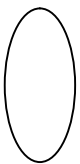


**NOUN PHRASE STRUCTURE IN ENGLISH AND THARU:  
(A Comparative Study)**

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

**By**

**Rishi Raj Sharma**



**Faculty of Education  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal  
2007**

**Noun Phrase Structure in English and Tharu  
A Comparative Study**

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

**By  
Rishi Raj Sharma**

**Faculty of Education  
Tribhuvan University  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal**

**2007**

**T.U. Regd. No. 6-1-055-229-96**

**2nd Year Exam Roll No.: 281481/063**

**Date of the Approval of the**

**Thesis Proposal : 2064/1/25**

**Date of Submission :**

## **RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE**

This is to certify that **Mr. Rishi Raj Sharma** has prepared this thesis entitled "**Noun Phrase Structure in English and Tharu : A Comparative Study**" under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

**Date: 2064-09-01**

---

**Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra (Guide)**

**Head**

Department of English Education

Faculty of Education

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Nepal

## RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

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

**Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra (Guide)**

Reader and Head

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

---

Chairperson

**Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi**

Professor

Department of English Education

Chairperson

English and Other Foreign Languages

Education Subject Committee

T.U., Kirtipur

---

Member

**Dr. Anjana Bhattra**

Lecturer

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

---

Member

**Date: 2064-09-03**

## EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

This thesis has been evaluated and approved by the following  
**'Research Evaluation Committee.'**

**Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra (Guide)**

Reader and Head

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

---

Chairperson

**Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi**

Professor

Department of English Education

Chairperson

English and Other Foreign Languages

Education Subject Committee

T.U., Kirtipur

---

Member

**Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**

Lecturer

Department of English Education

T.U., Kirtipur

---

Member

**Date: 2064-09-06**

*Dedicated*  
*To*  
*My Parents*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my thesis guide Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra, Head of the department of English Language Education for his continuous guidance, enlightening ideas and invaluable suggestions. I would not have been able to present this thesis without his co-operation and encouragement.

I am grateful to Prof. Dr. Shishir Kumar Sthapit, the retired guru of the Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Education, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur and Prof. Dr. Shanti Basnyat, Department of English Language Education, T.U., Kirtipur, for providing me with in-depth knowledge during my academic years and for the encouragement, kind help and inspiration to carry out this research. Likewise, I am grateful to my guru Prof. Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi, Chairperson of English and Other Foreign Languages Education Committee, T.U. Kirtipur for his suggestions, guidance and valuable comments on this study.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Assistant Dean, F.O.E., T.U. Kirtipur for his suggestions and encouragement to carry out this research work.

Likewise I am equally grateful to Prof. Dr. Tirth Raj Khaniya, Dr. Anjana Bhattra, Dr. Bal Mukunda Bhandari, Mrs. Madhu Neupane, Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma, Mr. Prem Bahadur Phyak for their suggestions and encouragement to accomplish this thesis.

I would like to thank all the teachers of the Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Education for their help and suggestions in course of carrying out this thesis.

I would also like to thank my friends Mr. Laxman Chaudhari, Mr Prem Pokhrel who directly and indirectly helped me to complete this thesis.

I am also grateful to all my colleagues, family members and all those who directly and indirectly contributed to prepare this work.

Last but not the least I would like to express my sincere and due thanks to Mr. Rajiv Maharjan (Friend's Computer Service) Kirtipur, Kathmandu for his attractive computer service.

**Rishi Raj Sharma**



## **ABSTRACT**

The present research entitled 'Noun Phrase Structure in English and Tharu Language: A Comparative Study' is an effort to describe, compare and contrast the noun phrase structures in the English and Tharu languages. In order to carry out this study the research collected data from the native speakers of Tharu in Banke District. Data for English language were obtained from reference books. The total sample population of the study consisted of 75 Tharu speakers, who were selected by using random sampling procedure. The main tool the researcher made use of was questionnaire, which was filled in making a face to face interview with the informants. On the basis of collected data the analysis was done. After analysis it was found that both the English and Tharu languages display simple and complex noun phrases. Both languages also share common substantial properties, but they differ in the structural arrangement of these properties.

The thesis consists of four chapters altogether. Chapter one is an introductory chapter which deals with the background ideas as to the study of the topic. It sets the necessary theoretical background justifies the significance of the study and presents the objectives and limitations of the study.

