# KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF LEARNER-CENTERED TECHNIQUE: A CASE OF NOVICE TEACHERS

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

Submitted by

### **Birendra Bahadur Chand**

Faculty of Education Tribhuvan University Kirtipur, Kathmandu Nepal 2015

# KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF LEARNER-CENTERED TECHNIQUE: A CASE OF NOVICE TEACHERS

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

Submitted by

**Birendra Bahadur Chand** 

Faculty of Education Tribhuvan University Kirtipur, Kathmandu Nepal 2015

# KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF LEARNER-CENTERED TECHNIQUE: A CASE OF NOVICE TEACHERS

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

Submitted by

**Birendra Bahadur Chand** 

Faculty of Education Tribhuvan University Kirtipur, Kathmandu Nepal 2015

T.U. Regd. No.: 9-2-329-188-2007 Campus Roll No. 1913 2nd Year Exam Roll No.280347/069 Date of Approval of the Thesis Proposal: 2071/06/01 Date of Submission: 02-01-2015

### **RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE**

This is to certify that **Mr. Birendra Bahadur Chand** has prepared this thesis entitled **"Knowledge and Practice of Learner-Centered Technique: A Case of Novice Teachers"** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

Date: 02-01-2015

Mrs. Madhu Neupane (Supervisor)

Lecturer

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

### **RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION**

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

Signature

#### Dr. Anjana Bhattarai

Reader and Head

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Mrs Madhu Neupane (Supervisor)

Lecturer

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

#### Mr. Guru Prasad Poudel

**Teaching Assistant** 

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

### Date:

Member

Member

Chairperson

### **EVALUATION AND APPROVAL**

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

Signature

### Dr. Anjana Bhattarai

Reader and Head Department of English Education T.U. Kirtipur, Kathmandu Chairperson

Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan Professor Department of English Education T. U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

#### Mrs Madhu Neupane (Supervisor)

Lecturer Department of English Education T.U. Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Date: 07-01-2015

Member

Member

### DECLARATION

I hereby declare, 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.

Date: 01-01-2015

**Birendra Bahadur Chand** 

# **DEDICATION**

Dedicated

to

my parents who spent their whole life to make me what I am today.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to extend my gratitude to a number of people who have made significant contributions to the completion of this research work. First of all, I would like to acknowledge and thank my supervisor **Mrs. Madhu Neupane** who helped me from the beginning to the end by providing her valuable time, different kinds of ideas, techniques and information necessary for carrying out this research work on time. Her encouragement, co-operation, constructive suggestions are ever memorable.

I cannot forget my guruma **Dr. Anjana Bhattarai** who suggested me very much in this research work. I always remember her invaluable suggestions and encouragement. Likewise, my gratitude goes to **Mr. Guru Prasad Poudel** for his constructive suggestion and co-operation in course of carrying out this research work. Similarly, I would like to extend my profound gratitude to my guru **Prof. Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan** for his invaluable suggestion and co-operation for the completion of this work on time.

I am highly indebted to my gurus **Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Prof. Dr. Trith Raj Khaniya, Prof. Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra, Prof. Dr. Vishnu S. Rai,** and **Prof. Dr. Tara Datta Bhatta** for their regular inspiration and enthusiastic encouragement in my academic life.

Similarly, I would like to express my gratitude to **Dr. Tapasi Bhattacharya, Mr. Raj Narayan Yadav, Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel, Mrs Hima Rawal, Mrs. Saraswati Dawadi, Mr. Khem Raj Joshi** and **Mr. Laxmi Ojha** for their direct and indirect encouragement and valuable academic support.

Likewise, a similar note of thanks goes to **Ms. Yasoda Chand, Mr. Lokendra Chand, Mr. Dambar Chand, Mr. Santosh Chand, Ms. Archana Chand, Mr. Suman Chand** and whole my family members for providing me support in writing this thesis.

Similarly, I would like to thank **Mrs. Madhavi Khanal** and **Ms. Nabina Shrestha** for their kind support in library work.

At last but not the least, I would like to thank **Mr. Durka Man Maharjan** of Durka Computer System, Kirtipur, Naya Bazar for his computer setting and printing.

