

Tribhuvan University

Comparative Study of Solukhumbu and Bhojpure Sherpa

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English,

T.U. in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement

for the Degree of Masters of Arts

in English

By

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December, 2008

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Letter of Approval

This thesis, submitted to the Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Rinju Sherpa entitled “Comparative Study of Solukhumbu and Bhojpure Sherpa” has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Rinju Sherpa has completed his thesis entitled "Comparative Study of Solukhumbu and Bhojpure Sherpa" under my supervision. He carried out his research from July 2008 to December 2008. I hereby recommend that his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Acknowledgement

First of all, I like thanking to my supervisor Dr. Govinda Bahadur Tumbahang, who has been working in CNAS, for his scholarly guidance and unforgettable suggestion. His profound and extensive knowledge in linguistics has helped me to bring this thesis into the complete shape.

I would like to thank Dr. Krishna Chandra Sarma, head of the Central Department of English who handed me the opportunity to select this topic.

I am more grateful to the lecturer Chitra Kumar Karki, Central Department of English, for his entire guidance and assistance who made me excited to work on this topic.

Likewise, I am equally indebted to my friends Chhiring, Kishor Sherpa, Bed Prakash Kandangwa, Khagendra Rai and Padamjang Rai who has assisted me by providing the materials asto it.

I would like thanking to the all informants; Angwang, Angtemba, Pemba gelu for their complete assistance.

I must acknowledge to all my experts and writers who made all the materials available and allowed me to use for reference. I would like to thank for Worldwide communication for their typing.

I always respect to my father Tenjing and mother Nimdiki, Vanji Ladiki and wife Luckyma for their economic assistance and courageous act to bring me on this stage.

Rinju Sherpa

Abstract

The Sherpas are an ethnic community of Nepal who have their own language, dress pattern, cultural heritage, food, festivals and religion. They, who live in the northern highlands of eastern Nepal, have their unique language with thirty consonants, six vowels sounds and ten diphthongs. They acknowledge "Sambota" as their own script. It is spoken in different districts. Thus, It's pronunciation and word meaning are being differed with geographical distance, communication and globalization which have been the central issue for the comparative study. This language is similar as maximum level. Very few differences have been found in terms of nominal morphology, verb morphology and to some extent in lexical words. Plural markers, possessive case marker and locative case marker are different in these two Sherpa variants. Similarly, tense, aspect and honorific markers are also different. But these differences don't bring hindrances in bilateral communication.

