

Title: Motion events in Nepali: Theory, observation and typological implications

Abstract: Languages vary in the way the spatial information is conveyed (see for example, Talmy, 1985, 1991; Slobin & Hoiting, 1994, Slobin, 2004; Kopecka, 2004, 2010; Levin & Rappaport Hovav, 2019. *inter alia*; cf. Aske, 1989). The focus of this talk is to show how this information is expressed in Nepali, an Indo-Aryan language spoken in Nepal, based on descriptive (a.k.a. experimental) and narrative (a.k.a. naturalistic) data. After highlighting the conceptual elements in this domain (e.g., figure, motion, and path), I will explain the methodology and present the main results. These include the lexical diversity of verbs (such as *rakhnu* 'put' *nikalnu* 'take out' in caused Motion events and *chirnu* 'enter', *aunu* 'come' in spontaneous Motion events) in the main verb slot (descriptive data) and semantic distinction between/among these verbs, lexicalization patterns (Verb-framed (Talmy, 2000) vs. reverse-Verb-framed (Pourcel, 2004b; Pourcel & Kopecka, 2005; Parajuli, 2021)), and distributed spatial semantics (Sinha & Kuteva, 1995). The typological implications of these results with reference to Nepali and in relation to Motion event typology will also be discussed during the talk.