.

58. Should children in your community be made (to force) to learn local language?
Yes, they should be.

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?
Different language in Manang.