

Selected Individual Responses: Koto GM1

Interview carried out on Tuesday 12th June, 8:00 am, Koto 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?
35

2. What is your mother-tongue?
Gurung

3. Where were you born and raised?
Born and raised in Otargaun, Dharapani, moved to 10 years ago.

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

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 was used when he was quite young but he also used Nepali as he had friends from other communities.

8. Did you attend school as a child? If so, in what language(s) did you study?
+2, in Nepali

9. If you are married now, and if you have children, in what language(s) do you speak to your family?
Nepali to wife as she speaks the language spoken in upper Manang, Nepali to children

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 are alive
Father: Otargaun Gurung

Mother:Otargaun 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 was used when he was quite young but he also used Nepali as he had friends from other communities.

15. And now? Are you married and do you have children?
Married and have 1 children

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

17. Did you receive formal education as a child? In what language(s)?
I was educated up to +2; I studied in Nepali

18. What is your occupation? What language(s) do you use in your occupation?
I am a Teacher ; I use Nepali language when I am teaching.

Subjective Contemporary

19. In which village in Manang is Manange spoken regularly?
Pisang and up

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

21. In which village in Manang is Gurung spoken regularly?
Thanchowk, Otar, Nace, Tace

22. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?
From Chame to all down to Tal

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?
Nace, Gyerang

26. In your opinion, in which villages is your own mother tongue spoken most purely?
It's hard to say

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

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 a little bit(40%)

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 better than Nar Phu because he also lives in this area

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 when they speak Gurung but understands only 60% when they speak Tibetan.

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 completely when they speak Gurung but understands only 60% when they speak Tibetan.

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 Somewhat

Nar-Phu Somewhat

Gurung Fluent

Gyalsumdo Somewhat

Tibetan Don't know

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?

Perhaps not in Chame but in other village it could be used as optional subject

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

Local languages are useful for local business

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

It will continue

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

They should use the language and teach the children.

48. Is your mother tongue important for education?

It is very important for local language in local context.

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 is no alternative.

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

They should not be forced but they should be encouraged to keep their culture.

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