

Interdisciplinary Approach to Research in Language and Social Sciences: 7th Issue of Gipan

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| Abstract | Article Info. |
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| <p>This editorial review of <i>Gipan</i> Volume 7(1) introduces the major focus of the papers published in this volume that covers the linguistic, education and several other multidisciplinary issues of social science and applied linguistics. The primary purpose of bringing in the interdisciplinary focus in this journal is to bring the cross-cutting issues across disciplines into broader discourse. This review starts with a brief background information relating to the journal, highlights the themes as they emerge in this issue, summarizes the key issues incorporated by the papers included in this issue. We also briefly summarize some key findings coming out of these papers. The keywords in this paper are drawn based on the papers including in this volume.</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i> educational AI, Cherokee, Bhujel, Kirati, rhetoric of language, Cerebral Palsy, verb roots</p> | <p><i>Email</i> gautambhim@rocketmail.com</p> <p><i>Cite</i> Gautam, B. L., Prasain, B., Wąsikiewicz-Firlej, E., & Poudel, P. P. (2025). Interdisciplinary approach to research in language and social sciences: 7th issue of <i>Gipan</i>. <i>Gipan</i>, 7(1), 1–4. https://doi.org/10.3126/gipan.v7i1.84230</p> |

Introduction

Gipan journal was first published in 1999 and has been published since then reaching to the 7th volume this year. This journal is published by the Central Department of Linguistics, Tribhuvan University. The word ‘*Gipan*’ means ‘language’ in Kusunda, a language isolate of Nepal. This meaning values that the journal aims to focus on the endangered languages, linguistic diversity and multilingualism in Nepal and beyond. We expect that this journal will provide researchers with a platform for advocacy of the issues of public interest as well as national and international needs to support towards establishing a civilized society. While this journal was simply a departmental level publication

that publishes papers related to linguistics, we started publishing papers with multidisciplinary focus since the last volume making it broadly cited journal. This is how *Gipan* has expanded its scope as per the changing national and international context. The editorial board and the advisory board of *Gipan* and the papers published in previous volumes and the one accepted for publication in this issue show that the journal is no longer limited to Nepal and the issues related to core linguistics.

The journal has adopted a blind peer-review process to enhance the quality of publication, bringing in scholars from Nepal and abroad for a collective effort to enhance its quality

and scope. More importantly, *Gipan* aims to publish multidisciplinary research wishing it to be established as one of the prestigious journals in humanities and social sciences. The papers featured in this issue encompass a diverse range of scholarly topics, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, socio-phonetics, cognitive linguistics, visual linguistics, curriculum and textbook analysis, and language policy and politics. The first paper entitled ‘Rhetoric on language and truth from modernity to postmodernity’ authored by Purna Chandra Bhusal examines the changing perspectives on language and truth when rhetorics transitions from modernity to postmodernity drawing on the perspectives of key thinkers such as John Locke, Gambastista Vico, Jacques Derrida, and Michael Foucault. This paper highlights the interplay between language and truth. The second paper entitled ‘The use of artificial intelligence in English writing: Experiences and perceptions of non-English major students in Mainland China’ authored by Fengmei Zou and her colleagues highlights the increasing use of artificial intelligence tools in language learning, drawing on the AI use experiences of the students learning Chinese language in a university in China. They conclude that AI had a positive impact on learning English writing skills of the students who majored subjects other than English. This paper is useful for understanding the changing dimensions of technology use in university education, especially on language learning. The third paper entitled ‘The linguistic archaeology of the Kirati hydronyms’ authored by Tara Mani Rai claims that the hydronyms in Kirati language do not only reflect the archaeological evidence but also provide evidence of historical development and cultural ties of the people from Kirati indigenous community. The fourth paper entitled ‘A review on word learning: Compilation of theories and experiments advances’ authored by Dipika Gnyawali and Abhishek Budiguppe Panchakshari highlights review of the selected experimental and theoretical studies on word learning. This shows the breadth of word learning research useful for the

prospective researchers in the field. The fifth paper by Prativa Poudel entitled ‘Rhetorical strategies of Cherokee women in petitions against cultural erasures’ concludes that tactical adjustment of Euro-American cultural elements in the petitions made by Cherokee women is a key to their advocacy efforts to negotiate spiritual beliefs. The sixth paper by Guru Prasad Poudel entitled ‘Job satisfaction and professional stress among university teachers’ highlights that the university teachers face several forms of professional and work-force related stress that constrained their productive engagement in academics. The key factors affecting their professional academic growth were institutional performance evaluation and financial security. The seventh paper entitled ‘Exploring Bhujel relationship of Bhujel with the Kirati languages’ by Dan Raj Regmi mentioned that the Bhujel and Kirati languages are typologically related so that the Bhujel genetic membership should be revised connecting it with the Kirati languages. The eighth paper entitled ‘a brief study on the speech assessment of the children suffering from Cerebral Palsy’ by Neha Garg concluded that there is a strong correlation between motor functions and intelligibility, with significant difficulty in producing aspirated consonant and consonant clusters. The ninth paper entitled ‘variation in Nepali verb roots: A phonological perspective’ by Bhim Narayan Regmi concludes there are variations in the verb roots in terms of phonemic environment, syllable structure and weight. The tenth paper entitled ‘language contact studies in Nepal: Trends and prospects’ reviews the major language contact studies in Nepal and concludes that language contact studies broadly bring in ideas from social processes, conversational practices, pragmatic and contextual elements in language and culture based on lexical and grammatical level.

The review of these ten papers included in this volume of the *Gipan* journal reveal that there is a growing academic work with a lot of intersectional issues in education, linguistics and social science (Poudel & Choi, 2022). Such features in academic

writing highlight the growing understanding and acknowledgments of linguistic diversity leading to language contacts widening the language study landscape (Gautam & Poudel, 2022a,b; Gautam, 2021). This trend has resulted in growing language mixing and translanguaging in language use both in physical and virtual modes of communications (Poudel & Costley, 2023). Further to this, the papers from China, USA, India and Nepal highlight that there is a growing use of artificial intelligence (AI) in educational system which Nepal has to learn while advancing their educational policy, plans and practices. A recent study by Borg and Poudel (2024) also highlighted the need for providing the in-service teachers and teacher trainers with skills in adopting AI, developing corpus applying computational and AI technology to preserve and promote the linguistic and cultural heritage of Nepal.

Future Research

Learning from these studies, our experience in interacting with these authors and review of related literature related to these studies inform us that important new issues have arisen and deserve discussion and research attention. For example, language policy and practice issues are to be understood from a broader political and social perspective that brings several interrelated elements together. The national, provincial and local government units should take this issue seriously to fine-tune the public governance and education policies based on social justice such as by developing the linguistic resources. One of the important things that needs immediate attention is to enhance the capacity of languages to be used in the governance. Further, it is also important to develop languages by fitting them in the technology trends that have floated in the recent days. As *Gipan* originated from a 'language' focus, we still emphasize that promotion of the indigenous languages does not only promote language but also expand the knowledge base in relation to the languages and cultures of the ethnic indigenous communities. Though we understand that language issue alone is incomplete without connecting to

the social, cultural and educational practices, we still believe that the language issue can be a point of departure to explore additional complex social and cultural issues surrounding humanity in the national and global spaces.

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