# PLURALIZATION IN THE THARU AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES

A Thesis submitted to the Department of English Education,
University Campus, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
In partial fulfillment for the Master's Degree in Education
(Specialization in English Education)

**By**

**Kishor Kumar Chaudhary**

Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
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This is to certify that **Mr. Kishor Kumar Chaudhary** has worked and completed his M.Ed. Thesis entitled **"PLURALIZATION IN THE THARU AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES "** under my guidance and supervision.

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**To**

My Parents and Elder Brothers

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# ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled "PLURALIZATION IN THE THARU AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES" is an attempt to aim at identifying the rules of Pluralization in the Tharu Language and comparing these rules with those of English and finding out the similarities and differences of pluralization system between the two languages: Tharu and English. The researcher utilized both primary and secondary sources of data. The sample population of the study consisted of 30 Tharu native speakers who were selected for the study by using stratified random sampling procedure to elicit required data. The interview questionnaire was developed as a research tool for both literate and illiterate informants. The three VDCs of Saptari district were selected to collect data and collected data were analyzed, interpreted and presented descriptively and comparatively with the help of table, diagram and illustration. The Pluralization rules of English were extracted from the secondary sources and those of Tharu were analyzed on the basis of primary data.

The thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter one deals with introduction of the study. It consists of general background, review of the related literature, objectives of the study, significance of the study, definitions of the specific terms.

Chapter two deals with methodology. It consists of sources of data, population of the study, sampling procedure, tools for collecting data, process of data collection and limitations of the study.

Chapter three deals with the analysis and interpretation of the data. It comprises the rules of Pluralization in English and Tharu, comparison of the processes of Pluralization in Tharu with those in English and similarities and differences between Tharu and English.

Chapter four encompasses the findings of the study and some recommendations and pedagogical implications.

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st | First |
| 2nd | Second |
| 3rd | Third |
| CA | Contrastive Analysis |
| e.g. | For Example |
| F | Female |
| i.e. | idest |
| Illit. | Illiterate |
| L1 | First Language |
| L2 | Second Language |
| Lit. | Literate |
| M | Male |
| N | Noun |
| No. | Number |
| NP | Noun Phrase |
| Obj. | Objective |
| Pl | Plural |
| PM | Plural Maker |
| Sing | Singular |
| SLC | School Leaving Certificate |
| Sub. | Subjective |
| VDC | Village Development Committee |
| Viz. | Such As |
| * | Asterisk (It indicates unacceptable form/expression) |

## SYMBOLS USED FOR SOUNDS IN THARU

### Consonants

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| /p/ | as in | /pa\|n/ | 'water' |
| /ph/ | as in | /phu:l/ | 'flower' |
| /b/ | as in | /bɔ̃rɔ̃d/ | 'ox' |
| /bh/ | as in | /bhat/ | 'cooked rice' |
| /t/ | as in | /tɔ̃r/ | 'below' |
| /th/ | as in | /thari/ | 'dinner plate' |
| /d/ | as in | /dail/ | 'pulse' |
| /dh/ | as in | /dhan/ | 'paddy' |
| /t□/ | as in | /t□ari/ | 'wooden pot used for keeping mustard oil' |
| /t□h/ | as in | /t□hɔ̃g/ | 'cheater' |
| /d□/ | as in | /d□ɔ̃r/ | 'fear' |
| /d□h/ | as in | /d□h\|l/ | 'louse' |
| /c/ | as in | /cor/ | 'thief' |
| /ch/ | a in | /chɔ̃ta/ | 'umbrella' |
| /j/ | as in | /jɔ̃ir/ | 'root' |
| /jh/ | as in | /jhar/ | 'weed' |
| /k/ | as in | /kat□h/ | 'wood' |
| /kh/ | as in | /khɔ̃r/ | 'reed' |
| /g/ | as in | /gɔ̃lti/ | 'fault' |
| /gh/ | as in | /ghɔ̃r/ | 'house |
| /m/ | as in | /mait/ | 'soil' |
| /n/ | as in | /nani/ | 'grand mother' |
| /ŋ/ | as in | /siŋ/ | 'horn' |
| /ś/ | as in | /śit/ | 'dew' } only in writing |
| /s□/ | as in | /bɔ̃rs□a/ | } |
| /s/ | as in | /sa□p/ | 'snake' |
| /r/ | as in | /ra\|t/ | 'night' |
| /l/ | as in | /lal/ | 'red' |
| /h/ | as in | /hɔ̃r/ | 'plough' |

## Semi-Vowels

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| /y/ | as in | /yete/ | 'here' |
| /w/ | as in | /w∂s∂ra/ | 'veranda' |

## Vowels

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| /▏/ | as in | /k▏n/ | 'to buy' |
| /i/ | as in | /kaki/ | 'aunt' (only in writing) |
| /u/ | as in | /p∂sput/ | 'adopted son' |
| /u:/ | as in | /phu:l/ | 'flower' (only in writing) |
| /e/ | as in | /ek/ | 'one' |
| /o/ | as in | /bhor/ | 'dawn' |
| /∂/ | as in | /p∂twa/ | 'hemp' |
| /a/ | as in | /am/ | 'mango' |
| /∂▏/ | as in | /s∂▏r/ | 'plain' |
| /∂u/ | as in | /s∂us/ | 'mother in law' |

## Suprasegmental

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ~ | Nasalization as in | /ba□s/ | 'bamboo' |

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