Similarly, chapter two states the methodology which was followed in the study. It deals with the source of data, procedure, tools, process for the data and limitation of the study.

The third chapter is concerned with the comparison of noun phrases in English and Tharu in terms of their head, nominalization and modification. This chapter includes the summary of this research also.

In the fourth chapter some findings and recommendation are discussed. In this chapter some pedagogical implications of the study are also discussed.

## CONTENT

	<b>Page No.</b>
<i>Recommendation for Acceptance</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Recommendation for Evaluation</i>	<i>ii</i>
<i>Evaluation and Approval</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Dedication</i>	<i>iv</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>v-vi</i>
<i>Abstract</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>List of Content</i>	<i>viii-ix</i>
<i>Devnagari Symbols</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>List of Abbreviation</i>	<i>xi</i>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-13</b>
1.1 General Background	1
1.1.1 Languages in Nepal	2
1.1.2 English Language in Nepalese context	3
1.1.3 The Tharu Language	4
1.1.4 Linguistic contrastive study: Pedagogic Importance	6
1.2 Review the Related Literature	10
1.3 Objectives of the Study	12
1.4 Significance of the Study	12
<b>CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>14-16</b>
2.1 Sources of Data	14
2.1.1 Primary Source of Data	14
2.1.2 Secondary Sources of Data	14
2.2 Population of the Study	15
2.3 Sampling Procedure	15
2.4 Tools for Data Collection	15
2.5 Limitations of the Study	16

<b>CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION</b>	<b>17-48</b>
3.1 Noun Phrase	17
3.2 Definition of Noun phrase	17
3.3 The types of the head of noun phrase.	17
3.4 Inflections	19
3.4.1 Gender	20
3.4.2 Number	28
3.4.3 Case	31
3.5 Nominalization	33
3.5.1 Nominalization in English and Tharu	33
3.6 Modification	38
3.6.1 Premodification	38
3.6.1.1 Determiners	39
3.6.1.2 Quantifiers	41
3.6.1.3 Nouns	42
3.6.1.4 Adjectives	43
3.6.1.5 Clauses	45
3.6.1.6 Participles	46
3.6.2 Post - Modification	47
3.7 Summary	48
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>49-53</b>
4.1 Findings	49
4.1.1 Similarities	49
4.1.2 Differences	50
4.2 Recommendation and Pedagogical Implications	52
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>54-55</b>
<b>APPENDIXES</b>	

## Transliteration Devnagari Symbols

The Devanagari Symbols for Tharu Vowels and consonants with their corresponding phonemes.

### Vowels

अ	आ	इ	ई	उ	ऊ	ए	ऐ	ओ	औ
a	a:	i	i:	u	u:	e/e:	ai/ae	o/o:	au

### Consonants stops:

### Nasals:

Velar	क	ख	ग	घ	ङ
	ka	kha	ga	gha	na
Palatal	च	छ	ज	झ	ञ
	ca	cha	ja	jha	na
Retroflex	ट	ठ	ड	ढ	ण
	Ta	Tha	Da	Dha	Na
Dental	त	थ	द	ध	न
	ta	tha	da	dha	na
Labial	प	फ	ब	भ	म
	pa	pha	ba	pha	ma

Other consonants	य	र	ल	व	श
	ya	ra	la	wa	sa
	ष	स	ह		
	sa	sa	ha		

## LIST OF ABBREVIATION

ABL	-	Ablative
ACC	-	Accusative
Adj.	-	Adjective
Adv.	-	Adverb
C	-	Central
CBs	-	Central Bureau of Statistics
DAT	-	Dative
Det.	-	Determiner
e.g.	-	For example
erg	-	ergative
etc.	-	etcetera
f.	-	Female
fig.	-	Figure
GEN	-	Genitive
H.	-	head
i.e.	-	that is to say
INS	-	Instrumental
LOC	-	Locative
m.	-	male
N	-	Noun
Nom	-	Nominative
NP	-	Noun Phrase
Ph.	-	Phrase
Pro. N.	-	Pronoun
Quant.	-	Quantifier
SOV	-	Subject Object Verb
SVO	-	Subject Verb Object
V	-	Verb
VSO	-	Verb Subject Object