



Use And Tradition Of Nepali Language In Non Print Media.

DR .DEEPAK TEWARI

Associate Professor, Department of Nepali, Sikkim Government College Namchi, Sikkim.

Abstract

Linguists have classified different languages of the world on different basis; Genealogical classification is one of the main classifications. Nepali language is the part of the Indo European language family comes under the Genealogical classification. Based on the number of speakers Nepali language is among the top sixty languages of the world. Nepali language is widely used in Nepal and India. In India Nepali language is recognized by the Sahitya Akademi (1975) and also recognized in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution (1992). It is widely used both verbally and in written form, used in the field of literature writing and in the electronic media. Radio and FM have played an important role in the development of Nepali language, about 180 radios and F.Ms around the globe are presently broadcasting their programmes in Nepali language and about 100 televisions channels around the world are currently broadcasting their various programmes in the Nepali language. It is estimated that more than 700 movies have been produced in the Nepali language so far from Nepal, India and abroad. In modern times, new tools and facilities have come to the world as the achievements of science and technology. One such achievement is computer and computer related devices, which includes electronic mail (email), WhatsApp, mutual conversation (messenger), Face book (2004), blogs, online news wave magazine etc. Nepali language is widely used in these kinds of media also. As an educational medium, Nepali language has been used in Nepal and India for a long time, and in the contemporary context, Nepali language is taught in abroad also. So, Nepali language is widely used in literature writing and communication media, which has been extensively discussed in this article.

Keywords: Non print media, communication media, verbal form, written form.

1. INTRODUCTION

Linguists have presented studies by categorizing different languages of the world on different grounds. One of such categorization is Genealogical classification. A major branch of Genealogical classification is the Indo European family. There are two major branches of the Indo European language family the Indo-Iranian and the European. Among them, Nepali language is a language developed from **Sanskrit, Khas, Prakrit or Khas kura** by tearing branches from the Indo-Iranian branch. The Nepali, language is also known as **Khas language, Pahari language** and **Gorkha** or **Gorkhali** language in different periods of history. Linguists estimate that over 7,000 languages are spoken around the world. In India about 780 languages are spoken. In 1956, Indian linguist Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee listed best fifteen literary languages of India of which Nepali was one of them.

In terms of the number of speakers, Nepali language is among the top 60 languages of the world. If we look at the geographical area where Nepali language is used, about 100 percent population of Nepal uses this language, whereas in India the places like Sikkim, Darjeeling, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, this language is widely used. Apart from this, the tradition of using Nepali language has been expanding in countries like Bhutan, Burma, as well as in various countries of North America, Europe, Australia, Africa and Asia in recent years. In Nepal, Nepali language is known for the national language and in India it is known as the literary language approved by the Sahitya Academy in the year 1975 and the language recognized in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution in the year 1992 and as lingua franca in many parts of the India.

The estimated number of Nepali speakers in the world is around 40 to 50 million. According to the 2021 census of Nepal the total population of Nepal is 29,192,480 of which, 1, 30,844,57 means 44.8% are those who consider Nepali as their mother tongue, while 46.23% consider Nepali as their second language. The Nepali language is also spread widely outside Nepal especially in India. In India this language is widely used in Darjeeling (West Bengal) Sikkim, Meghalaya, Assam, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Delhi. Punjab, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand etc. Although the exact number of Nepali speakers in India is yet to be ascertained, the 2011 census shows that the number of Nepali speakers in India is 0.25% but the percentage may be higher if all the Nepali speaking people calculated collectively.

Similarly, in the 1988 census of Bhutan, 45% of the population was found to be Lyotsampa (Nepalese), but later more than 100,000 Nepalese were forced to migrate from there. After that, the census conducted there did not reveal the population on the basis of caste, but only on the basis of religion. Therefore, it can be estimated that there are about 400,000 Nepalese in Bhutan at present speaking Nepali as their mother tongue. Similarly, based on various web sources, websites of expatriate Nepalese and data released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Nepal at different times, about 300,000 Nepalese are residing in Burma, 600,000 in Malaysia, 400,000 in Qatar, 400,000 in UAE, 250,000 in Saudi Arabia,

80,000 in Japan, 100,000 in The United State of America , 40,000 in Canada, 80,000 in Australia, 80,000 in Thailand, 60,000 in South Korea, 30,000 in the Philippines, 50,000 in Hong Kong, 30,000 in China, 12,000 in Kuwait and 5,000 in Germany. After 2000 in Nepal, the way of foreign employment has been paved; it seems that there has been an increase in the population density of Nepalese in foreign countries. Those countries can be considered as places where Nepali language is spoken.

