

**SPEECH ACTS IN ENGLISH AND KALIKOTE DIALECT  
OF NEPALI**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by  
Bhesh Bahadur Shahi**

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

**2015**

**SPEECH ACTS IN ENGLISH AND KALIKOTE DIALECT  
OF NEPALI**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by  
Bhesh Bahadur Shahi**

**Faculty of Education  
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur  
Kathmandu Nepal  
2015**

**T. U. Reg. No:-9-2-57-725-2007**

**Second Year Examination**

**Roll No:-280402/069**

**Date of Approval of the Thesis**

**Proposal:-12 August, 2014**

**Date of Submission:-2 February, 2015**

## **RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE**

This to certify that **Mr. Bhesh Bahadur Shahi** has prepared the thesis entitled **Speech Acts in English and Kalikote Dialect of Nepali** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date:- 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2015

---

**Mr. Khem Raj Joshi**

(Supervisor)

Teaching Assistant

Department of English Education

Faculty of Education

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Nepal

## RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been recommended for evaluation from the following **Research Guidance Committee:**

**Signature**

**Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**

---

Reader and Head

Chairperson

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

**Mr. Khem Raj Joshi** (Supervisor)

---

Teaching Assistant

Member

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

**Mr. Resham Acharya**

---

Teaching Assistant

Member

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

Date:- 12 August, 2014

## EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

**Signature**

**Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**

\_\_\_\_\_

Reader and Head

Chairperson

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

**Dr. Anju Giri**

\_\_\_\_\_

Professor

Member

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

**Mr. Khem Raj Joshi** (Supervisor)

\_\_\_\_\_

Teaching Assistant

Member

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

Date:- 4 February, 2015

## **DECLARATION**

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

---

**Bhesh Bahadur Shahi**

Date:- 28 January, 2015

# **DEDICATION**

Dedicated  
to  
My Parents

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am greatly indebted to my thesis supervisor **Mr. Khem Raj Joshi**, Teaching Assistant of the Department of English Education, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, who guided me throughout the study. Actually, I have no words to extend my sincere gratitude for his patience, kindness, proper guidance, supervision, valuable suggestion, co-operation and relentless encouragements throughout my research work.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to **Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**, Reader and Head of the Department of English Education for her administrative, academic help and constructive suggestions in doing this research.

Likewise, I am thankful to **Mr. Resham Acharya**, Teaching Assistant of the Department of English Education, Tribhuvan University for his constructive and positive suggestions as a member of proposal viva committee.

Similarly, I am grateful to **Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Prof. Dr. Chandreshwor Mishra, Prof. Dr. Anju Giri, Prof. Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan, Mr. Raj Narayan Yadav, Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokheral, Mrs. Madhu Naupane, Mrs. Hima Rawal, Mrs. Sarswati Dawadi, Mr. Ashok Sapkota, Mr. Laxmi Prasad Ojha, Mr. Guru Prasad Poudel** and other members of the Department of English Education, T.U., Kirtipur for their invaluable and inspirational lectures.

My heartily appreciation goes to all the respondents of the Kalikote dialect for their co-operation without their support I would not be able to complete this research.

I would like to remember all my friends, family, relatives who supported and encouraged me throughout the entire endeavor.

Date:- 30 January, 2015

**Bhesh Bahadur Shahi**



## **ABSTRACT**

This research is entitled “Speech Acts in English and Kalikote Dialect of Nepali”. The main objective of the study was to identify and compare the exponents of speech acts in Kalikote and English. For this study, I took sample of forty native speakers from the Kalikot district. The informants were selected using purposive non-random sampling procedure. The responses from the native speakers were collected through questionnaires and unstructured interview. The study was entirely based on both primary and secondary sources. However, the secondary sources were used for collecting data for speech acts in English. The speech acts translated by the Kalikote native speakers were coded for analysis and interpretations. The researcher came to the conclusion that the English illocutionary speech acts translated by the Kalikote native speakers were different than that of Kalikote speech acts in many situations. The English speech acts are more formal than their Kalikote speech acts while analyzing the translated speech acts. Similarly, English speech acts are more indirect and polite than the Kalikote speech acts.

