

**Tribhuvan University**

**A Sociolinguistic Profile  
of the Maithili Language of Dhanusha District**

A Thesis

Submitted to the Central Department of English in Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

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Letter of Recommendation

Ms. Neetu Jha has completed her thesis entitled " A Sociolinguistic Profile of the Maithili Language of Dhanusha District" under my supervision. She carried out her research from June 2008 (A.D.) to December 2008 A.D. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Supervisor

Date:.....

# TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

## Letter of Approval

This Thesis titled "A Sociolinguistic Profile of the Maithili Language of Dhanusha District" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Miss Neetu Jha has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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## **Abstract**

The survival of the Maithili language depends on the attitude of the speakers, ethnic commitment and social integration from within the community and research by linguists and language planners. The research provides important background information and introductory analyses on the distinctive features of the language based on authentic data, fact and minute observations rather than superficial observations and hearsays. This small-scale sociolinguistic profile will enable us to develop informed conclusion about the use of the Maithili dialect, attitude of the native speakers towards Maithili language, their attitude towards other languages and similarities and differences in lexical and syntactic structures across the Terai region of Nepal. Thus, the focus of the present study has been both to display the reality concerning the Maithili language and to provide at least some ground work for further studies.

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## **Abbreviations**

CBS : Central Bureau of Statistics

CNAS : Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies

HMG : His Majesty Government

M : Maithili

M&N : Maithili and Nepali

N : Nepali

UNESCO : United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization