

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENGLISH AND NEPALI IDIOMS**

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

**Submitted by**

**Padam Bahadur Basnet**

**Exam Roll No.: 2140166/ 2071**

**Academic year: 2071**

**Faculty of Education**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang, Nepal**

**2018**

# **A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENGLISH AND NEPALI IDIOMS**

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

**Submitted by  
Padam Bahadur Basnet**

**Faculty of Education  
Tribhuvan University  
Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang, Nepal  
2018**

**T. U. Regd. No.:9-2-833-11-2009  
Second Year Examination  
Roll No.:2140166/2071  
Academic year: 2071**

**Date of Approval of the  
Thesis Proposal: 2074/9/28  
Date of Submission: 2074/12/25**

## RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr. Padam Bahadur Basnet** has prepared the thesis entitled "A Comparative Study of English and Nepali Idioms" under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date: 2074/12/22

.....

**Mr. Shankar Dewan (Supervisor)**

Lecturer

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus

Sundarharaincha, Morang

## RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been recommended for evaluation by the following **Research Guidance Committee.**

**Signature**

**Mr. Guru Prasad Adhikari**

.....

Lecturer and Head

**Chairperson**

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus

Sundarharaincha, Morang

**Mr. Shankar Dewan(Supervisor)**

.....

Lecturer

**Member**

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus

Sundarharaincha, Morang

**Mr. BasuDev Dahal**

.....

Lecturer

**Member**

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus

Sundarharaincha, Morang

Date: 2074/12/22

## EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

### **Approval Committee.**

**Signature**

**Mr. Guru Prasad Adhikari**

.....

Lecturer and Head

Chairperson

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus

Sundarharaincha, Morang

**Rishi Ram Rijal, Ph.D.**

.....

Associate Professor

External Expert

Department of Education

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

**Mr. Shankar Dewan(Supervisor)**

.....

Lecturer

member

Department of English

Sukuna Multiple Campus

Sundarharaincha, Morang

Date: 2074/12/22

## **DECLARATION**

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

**Date: 2074/12/22**

.....

**Padam Bahadur Basnet**

**Dedication**

**Dedicated**

**To**

**Specially my mother, friends and whole family.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would to extend my sincere gratitude to **Mr. Shankar Dewan**, my thesis Guide, lecturer of Sukuna multiple campus for his incessant inspiring and learned Guidance to complete this research study. Any expression of appreciation would be insufficient for his noble guidance and kidney co-operation during the Preparation of this thesis.

I am very grateful to **Mr. Guru Prasad Adhikari**, Head, the department of English Education for his guidance and invaluable inspiration to carry out this research.

I am especially in indebted to prominent personality, the external expert for the Evaluation and approval of this thesis Rishi Ram Rijal for going to through this thesis for the evaluation purpose and approving it with invaluable suggestion for the preparation of this final form

Similarly, I would to express my gratitude to Campus Chief.**Mr. Prem Prasad Bhattarai** Sukuna multiple campus for his valuable suggestion. In the same way the credit goes to campus chief of Mr. Pit Kumar Shrestha, Sukuna multiple campus for his encouragement and suggestion.

I would to express my gratitude to **Basudev Dahal, Mr, Nara prasad Bhandari** for his recommended preparedthisthesis.

I would like to thank my best friend **Dil Maya Basnet, Prasant Basnet, Gan Bahadur Khatri and Hari Thapa** as well as who helps me formally and informally writing in this thesis.

My sincere gratitude goes to my family members, colleagues and all my well-wishers who directly and indirectly helped me on the completion of this thesis.

Finally, I am very grateful to the authors Ayto and Ghimire whose books I use for collection idioms.



## ABSTRACT

The entitled of this thesis "**A Comparative Study of English and Nepali Idioms**" tries to analyze the equivalent idioms of English and Nepali language and their Structure. In the process of this study, both the primary and secondary sources were involved. A set of questionnaire was developed for the group of teachers, as primary sources. "Nepali Ukhan Tukkako Sangraha" by Chandika Prasad Ghimire and "Oxford English Idioms" by John Ayto were consulted to collect the data. Beside the researcher reviewed some of the recent studies on the attitude, journals and the book of the different publication for the reference of the analysis. Among, 144 to English idiom<sup>23</sup> English idioms were perfectly equivalent, semi equivalent were 20 and 51 were nil equivalent and 50 are Nepali idioms respectively. Though idioms were found to be powerful tool in communicative language teaching, they have not been involved in the ELT text book of Nepal.

