ANALYSIS OF NEPALI CONVERSATION

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

By:

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Faculty of Education

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Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

2006

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A PRACTICAL STUDY

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recommendation for acceptance

This is to certify that **Mr. Rohit Kumar Adhikari** has worked and completed his M. Ed. dissertation entitled **Analysis of Nepali Conversation** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

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Professor of English
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Recommendation for evaluation

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

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to

My parents and family members

who sacrificed a lot to make me what I am today

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who as my respected teacher as well as research guide, provided me with theoretical insights and ideas related to techniques of analysis and interpretation essential for carrying out this research work, guided me and supervised my work from its earliest stages till the present form.

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Date: <u>Shrawan 11, 2063</u>   **Rohit   Kumar Adhikari**
          27 July, 2006

ABSTRACT

This dissertation entitled **"Analysis of Nepali Conversation"** is a descriptive study. It is an attempt to find out some common features of Nepali conversation (NC) and present them as they appear in NCs. Moreover, it also aims to make an analysis and to describe different parts of NCs like *opening, closing, pause, overlapping,* and *repair.*

The data for this study were 15 recorded conversations between two people enjoying different social roles. These conversations were collected from real social settings like *in the hospital, in the street, in the room, in the park, in the bus, in the school premises,* etc. The data collected have been transliterated by following Roman Transliteration Symbols for Nepali proposed and used by Turner (1931). The common features of NCs identified in analysing the data are listed down, and they are described with the examples from the data collected. Each part of NCs is studied and these parts are presented statistically and descriptively. During the analysis of NCs, it is found that omission of subject and overt linkers, repetition of words or phrases, simple deviation in structures are proved to be common properties of Nepali conversation. Similarly it is found that most NCs opens with terms of addressing/relation whether the participants are known to each other or not. Similarly, pause, overlapping and repair are common in NCs. The pause in the expression of the same speaker is for correcting the previous piece of speech and the pause between the speeches of the two participants (ie. *Silence* here) is for turn taking. In the case of overlapping, it is notified that the speaker can continue or stop his/her speech even if the next speaker overlaps the previus speaker. In short, the language in conversation, i.e. oral form is different form that in spoken form.

The thesis consists of four chapters: chapter one introduces the study in terms of general background, review of the related literature, objectives, significance of the study, and definition of terms.

Chapter two deals with the methodology adopted for the study under which the sources of data, sampling procedure, tools for data collection, procedure of data collection, and limitations of the study are duly presented.

Chapter three presents the analysis and interpretation of the data. In this section both statistical and descriptive approaches have been used.

Chapter four discusses the findings and recommendations of this research. The findings have been presented in the descriptive form.

The references and appendices form the concluding part of the thesis.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY

CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPREATATION

CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

CA	:	Conversation Analysis
NCs	:	Nepali Conversations
No.	:	Number
Con	:	Conversation
App	:	Appendix
CEO	:	Continuation of Expression after Overlapping
SEO	:	Stoppage of Expression after Overlapping
- - -	:	Pause Marker
∥　∥	:	Overlapping Marker
....	:	Something missed (especially expressions)
[........]	:	Word or phrase deleted in expression
{　}	:	Linker deleted between clauses
{ ϕ }	:	Covert markers between clauses