A STUDY ON CODE-MIXING IN THE NEPALI LANGUAGE IN SUPERMARKETS

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education, University Campus, Kirtipur in Partial Fulfillment of Master's Degree in Education (Specialization in English Language Education)

> By Arjun Lamichhane M.Ed. Second Year

Faculty of Education Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal 2006 (2063)

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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that Mr. Arjun Lamichhane has worked and prepared this dissertation entitled "A Study on Code-mixing in the Nepali Language in Supermarkets" under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the dissertation for acceptance.

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DEDICATION

To my parents who taught me to be literate

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Arjun Lamichhane

ABSTRACT

This dissertation is basically a study of English code mixing in business transactions. The main objectives of the study are to find out the mixed English words in Nepali discourses in supermarkets and to find out the age-wise and sex-wise trend of mixing English words in supermarkets. The sample population consists of those participants involved in 100 different speech events in supermarkets. Altogether, the researcher collected data from ten different business complexes. The overall study comes to an end that code mixing is an established feature in supermarkets. Word level mixing has been seen as the highest frequency in all supermarkets. The researcher focuses on the age-wise and sex-wise mixing of English words in the Nepali conversations. No research yet has been carried out in this area to see the features of English/Nepali code mixing.

This thesis contains altogether four chapters. Chapter One deals with the introduction. It consists of general background, code switching and code mixing, terminological issues, types of code switching, difference between code switching and code mixing, reasons for code mixing and code switching, review of related literature, objectives of the study, significance of the study and definition of specific terms.

Chapter Two deals with methodology. It encompasses sources of data, population of the study, sample population, tools for data collection, process of data collection and limitations of the study.

Chapter Three consists of analysis and interpretation of the required data. It consists of four parts. Part one deals with the description of English and Nepali words; part two deals with the analysis and interpretation of the most frequently mixed words, and the third part deals

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with the analysis and interpretation of the age-wise trends of mixing English words and the last part deals with the sex-wise trends of mixing English words. The data are analyzed on the basis of percentage and they are presented on the table.

Chapter Four presents the summary of findings, pedagogical implications and recommendations.

The study reveals that the greatest and the least number of words of both the languages occurred according to the situation, mode of the speaker, their performance level, age and sex. Mostly the researcher found the word level switching, i.e. code mixing rather than sentence level switching, i.e. code switching in supermarkets.

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