

RESUME

Name: TEJ BAHADUR JIREL

Date of Birth: July 22, 1965

Place of Birth: Jiri 8, Dolakha, NEPAL

Institution Attended:

Gandaki Boarding School, Pokhara, NEPAL

1981 (2038 Bikrama Sambata) School Leaving Certificate (SLC)

Patan Multiple Campus, Lalitpur, NEPAL

1987 (2044 Bikrama Sambata) Intermediate of Arts (IA)

Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, Kathmandu, NEPAL

1989 (2046 Bikrama Sambata) Bachelor of Arts (Economics)

Jirel language and culture research assistant: 1982-1992

Participant in Jirel dictionary project: 1993-1994

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There are a great many people, both from the writer's home country Nepal and from other countries, whom the writer is grateful to for their assistance in various aspects. Because of the size of the paper, it is impossible for the writer to name all those individuals. But there are few individuals whom the writer's sincere thanks goes to.

First of all, the writer expresses his sincere thanks to Dr. Thomas M. Tehan, the chairman of the thesis committee, for his excellent guidance. Without his patient insight this thesis could not have been completed. Similarly, the writer also extends his thankfulness to the other committee members, to Ajarn Kirk Roger Person and Ajarn Douglas Maxton Inglis, who were more than willing to help the writer in times when help was sought. The writer's sincere thanks also goes to Jeffrey and Marilyn German, who were not only the 'friends in need' to the writer and his wife, but also proofread the entire thesis.

The writer also expresses his gratitude to his brother Padam Bahadur Jirel, the narrator of the texts used for the thesis, as well as to Esther Strahm and Anita Maibaum for providing helpful notes and other suggestions regarding the Jirel language. The writer's sincere thanks also goes to his brother Bir Bahadur Jirel, who along with Strahm and Maibaum, checked the tones of the texts used in this thesis. The writer thanks Sandy Gould for helping him with Shoebox software related

matters, David Tehan for helping the writer on the Excel program to plot graphs, and to Melinda Lyons, the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) librarian in Bangkok, for providing books and articles to the writer. The writer is also grateful to Dr. Austin Hale, who even with his busy schedule, was willing to help the writer to organize the texts, especially helping to gloss the texts properly during the writer's initial analysis.

The writer expresses his deepest appreciation to those individuals and families who supported him financially through the Grace Foundation, USA, and through the South Asia Group of SIL to carry out the Masters program in Linguistics.

Special gratitude to the writer's late father Som Bahadur Jirel and his mother Lalimaya Jirel, who have always encouraged the writer for higher achievements and impacted him through their good examples. Sincere thanks also goes to the writer's parents-in-laws, Rel Bahadur Ghale and Dhan Kumari Ghale for their goodwill and encouraging letters during pursuit of the MA program. Special thanks to all family members, friends and church members who prayed and encouraged him through the entire MA program.

At last but not the least, the writer also wants to express his thankfulness to Bhagabati Jirel-Ghale (Preeya), his beloved wife for being with him throughout the entire period of his MA in Linguistics program to encourage and to take care of the writer in every situation.

March 26, 1999