2. Nepali language in terms of usage

In terms of usage, there are two main forms of any language – the verbal form and the written form. Nepali language is also used in these both forms. In terms of verbal communication the Nepali language is used as lingua franca by cent percent population of Nepal, while it is widely used in Nepali dominated areas of India such as Sikkim, Darjeeling, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh Uttarakhand etc. Activities such as discussions, debates, interactions, festivals, fairs, religious-cultural rituals, worship, trade, radio broadcasts and speeches in Nepali language is taken as the verbal form of this language. If we look at the written form of Nepali language, it has its own distinct and rich literature. Nepali language is considered as the official language in Nepal, it has also been used in Government or administrative works, teaching-training, communication, judiciary dissemination etc. Likewise Nepali language is used by the grass root peoples in Nepal and in India where Nepalese are in majority. Nepali language has been used for preparing posters, leaflets, reports, advertising sign boards, etc. at grassroots level by the common people.

Sikkim had started its own coin in around the year 1880, in Nepali language and Nepali language was also inscribed on Indian rupees after Nepali language got constitutional recognition in the eight schedule of the Indian constitution on August 20, 1992.

3. The antiquity of written form of the Nepali language and literary writing

The old pattern of Nepali language is found in various kanakapatras, inscriptions, petitions, copper plates, treaties and agreements before it takes a decent form. The oldest specimen of Nepali language is considered to be the inscription found in Dullu western Nepal. The inscription, believed to be of 981 AD, has been researched and brought to light by researcher Purna Prakash Nepal 'Yatri'. However, another researcher Bal Krishna Pokharel, in the third edition of his book Titled **Panchsaye barsa** presented a composition titled **Baz Pariksha** by anonymous author and speculated that the composition may be of 943 AD.

If this model is considered to be the first written literary form of Nepali language, then the written form of Nepali language seems to be 1138 years old. Apart from this, some of the earliest works written in Nepali language are - **Bhaswati** (Nepali translation) of 1400 AD, **Raja Gaganiraj ko yatra** (1493), **Khandkhadya** (1601), **Jorotpati chikisa** (1716), **Ajirnamanjari** (1753), **Prayaschit Pradeep** of Premnidhi Pant published from India (1723), Gumani Pant's **Bhasakavya** (1773), Dhanbir Bhandari's **Ambar paharko sawai** (1884). Tulachand Ale's **Manipurka laraiko Sawai** (1893), Surbir Gurung's

Slangko vaichala ko sawai Sawai (1897), Dilu Singh Rai's 1956 **Paihrauko Sawai** (1899), Dakman Rai's **Darjeelingko Pahirako Sawai** (1899), etc. It is seen that Nepali literature has been able to take a decent written form in the post-modern period on the basis of such works. As a result, it is understood that the creation of excellent literature in various genres of Nepali language, as well as the publication of many newspapers and magazines, dictionary, grammar writing and translation has accelerated.

4. Use of Nepali language in non-print literature and electronic media

Nepali language is also widely used in the field of non-print literature and electronic media. In fact, electronic media is the medium through which the information, messages are transmitted through electrical waves. Electronic media can be classified into three categories: audio, audiovisual, and internet. Radio, cassettes, CDs, MP-3, etc. are included in the audio media. Fm (Frequency modulation), A.M. (amplitude modulation) internet and satellite are four types of radio operated: Audio media is especially useful for illiterate people. Similarly, audio-visual media includes broadcast media such as television, movies, documentaries, etc. Similarly, the Internet evolved into a mass media after the development of the Wide Wave (WWW) in the 1990s. These include electronic post (email), Facebook (2004), WhatsApp (2009) mutual conversation (Messenger), blogs, online news, literature, web magazines, etc. There are sufficient numbers of information, education, and entertainment available in Nepali language in these different types of electronic and non-print media. Here is an attempt to briefly discuss how the Nepali language has been used in some of the major sectors and in the media.

