

Selected Individual Responses: Ngawal_F1_2013

Interview carried out at Ngawal, Manang, Nepal

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

General and Personal Information

1. What is your name?
Chongta Gurung.
2. What is your age?
48
3. What is your mother-tongue?
Manange.
4. From what clan are you?
Ghotra
5. What languages do you speak now in your regularly daily life?
Manange, a bit of Nepali.
6. Where were you born and how long did you live there?
Born and raised in Ngawal.
7. Do you live in Kathmandu all year through?
-
8. Does your whole immediate family live in Kathmandu?
-
9. How frequently do you return to your village?
-
10. How long do you stay in village?
-
11. How often do you travel outside of your village?
Sometimes travel to Kathmandu to meet people and get supplies.
12. Where do you typically go to, or for what purpose?
Sometimes travel to Kathmandu to meet people and get supplies.
13. Which months do you travel in, usually?
In cold season only.

14. Are your parents living now?
Both 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 Ngawal and both speak Manange.
16. Do you have siblings? Are you the eldest, or the youngest, or are you in the middle?
3 older brothers and 1 older sister.
17. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your siblings?
Manange only.
18. When you were a child, what languages did you speak with your friends?
Manange only.
19. Are you married, and do you have children?
Married. 1 son and 1 daughter.
20. What languages do you speak with your spouse? With your children?
Manange with spouse. Manange with children but difficult concepts in Nepali.
21. Did you receive formal education as a child? In what language? Did you use any other language(s) at school?
1 -2 grades only. Teacher spoke Nepali.
22. How many years (what levels) of formal education did you receive, and where?
In Ngawal village.
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/Farming and hotel work. Mainly Manange language, a bit of English and Nepali with visitors.

Subjective Contemporary

24. In which village in Manang is Manange spoken regularly?
Ngawal in all places.
25. In which village in Manang is Nar-Phu spoken regularly?
Ngawal, Braga, Ghyaru.
26. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
Lower Manang only.

27. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
Chame, Bagarchhap.
28. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?
Braga, Pisang.
29. In which village in Manang is Nepali spoken regularly?
In all villages.
30. In which village in Manang do people speak exactly like you?
Braga.
31. In your opinion, in which villages is your own mother tongue spoken most purely?
In Ngawal.
32. In which village in Manang do people speak just a little bit differently from you?
In Pisang and Big Manang village, Khangsar.
33. If somebody wants to learn your mother tongue, which village would be the best location for them to learn?
Any place.
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 little.
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 little.
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, even if a bit different.
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?
-
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 little.

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.

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 a little.

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 a little.

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 a little.

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 little.

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 a little.

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

Fluently: Manange

Speaks a bit: Nar, Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, English

Couple words: Gurung

Speaks: Nepali

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

Nepali sometimes with Ngawal Mananges.

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 would be difficult. They should study Nepali, English and Tibetan.

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

-

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

Not so useful.

54. In your opinion, these local languages (Manange, Gurung, Nar-Phu, Gyalsumdo, Tibetan, Nepali, English) will still have children learners?

They will use it.

55. What can, or should, people do to keep (Manange, Nar-Phu, Gurung, Gyalsumdo) spoken?

People should speak it with their children.

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

-

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

Yes. Important.

58. Should Nepal have only one language for formal use?

Local languages should have an official place.

59. Should children in your community be made (to force) to learn local language?

They should be forced.

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

-

61. How do you feel about these questions?

They are fine.

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

They are different across the district.