This thesis is divided in five chapters. The first chapter deals with the general background language in general and English language and idioms in special. This chapter deals with the linguistic situation of Nepal, English language, translation, translation culture, introduction to idioms, statement problem, objective of the study and delimitations. The second chapter deals with the reviews of the related literature and conceptual framework. Nine reviews of related literature are presented in chronological order. After this, implication of the review for the study is presented establishes the research in context. Theoretical framework is presented at the end of the second chapter. The third chapter describes the method and procedures of the study. It deals with the design of the study which is strategy for conducting the research. A set of questioner is prepare for the interviewing three teachers, and consulted the books. The forth chapter presents result and discussion. It analyses and interprets the tabulated data. Analysis is presented by the study population and conclusion drawn every topic or tabulation. The fifth chapter deals with the summary, conclusion and implications.

## TABLE OF CONTENT

	<b>Page No.</b>
<i>Declaration</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>ii</i>
<i>Recommendation for Evaluation</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Evaluation and approval</i>	<i>iv</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>Abstract</i>	<i>vi</i>
<i>Table of Contents</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>Acronyms and Abbreviations</i>	<i>x</i>

### CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 General background	1
1.1.1 Language Families in Nepal	2
1.1.2 The English Language	4
1.1.3 Linguistic Situation in Nepal	5
1.1.4 Translation: An Introduction	6
1.1.5 Translation and culture	8
1.1.6 Important of Translation	9
1.1.7 Translation Evaluation	10
1.1.8 Translation Equivalence	12
1.1.9 Introduction of idioms	13
1.1.10 Idioms versus Phrase	14
1.1.11 Procedures of Translating Idioms	15
1.1.12 Types of Idioms	17
1.2 Statement of the Problem	18
1.3 Objective of the Study	19
1.4 Significant of the study	19
1.5 Delimitation of the study	19

## **CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

2.1 Review of the Theoretical Literature	20
2.1.1 Behaviorist Theory	20
2.1.2 Implication of Behaviorist Theory	21
2.1.3 Constrictive Analysis	21
2.1.4 Assumption of CA	21
2.1.5 Transfer Theory	22
2.1.6 Error analysis	22
2.1.7 Translation Theory	23
2.2 Review of Empirical Literature	24
2.3 Implication of the Review for the study	26
2.4 Conceptual Frame Work of the Study	27

## **CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURE**

3.1 Design of the study	29
3.2 Source of data Collection	29
3.2.1 Primary source of data	29
3.2.2 Secondary Source of data	29
3.3 Population and Sample	29
3.4 Tools of data Collection	30
3.5 Process of data Collection	30
3.6 Analysis and Interpretation of Procedure	30

## **CHAPTER FOUR: RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

4.1 Structure of Idioms as a Noun Phrase	31
4.2 Structure of Idioms as a Verb Phrase	33
4.3 Analysis of English and Nepali Idioms in term of Meaning	34
4.3.1 Perfect Equivalence	34
4.3.2 Semi Equivalence	35
4.3.3 Nil/Zero Equivalence	36
4.4 Summary of the Findings	37

## **CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION**

5.1 Conclusion	39
5.2 Recommendation	39
5.2.1 Policy level	40
5.2.2 Practice level	40
5.2.3 Further Research	41

References

Appendices:

## **LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1 Language Families in Nepal	2
Table 2: Language in Nepal	6
Table 3: Structure of Idiom as a noun phrase	33
Tale 4: Structure of Idiom as a verb phrase	34
Table 5: Perfect Equivalent Idioms	35
Table 6: Semi- Equivalence	36
Table 7: Nil/ Zero Equivalent Idioms in Nepali	

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 1: Indio-European Language Family Indo-European Language	3
Figure 2: Framework of the Research	28

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

TU	Tribhuvan University
Fig	Figure
P.	Page
Ed.	Edition
B.S	Bikram Sambat
A.D	after Death of Christ
Ph.D.	Doctor of philosophy
TT	Target text
ST	Source text
TL	Target language
SL	Source language
SLT	Source language text
NP	Noun phrase
e.g.	For example
V.P	Verb Phrase
Etc.	Etcetera
N	Noun
V	Verb