

ENGLISH AND LIMBU CONSONANT SOUNDS

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English
Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang
in Partial Fulfillment for Masters Degree in Education**

**Submitted by
Hari Chandra Lawati**

**Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
2009**

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**Submitted by
Hari Chandra Lawati
Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Nepal**

**T.U. Reg. No. 22912-86
Second Year Exam Roll No. 2140101**

**Date of Approval of Thesis
Proposal : 2065.06.04
Date Of Submission :2066.05.22**

DECLARATION

I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge that this thesis is original. No part of it was submitted for the candidature of research to any university.

Hari Chandra Lawati

Date : 2066.05.20

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that Mr. Hari Chandra Lawati has prepared this thesis entitled **English and Limbu Consonant Sounds** under my guidance and supervision .

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

Date :- 2066.05.22

Shankar Dewan
Asst. Lecturer
Department of English Education
Sukuna Multiple Campus,
Morang, Nepal

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been evaluated and approved by the following Thesis Evaluation Committee.

Guru Prasad Adhikari

Asst. Lecturer and Head

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang

Signature

Chairperson

Mr. Shankar Dewan (Guide)

Asst. Lecturer

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang

Member

Mr. Nara Prasad Bhandari

Asst. Lecturer

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang

Member

Date: - 2066.05.24

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to
my inspirer father,
Late Prithi Prasad Lawati
and
to my creator mother,
Late Ran Maya Ningleku (Lawati)
Who
sacrificed their whole life in making me, what I am today.

-Hari Chandra Lawati

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-Hari Chandra Lawati

ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled **English and Limbu Consonant Sounds** mainly explores comparative investigation on consonant sounds between English and Limbu showing their similarities and differences and how and why Limbu speakers commit errors while using second language like English and Nepali. In course of writing this thesis, thirty-five informants were consulted. Some were Limbu English teachers and some were well known Limbu authors. They were contacted, met and discussed in order to collect primary sources of data. Apart from this, various kinds of articles, journals, magazines, Limbu books along with doctorate dissertation, and source books were consulted as secondary sources of data. The selected informants were visited and they were given the set of questionnaires to answer. According to the study, it is found that Limbu and English consonant sounds are different in many ways. Limbu consonant sounds are mainly of two types: phonemic and allophonic. More interestingly, the study of sounds, on the one hand, shows how phonemic consonant sounds become allophonic consonant sounds under certain environment and this, on the other hand, creates differences in pronunciation and understanding. The conflicts between the prevailing or recognized and proposed Limbu sound symbols are shown and analyzed here. The conflicts are seen mainly in consonant sounds and phonic symbols.

The study consists of four chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction (general background, review of related literature, objectives of the study, significance of the study and definition of the related terms). Chapter two incorporates methodology, which reveals how the research was carried out. It includes sources of data, population of the study, sampling procedure, research tool, process of data collection and limitation of the study. Chapter three deals with analysis and interpretation. It includes an analysis of Limbu Consonants, distribution of English and Limbu consonants, phonic symbols, three term description, minimal pairs, comparison of English and Limbu consonants, fundamental rules for pronouncing Limbu consonants, the principle of contrast and complementation, changes, inclusions and debates. Chapter four shows the findings and recommendations. It also deals with pedagogical implications.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Allophonic Consonants
AS	Aspirated Stops
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDC	Curriculum Development Center
ibid	In the same book or piece of writing as the one that has just been mentioned
LNED	Limbu Nepali English Dictionary
NC	Nasal Consonants
OALD	Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary
PC	Phonemic Consonants
RHWD	Random House Webster's Dictionary
US	Unaspirated Stops
V	Vowels
Vd	Voiced
VI	Voiceless

SYMBOLS

+	presence
-	absence
→/⇒	becomes/changes into
()	optional sound or letter or word
=	is the same as
[]	inclusion of phones

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