

Selected Individual Responses: Pisang_MM2

Interview carried out on 24 June, 11:30 am Pisang VDC ward no 8, Manang, Nepal
Audio recording with Marantz PMD660 and Audio-Technica omnidirectional stereo hand-held microphone

General and Personal Information

1. What is your name?
Bhujung Gurung.
2. What is your age?
50
3. What is your mother-tongue?
Manange.
4. From what clan are you?
Gurung – caste, Lamichhane - clan.
5. What languages do you speak now in your regularly daily life?
More Ngisjang. Some Nepali.
6. Where were you born and how long did you live there?
Pisang VDC ward no 9.
7. Do you live in Kathmandu all year through?
Rarely.
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?
-
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. Which months do you travel in usually?
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14. Are your parents living now?
Mother alive and Father passed away.
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 Pisang. Both used to speak Ngisjang..
16. Do you have siblings? Are you the eldest, or the youngest, or are you in the middle?
2 brothers. He is younger.
17. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your siblings?
Ngisjang.
18. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your friends?
Ngisjang.
19. Are you married, and do you have children?
Married. 2 children
20. What languages do you speak with your spouse? With your children?
Ngisjang with wife. Ngisjang with children but some Nepali.
21. Did you receive formal education as a child? In what language? Did you use any other language(s) at school?
7 years. Nepali was the medium of instruction. Some English.
22. How many years (what levels) of formal education did you receive, and where?
Up to grade 7. Up to grade 4 in village. 3 years in Kathmandu.
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, Hotel. Ngisjang and Nepali depending on the context in agriculture.
Ngisjang, Nepali, English, Gurung in hotel.

Subjective Contemporary

24. In which village in Manang is Manange spoken regularly?
Pisang to Khangsar
25. In which village in Manang is Nar-Phu spoken regularly?
Nar and Phu
26. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
Thanchowk to Taal.

27. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
Chame, Bagarchhap.
28. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?
Gyalsumdo are Tibetan.
29. In which village in Manang is Nepali spoken regularly?
Chame.
30. In which village in Manang do people speak exactly like you?
Pisang and Braga. Ghyaru and Manang are similar.
31. In your opinion, in which villages is your own mother tongue spoken most purely?
In all VDCs.
Braga.
32. In which village in Manang do people speak just a little bit differently from you?
Pisang and Braga. Ghyaru and Manang are similar.
33. If somebody wants to learn your mother tongue, which village would be the best location for them to learn?
Manang.
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 10 -15%.
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?
Understands 10 -15%. Nar and Phu are similar.
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?
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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?
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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?
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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?
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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?

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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?

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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 15 -20%.

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 25 - 30%.

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 25 - 30%.

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 25 - 30%.

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 25 - 30%.

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 15 - 20%.

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 25 - 30%.

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

Fluently: Nepali, Ngisjang

Somewhat: Nar-phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo

A few words: English

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

Only Ngisjang.

51. 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 is useful in local context.

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

53. If you want to get ahead financially, how useful is language (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English)
Useful in local context. Otherwise not.

54. In your opinion, these local languages (Manange, Gurung, Nar-Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English) will still have children learners?
If they live in the village, they will speak. Otherwise not.

55. What can, or should, people do to keep (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo) spoken?
If the textbooks are developed, they will be useful.

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

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

58. Should Nepal have only one language for formal use?
Ngisjang should be used in offices.

59. Should children in your community be made (to force) to learn local language?
Does not have fixed idea.

60. Children should be able to decide which language they want to learn
Agree.

61. How do you feel about these questions?
Good.

62. In your opinion, is there only one language throughout all of Manang District, or are there several languages in Manang?
There are differences.