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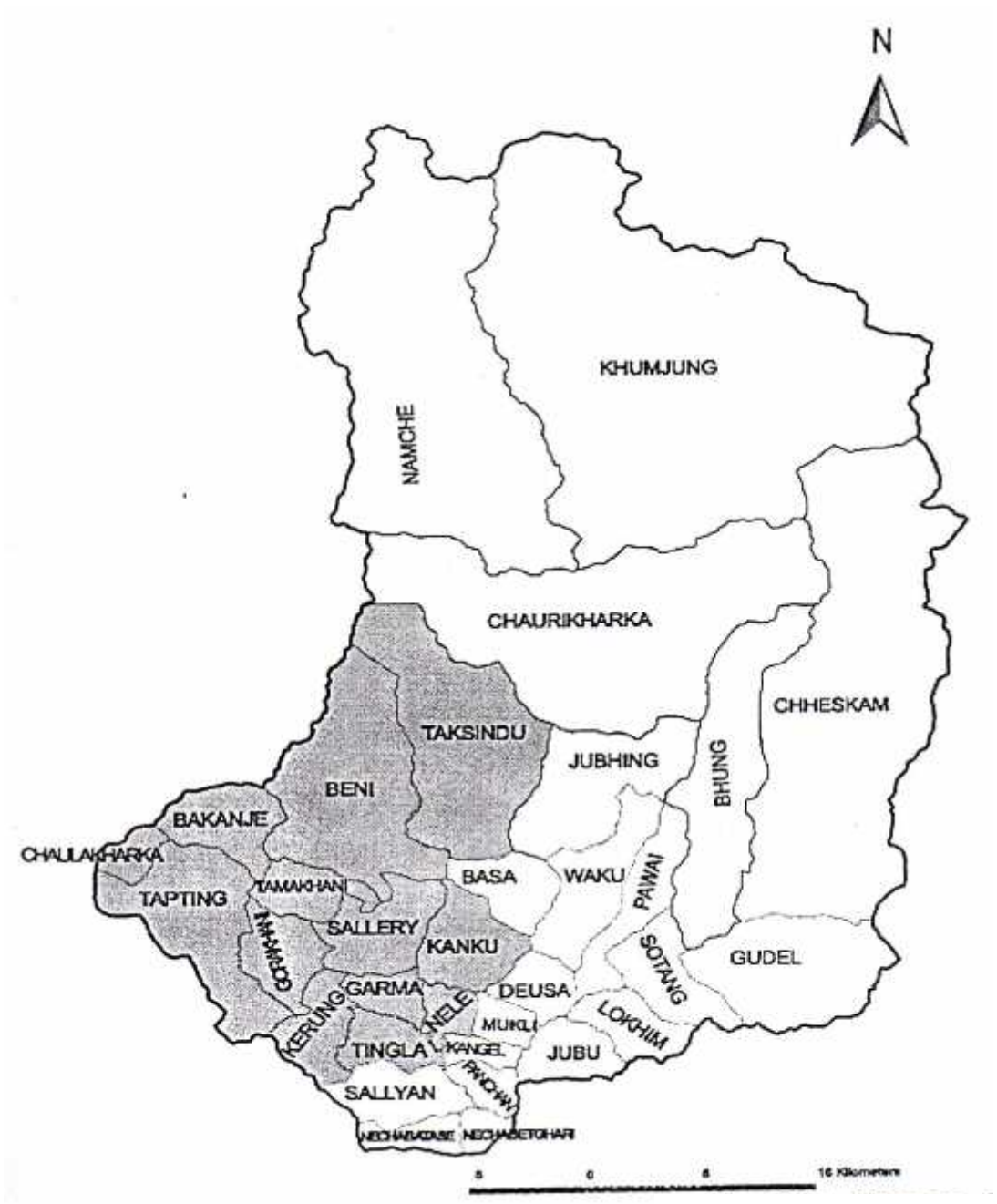
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Solukhumbu District

Sherpa Language: Solu Dialect Area



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SHERPA ALPHABET WITH PRONUNCIATION

Consonants:

ཀ	[kə]	ཁ	[kʰə]	ག	[gə]	ང	[ŋə]	Velar
/k/	ཀ	/kʰ/	ཁ	/g/	ག	/ŋ/	ང	
ཏ	[tə]	ཐ	[tʰə]	ད	[də]	ན	[nə]	Alveolar
/t/	ཏ	/tʰ/	ཐ	/d/	ད	/n/	ན	
ཏ	[tə]	ཐ	[tʰə]	ད	[də]	ཏ	[ɲə]	Dental
/t/	ཏ	/tʰ/	ཐ	/d/	ད	/ɲ/	ཏ	
པ	[pə]	ཕ	[pʰə]	བ	[bə]	མ	[mə]	Bilabial
/p/	པ	/pʰ/	ཕ	/b/	བ	/m/	མ	
ཅ	[tʃə]	ཆ	[tʃʰə]	ཇ	[dʒə]			Post Alveolar
/tʃ/	ཅ	/tʃʰ/	ཆ	/dʒ/	ཇ			
ཅ	[tsə]	ཆ	[tsʰə]	ཇ	[dʒə]			Alveolar
/ts/	ཅ	/tsʰ/	ཆ	/dʒ/	ཇ			
ས	[sə]	ཤ	[ʃə]	ཨ	[hə]			Fricative Alveolar Post Alveolar Glottal
/s/	ས	/ʃ/	ཤ	/h/	ཨ			
ར	[rə]	ལ	[lə]	ལ	[wə]	ཡ	[jə]	Approximants and others Alveolar Palatal lateral Labio- velar
/r/	ར	/l/	ལ	/w/	ལ	/j/	ཡ	
ཨ	[ɹʰə]	ཨ	[ɹʰə]					
/ɹʰ/	ཨ	/ɹʰ/	ཨ					