4.1. Radio and F. M. - Radio and F.M Media plays an important role for the upliftment of the Nepali language. Many radio stations broadcast from different parts of Nepal, India and abroad in Nepali language. They have been presenting various programmes including literature and music in Nepali language. First credit goes to radio Nepal for presenting the programee through radio in Nepali language. Radio Nepal started broadcasting on April 2, 1951. Radio Nepal has been presenting programmes in Nepali language also from Dhankuta, Pokhara, Surkhet, and Dipayal substation from April 2, 1994. With the change in the field of information and technology in the world, Nepal seems to have made a big leap in the field of sound communication. Currently, there are about 180 FM stations in Nepal including **Kantipur** (96.1) **Nepal SM** (91.8) etc. The services are in operation, which have been continuously presenting programs in Nepali language.

If we look at the Indian context except Nepal in radio broadcasting, it seems that since 1962, with the establishment of AIR Khurseong and since 1982, with the establishment of All India Radio Gangtok, programmes have been continuously presented in Nepali language. Apart from this, The Delhi Center of All India Radio has been presenting news and programmes in Nepali language since 1980, the Guwahati Center of All India Radio has also been presenting news and other programees in Nepali language. Red FM (93.5) Radio Misty (95) from Sikkim and AIR Rainbow (102.3) from Khurseong has also been presenting programme in Nepali language. Apart from Nepal and India, there are many radio stations operated from

abroad also broadcast their programme in Nepali language. Out of which BBC Nepali service has been broadcasting programmes in Nepali language since 7 June 1968. Other abroad based major radio stations broadcasts programmes in Nepali language includes **Hami sabaiko radio Malaysia, Pravasi Online Radio UAE, Radio Chautari, Radio Namaste, Hamro Radio Australia, Holy Vision Radio Hong Kong, BFBS Gurkha Radio UK, Texas Nepali Radio America** etc. Apart from this, programmes in Nepali language are also regularly presented through radio from different countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh, China, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, etc. Similarly, millions of songs have been made public through audio cassettes in Nepali language. Singers like **Seturam Shrestha (1908), Melwa Devi, Mitrasen Thapa, Hari Prasad Rimal** brought songs composed in Nepali language to the public through audio, while so far millions of songs of various types such as modern songs, folk songs, national songs, film songs, bhajans, ghazals have been created and recorded in the Nepali language. At present, a large number of such songs have also been recorded in the form of videos and have come to the public.

4.2. Television - Television has played an important role in presenting news, religious, sports, spiritual, film, music etc related programmes in Nepali language. Nepal Television was the first television to come into operation on December 31, 1983. Nepal currently have NTV Plus, NTV Kohalpur, NTV News, Prime TV, Fun TV, Cinema House, Action Sports, Cine Hits, Sarokar, Kantipur, Image TV, Sagarmatha TV, Avenue, News 24, ABC TV, Mountain TV, Business Plus, Gunjan TV, Himalaya TV, API TV, BTU, TV Today, TV Filmi, Bhakti Darshan TV, Janata TV. E.24 TV, Araniko TV, Makalu TV, Himshikhar TV, Arena TV, KaliGandaki TV, Gandaki TV, Abhas TV, Trishuli TV, Dhaulagiri TV, Kasthamandav TV, Suryodaya TV, Phewa TV, Yes TV, Space Like TV, Kalika TV, Hamro TV, Karuwa TV, Mero TV, Buddha Awaaz, J Music, Pokhara TV, Bodi TV, Omkar TV, Health TV Etc televisions channels broadcasting programmes in Nepali language. Likewise Nepal One (2004) television is operating from India. Beside these sufficient televisions are also being broadcast in Nepali language from various foreign countries, such as America-Nepal (2012) and Everest TV (1997) from America, White Himal TV from Perth, Australia (2011), My Nepal TV from Sydney, Focus Nepal from Melbourne (2019), Channel Nepal from Hong Kong (2001) and Global Nepal (2014) Nepali TV (2005) and Voice of Nepal (2017). From UK. These channels are broadcasting their programmes in Nepali language through Satellite at international level, while there are many online televisions that are broadcast at local level from Nepal and India. Doordarshan's Calcutta and Gangtok centers from India broadcast programmes in Nepali language. Similarly, ABN channel operated from Siliguri, Himalayan channel Hamro channel, operated from Darjeeling, Khojkhobar from Kalimpong, Nayuwa television and hamro varta television from Sikkim also broadcast programmes in Nepali language.

