

Selected Individual Responses: Tilce GM1

Interview carried out on Friday 20th July, 1:30 pm, Tilce 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?
34
2. What is your mother-tongue?
Gurung
3. Where were you born and raised?
Tilce village
4. Where were your parents born/raised?
Father born and raised in Tilce
Mother born and raised in Thace, Lamjung District.
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?
+2, 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
10. What language(s) do you now use in your everyday life?
Gurung for farming and Nepali for teaching
11. Are your parents living now? What are/were their mother tongues? What language(s) did you use with them?
Mother is alive and Father passed away
Father: Tilche 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 third of six

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 no children

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

Gurung with wife

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 and Farmer ; I use both Nepali and Gurung language for the kids from kindergarten to grade 4. For the kids from grade 5 onwards I use and make them using Nepali language and for farming I use Gurung language

Subjective Contemporary

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

Upper Manang from Pisang

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

Nar-Phu and couple of families in Koto

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

Lower Manang(Chame VDC, Thache-Bagarchhap VDC , Dharapani, Thoce VDC)

22. In which village in Manang is Gyalsumdo spoken regularly?

Gyalsumdo is not a language, a group of people is called Gyalsumdo

23. In which village in Manang is Tibetan spoken regularly?

Don't Know

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

Trekking route

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

Dharapani, Tilce, Thace, Nache, otar mostly similar but not a single village sounds exactly like another village

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

27. In which villages in Manang do people speak just a little bit differently from you?
Each village has its own variation

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

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?
Just few words

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?
Few words

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?
Very few words less than Nar Phu

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?
Very few words

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?
Very few words

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?
Very few words

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?
Very few words

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?
Very few words

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 somewhat

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?

Understands somewhat

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 Somewhat

Tibetan Understands somewhat

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

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

Not so helpful

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?
School should add as an optional subject so that it will be helpful to make more vital

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.)?
They should use Gurung as an alternative language for the people who doesn't know Nepali

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)?
There are many languages of and in Manang