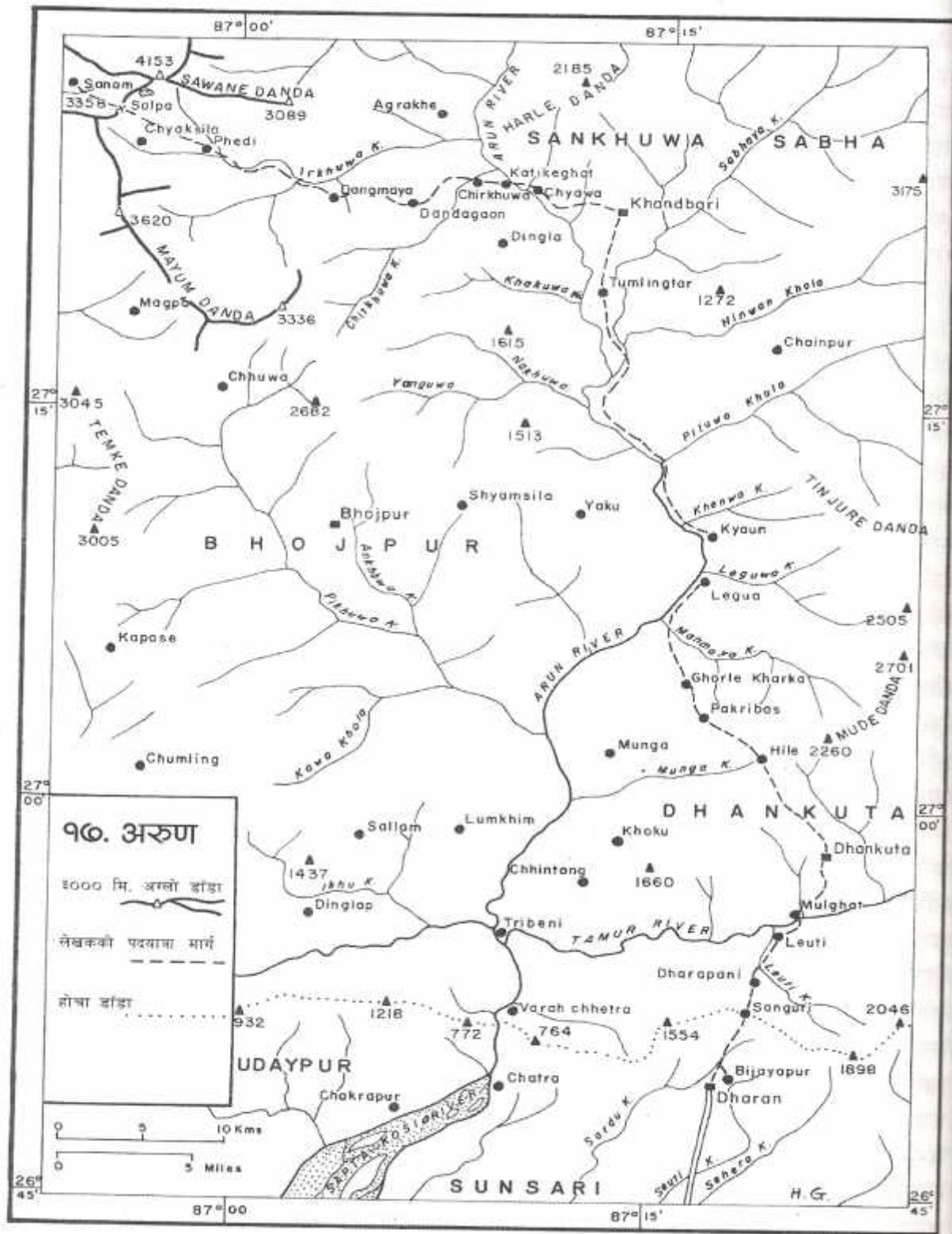
A Study of Phonemes in Sherpa Language

Vowels:

ཨ [ə]	ཨ [ə]	ཨ [i]	ཨ [u]	ཨ [e]	ཨ [o]
/a/ ཨ	/a/ ཨ	/i/ ཨ	/u/ ཨ	/e/ ཨ	/o/ ཨ
Low, back and slightly rounded (Schwa)	Low, front, unrounded	High, front, unrounded	High, back, rounded	Mid, front, unrounded	Mid, back, rounded

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Study Area of Sherpa in Bhojpur



Source Harka Gurung 1980

Map of the Study Area