4.3. Nepali language in the film - The strong use of Nepali language is also found in the film. The first film made in Nepali language was **Satya Harishchandra** directed by D.B. Pariyar, produced from Calcutta and made public on September 14, 1951. It is estimated that more than 700 Nepali films have been produced in Nepali language from Nepal, India and other places so far.

4.4. Use of Nepali language in computer related devices - In modern times, new tools and facilities have come to the world as an achievement of science and technology. One such achievement is computer and the other means associated with the computers. These include electronic post (email), WhatsApp, mutual conversation (Messenger), Facebook, blog, online news web magazine, etc. Electronic materials broadcast through computers include visual content and audio content. There are a large number of Nepali language news and literary magazines operating from different parts of the world including Nepal. Although it is not possible to get the exact number of web sites operating in Nepali language but the first website to bring Nepali literature online seems to be **Pardesh.com**, which was started from USA. Popular magazines that have earned name in the field of literary journalism in Nepal such as **Rachna** (Bimonthly) **Avivakti** (Bimonthly) **Madhuparka**, **Samakalin sahitya**, **Garima**, **Sabda Saiyojan** etc. are also providing print and online services to the readers **Creations.com**, **Nepali Kala Sahitya.com**, **Online Sahitya.com**, **Pallava.com** literary magazines from Nepal are proving online services. Some of the notable literary web sites operated from outside Nepal include **Khaskhas.com** (2007) from the US, **samakalinsahitya.com** (2007) from the UK, and **Sahityaghar.com**, **Mazheri.com** and **Nepal-Japan.com** from Japan. **Samakalinsahitya.com** from Belgium, **sahityasansar.com** from Israel, **sahitya.com** from Australia, etc. Apart from this, many people throughout the globe are also operating their personal Literary and non-literary blogs in Nepali language, as well as many literary literature pages are operated in Nepali language through the social network site.

4.5 Use of Nepali language as an educational medium

Nepali language has been used as an educational medium in Nepal and India for a long time, while in the contemporary context; Nepali language has also been promoted abroad. Looking at the past regarding the use of Nepali language as an educational medium, it seems that with the establishment of Trichandra Campus in Kathmandu Nepal in 1918, teaching in Nepali language has started, while in 1934, the provision of conducting SLC examination in Nepali language has been implemented and in 1944 Nepali subject has been given the status of compulsory language for study in schools. Similarly, after the establishment of Tribhuvan University in 1959, the way has been paved for undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD studies in Nepali language. Basudev Tripathi received his first PhD in Nepali language from this university in 1976.

If we look at Nepali language as an educational medium in the context of India it is taught from primary level to PhD level. The Central Board of Education (CBSE) as well as the education boards of West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Chandigarh etc. have a provision to teach Nepali up to the secondary and higher secondary level. In 1911, the University of Allahabad and in 1921, the University of Calcutta recognized Nepali language as a local language and opt as one of the subject. Similarly since 1943, Nepali subject have been taught at Banaras Hindu University there is a provision of study and teach Nepali up to the PhD level. Similarly, the Darjeeling Government College has started teaching Nepali as optional paper from 1948, the honours course has been introduced in Nepali in 1967 and master's level study started in the year in 2002.

Similarly, Nepali is an alternative and optional subject in primary level education in Sikkim since 1902 and North Bengal University has started post-graduate studies in Nepali language since 1978. At present, M.Phil and Ph.d. level studies are done here, Under this university, Kalimpong College, Darjeeling Government College, Khersong College, Sonadaha Degree College, St. Joseph's College, South Field College, Selician College, Munshi Premchand Hindi College Siliguri, Siliguri College, Kalipad Ghosh Tarai College, Bijanbari Degree College, Clony women College, Kalimpong, Ghum-Jorbanglo College, Mirik College, Gorubathan Degree College, Pedong Degree College, Birpara college, Naxalbari colleges have provisions of reading and writing in Nepali language..

