TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Conditional Sentences in English and Maithili Languages: A Comparative Study

A Thesis Submitted to

Central Department of English in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Master of Arts in English

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

Pradip Kumar Yadav

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

2010

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Central Department of English

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

It is certified	hat Mr. Pradip Kumar Yadav has prepared this thesis entitled
"Conditional Sente	ces in English and Maithili Languages: A Comparative Study''
under my supervision	. I recommend this thesis for approval to the Research Committee.

Mr. Dev Narayan Yadav
Supervisor
Tribhuvan University
Kiritpur

Date:

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Central Department of English

LETTER OF APPROVAL

This thesis entitled "Conditional Sentences in English and Maithili

Languages: A Comparative Study" by Mr. Pradip Kumar Yadav submitted to the

Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, has been approved by the

undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research (<u>Committee</u>	
		Internal Examiner
		External Examiner
		Head
		Central Department of English Kirtipur, Kathmandu
Date:		. /

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to my thesis supervisor Mr. Dev Narayan Yadav, Reader in English, Patan Multiple campus, Patan Dhoka, Latitpur for his kind guidance and invaluable suggestions which proved a boon to me for the preparation of this thesis.

I am also grateful to Dr. Ama Raj Joshi, the central Department of English, Kirtipur for providing me an opportunity to research on the present thesis.

Besides, I am heartily indebted to Prof. Dr. Yogendra Prasad Yadava, the former Head of the Central Department of Linguistics for his continuous encouragement, support and valuable suggestions in the development of this thesis.

I express my deep gratitude to my parents Mr. Gauri Shankar Yadav and Mrs. Mansir Devi Yadav and my eldest brother Mr. Dilip Kumar Yadav and eldest sister-in-law Mrs. Rinku Kumari Yadav who contributed a lot to make me what I am today.

I am also thankful to Mr. Ganga Ram Yadav and Mr. Ram Kishor Mahato for their invaluable assistance.

Finally, I would like to express my special thanks to all the members of Friend Computer Service for neat and clear type and print.

Pradip Kumar Yadav

ABSTRACT

Maithili belongs to the Eastern sub-group within the Indo-Aryan language family. Along with other Indo-Aryan language of India, such as Hindi, Gujarati or Marathi, it descends ultimately from an old Indo-Aryan (n) speech represented by the oral/written documents of Sanskrit. The relationship of Maithili to other Indo-Aryan languages is a subject of considerable scholarly debate. Maithili is that branch of the Indo-Aryan languages, which is spoken in Nepal and India and is the cultural and literary language of the country since long. English is an international language which is a common lingua Franca as well. It has played a crucial role in international communication of thoughts, ideas and sentiments. It is spoken as a first, second and foreign language all over the world.

This work entitled Conditional Sentences in English and Maithili attempts to describe the conditional sentences in both languages along with their kinds, syntactic structures, their semantics, and their uses.

The thesis consists of six chapters. The first chapter gives the introduction of both English and Maithili languages. It also gives an outline of the entire study. The second and third chapters are the focal point of this dissertation which deal with conditional sentences in English and Maithili, respectively. The fourth chapters deals with the similarities and dissimilarities, between English and Maithili in terms of conditional sentence formation. The fifth chapter deals with the pedagogical implication of both languages. The sixth and the last chapter summarize the whole thesis and presents a brief conclusion.

CONTENTS

			Page No.
Lette	r OF Red	commendation	
Lette	r of App	roval	
Ackr	nowledg	rement	
Abst	ract		
Cont	ents		
Abbı	eviation	ns	
CHA	PTER	ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-10
	1.1	General Background	1
	1.1.1	An Introduction to the English Language	3
	1.1.2	An Introduction to the Maithili Language	4
	1.1.3	Maithili: Its Speakers and Linguistic Boundaries	5
	1.1.4	Grammar and its importance	6
1.2	Statement of Problems 7		7
1.3	Objectives of the Study 7		
1.4	Significance of the Study 7		7
1.5	Literature Review 8		8
1.6	Resea	Research Methodology	
	1.6.1	Source of Data	9
	1.6.2	Tools for Data Collection	9
	1.6.3	Processes of Data Collection	10
1.7	Limita	ations of the Study	10
CHA	PTER	TWO: CONDITIONAL SENTENCES IN ENGLISH	11-44
2.1	Introduction 1		11
2.2	Form	ences 14	
	2.2.1	Other syntactic Details	17
2.3	Classification of Conditional Sentences		19
	2.3.1	Conditionals: Summary	30
	2.3.2	Conditional Sentences: Real and Unreal	31

2.4	The Meaning of Conditional Sentences: A Semantic Overview		
	2.4.1	Factual Conditional Sentences	34
	2.4.2	Future or Predictive Conditional Sentences	37
	2.4.3	Imaginative Conditional Sentences	37
	2.4.4	Summary	38
2.5	Some	other meaning distinctions: Conditional and related conne	ctors 40
	2.5.1	Only If and Unless	40
	2.5.2	"Even Though and Even If"	40
	2.5.3	"Whether or not"	41
	2.5.4	Related Verbs : hope and wish	41
2.6	The F	requency of Conditional Sentences	24
2.7	Uses	of conditional Sentences	44
CHA	APTER	THREE: CONDITIONAL SENTENCES IN MAITHE	LI45-52
3.1	Introd	uction	45
	3.1.1	Conditional Sentence Structures	45
	3.1.2	Person and honorability	46
3.2	Types	of Conditional Sentence in the Maithili Language	49
CHA	APTER	FOUR: SIMILARITIES AND DISSIMILARITIES BE	ETWEEN
ENG	GLISH A	AND MAITHILI IS TERMS OF THE CONDITIONAL	
SEN	TENCI	E FORMATION	53-59
4.1	Introd	uction	53
4.2	The S	imilarities and Dissimilarities	54
	4.2.1	Similarities	54
	4.2.2	Dissimilarities	57
CHA	APTER	FIVE: PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATION	60-61
CHA	APTER	SIX: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	62-64
5.1	Summ	nary	62
6.2	Concl	usion	63
Wor	ks Cite	d	65

ABBERVIATONS

1st First Person

2 H Second Person Honorific

2MH Second Person Mid-Honorific

2nd Second person

3H Third Person Honorific

3MN Third Person Mid-Honorific

3NH Third Person Non-Honorific

3rd Third Person

AA Adverbial Adjunct

AD Adverbial Disjunct

Adv. Sub Adverbial Sub-ordinator

Aux. Auxiliary

C Connector

COND Condition

Conj. Conjunction

DC Dative Complement

DO Direct Object

EFL English as a Foreign Language

ELT English Language Teaching

EMPH Emphatic Marker

EX Exclamation

FUT Future Tense

H Honorific

IA Instrument Adjunct

IMP Imperative

Intr. Intransitive verb

LA Locative Adjunct

LC Locative Complement

MO Modal Auxiliary

NESP National Education System Plan

NP Noun Phrase

Obj object

OC Object Complement

PAST Past Tense

PERF Perfect Tense

Pl Plural

Perp. Preposition

PRES Present Tense

S Sentence

SM Sentence Modifier

Subj. Subject

T Tense

Tr Transitive

V Verb

VP Verb Phrase.