This study is divided into five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction of the thesis. It includes background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study and operational definitions of the key terms. Chapter two consists of the review of theoretical literature, review of empirical literature, implications for the review of the study and conceptual framework. Chapter three deals with the methodology applied to carry out the research under which design of the study, population and sampling strategy, data collection tools, data collection procedures, analysis and interpretation procedures are presented. Chapter four presents the analysis and interpretations of the data and summary of findings. Finally, the chapter five incorporates conclusions, recommendations, references and appendices.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page No.</b>
<i>Declaration</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Recommendation for Acceptance</i>	<i>ii</i>
<i>Recommendation for Evaluation</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Evaluation and Approval</i>	<i>iv</i>
<i>Dedication</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>vi</i>
<i>Abstract</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Table of Contents</i>	<i>viii</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>Abbreviations</i>	<i>xii</i>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-5</b>
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	3
1.3 Objectives of the Study	4
1.4 Research Questions	4

1.5 Significance of the Study	4
1.6 Delimitations of the Study	5
1.7 Operational Definitions of the Key Terms	5

## **CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

7-23

2.1 Review of the Theoretical Literature	7
2.1.1 Ethnography of Speaking	7
2.1.2 Speech Act Theory: An Overview	10
2.1.3 Speech Acts and Events	12
2.1.4 Classification of Speech Acts	13
2.1.5 Direct Speech Acts and Indirect Speech Acts	16
2.1.6 Politeness and Indirect Speech Acts	18
2.2 Review of the Empirical Literature	19
2.3 Implication of the Review for the Study	21
2.4 Conceptual Framework	23

## **CHAPTER THREE: METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY**

25 -27

3.1 Design of the Study	25
-------------------------	----

3.2 Population and Sampling	26
3.3 Sampling Procedure	26
3.4 Data Collection Tools	27
3.5 Data Collection Procedure	27
3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedures	27
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS</b>	<b>28-45</b>
4.1 Analysis of Data and Interpretations of the Results	28
4.1.1 Assertive Forms	28
4.1.2 Directive Forms	30
4.1.3 Commissive Forms	32
4.1.4 Expressive Forms	33
4.1.5 Declarative Forms	35
4.1.6 Comparison of the Speech Acts in Kalikote and English Language	37
4.1.6.1 Similarities Between the Speech Acts in Kalikote and English	37
4.1.6.2 Differences Between the speech Acts in Kalikote and English	41
4.1.6.3 Politeness in English and Kalikote Speech Acts	44

4.1.6.4 Direct and Indirect Speech Acts in Kalikote and English	45
4.2 Summary of Findings	45
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>47-51</b>
5.1 Conclusions	47
5.1.1 Speech Acts of Kalikote Dialect	47
5.1.2 Similarities Between the Kalikote and English Speech Acts	48
5.1.3 Differences Between Kalikote and English Speech Acts	49
5.2 Recommendations	50
5.2.1 Policy Level Implication	51
5.2.2 Practice Level Implication	51
5.2.3 Implication for Further Research	51

## **References**

## **Appendices**

## LIST OF TABLES

	<b>Page No.</b>
Table No. 1    Function of Speech Acts	16
Table No. 2    The Assertive Forms of KD and EL	37
Table No. 3    The Directive Forms of KD and EL	38
Table No. 4    The Commissive Forms of KD and EL	39
Table No. 5    The Expressive Forms of KD and EL	40
Table No. 6    The Declarative Forms of KD and EL	40
Table No. 7    The Assertive Forms of KD and EL	41
Table No. 8    The Directive Forms of KD and EL	42
Table No. 9    The Commissive Forms of KD and EL	42
Table No. 10   The Expressive Forms of KD and EL	43
Table No. 11   The Declarative Forms of KD and EL	44

## ABBREVIATIONS

Dr.	Doctor
DSA	Direct speech Acts
Eds.	Editors
EL	English Language
ESA	English Speech Acts
etc.	Etcetera
e.g.	For example
i.e.	That is
I.Ed.	Intermediate of Education
ISA	Indirect Speech Acts
KD	Kalikote Dialect
KSA	Kalikote Speech Acts
M.Ed.	Masters of Education
Mr.	Mister
Mrs.	Mistress
n.d.	No Date
No.	Number

P.	Page
Prof.	Professor
S	Speaker
T.U.	Tribhuvan University
VDC	Village Development Committee
X	Situations