Sikkim Central University and Kanchenjunga State University two universities of Sikkim have been providing post-graduation degree in Nepali language, while Sikkim Central University offers PhD level degree in Nepali language,. Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College Tadong, Sikkim Government College Namchi, Sanchaman subba college Gyalshing, Sikkim Government college Rhenock, Sikkim Government College Burtuk Sanskrit mahavidyalaya Samdong are the colleges of Sikkim affiliated to Sikkim university are proving honours level degree in Nepali language.

Similarly, Nepali language has also been included in the language curriculum under the Department of South Asian Studies of Harvard University in USA while Dr. Burth, a German citizen, has been teaching Nepali language after the opening of Karan University in Germany in 1975. Similarly, schools teaching Nepali language in Belgium have been operating since 2005. In the United States, schools that teach the second generation Nepali origin and foreigners who want to learn Nepali language are running in many places, while in North Carolina there is a college for learning Nepali. Similarly, there are four Nepali language schools in Hong Kong. The University Grants Commission of India (UGC) had inducted Nepali subject in NET examination since 1990. Apart from this, Nepali language is also recognized by the Central Public Service Commission, College Service Commission of West Bengal and State Level Eligibility Test (SLET). The West Bengal government and the North Bengal University have their own Nepali academies.

5. Conclusion

Nepali language is widely used in non-print literature writing and media. The Nepali language has expanded worldwide today. Not only the Nepali community, but also the people of other castes and communities have contributed equally for the expansion of this language, for example, Russia's Lyudmila Agnina has made significant contributions in the field of study, research and translation of Nepali literature. Ludmila, who has a PhD in people, society and religion in modern Nepali poetry, is also a biographer of Nepali Mahakavi Laxmi prasad Devkota. She has published a work on the history of Nepali literature in Russian language. Similarly, professor of Nepali language in the UK. Michael Hutt's contribution to the Nepali language has been unparalleled. In this way, they have spread Nepali language and literature all over the world. It can also be linked to the prevalence of The Use of Nepali language, while Nepali language is also widely used

in various genres of Nepali folklore. So Nepali language is widely used in these various non-print literature writing and the media.

References

Adhikari, Suryamani, 2056 (B.S.), **Nepali Bhasa ko itihās**, Kathmandu, Bhudipuran Publications.

Bhattarai, Govinda Raj 2063 (B.S.), **Pachmī balesika Bachhita** Kathmandu, Nepal State Academy.

Dahal, Gopal Prasad, 2013. **Bhasa vivida**, Gangtok, Himalayan Press and Publications.

Koirala, Tulsihari, Wednesday, June 12, 2067, **Bideshma Nepali Bhasa ra Sahitya** (www.samakalinsahitya.com)

Karkidholi, Virbhadrā, (ed.) **Prakriya**, 1993 (Year 7, Issue 11), Siktam, Prikriya Publication.

Nepal, Ghanshyam, 2009, **Nepali Sahitya ko prarichatmak itihās**, Siliguri, Ekta Book House Pvt. Ltd.

Nepal, Purna Prakash 'Yatri' 2053 (B.S.), **Nepali Bhasa ko itihāsik Mimandsa**, Kathmandu, Ekta Book Distributors Pvt. Ltd.

Nepali Sahitya Parishad, 1993, **Rasta Sitrariya Nepali Bhasa sangrami prati avinandan**, Gangtok, Nepali Sahitya Parishad.

Rai, Asit, 1986, **Bharatiya Nepali sahitya ko Bikash kram**, Darjeeling, Nepali Academy.

Sharma, Durganath, (ed), 2054, (B.S), **Prasaran patrakarita hatey kitab**, Lalitpur, Nepal Press Institute.

Sijapati, Ram Bikram, 2056 (B.S.), **Bhasa Prarichaya**, Lalitpur, Sajha Prakashan.

Sunuwar, Pandav, 2056 (B.S.), **Radio Prasaran ka Aaroh ra Avroh**, Kathmandu, Tahira Sunuwar.

Timsina, Dilliram, 1990, **Bhasa ra sahitya** Gangtok, Janapaksha Prakashan.

Timilsina, Hari Prasad, 2069 (B.S.), Nepali **Patrakarita**, Kathmandu, Airawati Prakashan.