#### **Birendra Bahadur Chand**

#### ABSTRACT

The present research study entitled "Knowledge and Practice of Learner-Centered Technique: A Case of Novice Teachers" aimed to explore the novice teachers' knowledge and their practice on learner-centered techniques based on learners' individual differences, teaching context, instruction and evaluation technique and warming up activities used in the classroom. To meet the objectives of this research study, I purposively selected 20 secondary level novice English teachers from 20 schools of Kathmandu valley. Twenty secondary level schools were selected as sample for this study. One novice teacher from each school was selected for this study. Novice teachers' theoretical knowledge on learner-centered techniques based on learners' individual differences, teaching context, instruction and evaluation technique and warm up activities were explored through the help of open-ended and closed-ended questions and in order to find out their procedural or practical knowledge teachers were observed in their classroom. For this purpose questionnaire and classroom observation checklist were used as research tools. Findings of the study showed that there was not coordination between novice teacher's theoretical knowledge on learner-centered techniques and classroom performance. I found contradiction between the data collected from questionnaire and classroom observation checklist.

This thesis is organized into five chapters. The first chapter deals with the background of the topic, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study and operational definition of the key terms. The second chapter includes review of related theoretical literature, review of related empirical literature, implication of the review for the study and conceptual framework. The third chapter covers all the areas of methodology. Likewise, the fourth chapter presents the analysis and interpretation of results and the fifth chapter includes conclusions and recommendations followed by references and appendices.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Declaration					
Recommendation for Acceptance					
Recommendation for Evaluation					
Evaluation and Approval					
Dedication					
Acknowledgements					
Abstract					
Table of Contents					
List o	of Table	S	xii		
List o	of Symbo	ols and Abbreviations	xiii		
CHA	PTER	ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-6		
1.1	Background of the Study				
1.2	Statement of the Problem 3				
1.3	Objectives of the Study				
1.4	Research Questions 2				
1.5	Significance of the Study 5				
1.6	Delimitations of the Study 6				
1.7	Operational Definition of the Key Terms				
CHA	PTER	TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND			
		CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	7-31		
2.1	Revie	w of Related Theoretical Literature	7		
	2.1.1	English Language Teaching	7		
	2.1.2	Language Teaching: Approach, Method and Technique	9		
	2.1.3	Language Teaching Techniques	11		
		2.1.3.1 Teacher-centered Techniques	11		
		2.1.3.2 Learner-centered Techniques	13		
	2.1.4	Novice Teacher: An Introduction	19		
	2.1.5	Differences Between Novice and Expert Teachers	20		

	2.1.6 An Introduction to Teachers' Knowledge	22	
2.2	Review of Related Empirical Literature 2		
2.3	Implications of the Review for the Study 29		
2.4	Conceptual Framework		
CHA	<b>APTER THREE: METHODS AND PROCEDURES</b>		
	OF THE STUDY	32-35	
3.1	Design and Method of the Study	32	
3.2	Population, Sample and Sampling Strategies 34		
3.3	Study Area/Field 34		
3.4	Data Collection Tools and Techniques35		
3.5	Data Collection Procedure35		
3.6	Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedure33		
CHA	PTER FOUR: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION		
	OF RESULTS	36-45	
4.1	Results	36	
4.2	Analysis and Interpretation of Data 37		
	4.2.1 Analysis of Data Collected through Questionnaire and		
	Classroom Observation Checklist	38	
	4.2.1.1 Novice Teachers' Knowledge on Learner-centered		
	Techniques	38	
	4.2.1.2 Activities Used in the Initiation of Class	39	
	4.2.1.3 Teaching Techniques mostly Used in the Classroom	41	
	4.2.1.4 Techniques Used for Students' Participation and		
	Communicative Competence	42	
	4.2.1.5 Knowledge on Learner-centered Techniques and		
	Context Sensitivity	43	
	4.2.1.6 Problems Faced by Novice Teachers in the		
	Implementation of Learner-centered Techniques	44	
	4.2.1.7 Instruction and Evaluation Techniques Used in the		
	Classroom	44	

### **CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 46-48**

Conclusions		
Recommendation		
5.2.1 Policy Related	47	
5.2.2 Practice Related	48	
5.2.3 Further Related	48	
	Recommendation5.2.1Policy Related5.2.2Practice Related	

#### REFERENCE

#### APPENDICES

## LIST OF TABLES

 Table No. 1: Activities Used in the Initiation of Class

41

## LIST OF THE SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

%	-	Percentage
ALM	-	Audio-lingual Method
DM	-	Direct Method
NA	-	Natural Approach
ELT	-	English Language Teaching
СТ	-	Culture Teaching
T.U.	-	Tribhuvan University
No.	-	Number
$L_2$	-	Second Language
e.g.	-	Example
FL	-	Foreign Language
CLT	-	Communicative Language Teaching
EFL	-	English as a Foreign Language
M.Ed	-	Master Degree in Education
CUP	-	Cambridge University Press
OUP	-	Oxford University Press