Manange Discourse Sample

Told by a woman of Ghyaru Village, July 3, 2014

This text was recorded on July 3rd, 2014. It was told by a Manange speaker from Ghyaru village, who discusses changes that have come to the region with the influx of tourism. In line (2), she addresses the linguist as didi “elder sister,” a polite way to refer to an older woman of one’s generation.

The transcription regularizes the text; careful comparison of the audio and the transcription will reveal considerable phonological reduction typical of fast speech. Elided segments and words are given in parentheses. The full forms were determined in consultation with native speakers. At times during this narrative, an additional Manange speaker contributed to the conversation and prompted the speaker to continue the narrative; these contributions have been removed. Note that the gloss PRTC is used for a discourse particle (pronounced alternatively as ra and re) that is frequent in spoken Manange; colons indicate lengthened vowels.

Click here for a contemporary online corpus of Manange, with 18 video clips of Manange speakers, including a video of this speaker relating this text.

Note: The first line of every unit (blue text with a line number) is a hyperlink that will play an audio file.

(1) naray thante khla-pa kany=ri uuuu
  before before come-NMLZ mountain=LOC hmm
  While coming here in the beginning (lit. 'the first time'),

(2) philiŋ khla-lija nu-pa khja arə mo didi
  brown.haired.foreigner come-EVEN.IF sleep-NMLZ place NEG COP elder.sister
  There was no place to sleep if the tourists (would) come, elder sister (referring to linguist).

(3) kitsen njapə tsu mi ajon aleka
  kitchen 1PL DIST person together like.this
  We used to make the people sleep in the kitchen.

(4) thin=ko=re jon jon nu duk
  house=DEF=LOC with with sleep pain
  (We) made them sleep in the house.
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(5) garo mraŋ-tse ra:: hoțel primp-ʌ-ri khʌ-tsi
difficult see-CC PRTC hotel build-NMLZ-PURP come-PRF
Even if we saw difficulties, (we) came to make the hotel.

(6) tiŋi ta pili supita ... lʌ
today what say facility ... do
Now because (we) have facilities.

(7) toso toilet rē ke-pʌ sʌ(-tsi) [se:]
now toilet PRTC luxury-NMLZ build-PRF
Now I (have) constructed a good toilet.

(8) rum=tse rē ke(-pʌ) sʌ(-tsi) [se:]
room=PL PRTC luxury-NMLZ build-PRF
(We) have made comfortable rooms.

(9) ta pili khim(i=k)o=ri i s(w)pita lʌ(-tsi) lʌ(-tsi) [le le]
what say 3PL=DEF=LOC facility do-PRF do-PRF
(We) made those facilities.

(10) ē yjī
AFFIRM 1PL
Yes, we...

(11) lo:: tsuŋi-ti a
year seventeen-CLASS TAG
About seventeen years (have passed), right?

(12) tsuŋi-ti
seventeen-CLASS
(It has been) seventeen years.

(13) ti(k)jū ne-tī tsa=ri
last.year two-CLASS towards/around=LOC
philī .... tiŋī kat(i) tshjani jʌ mi
brown.haired.foreigner ? today much less go EVID
The number of tourists (coming here) has been declining these days.

(14) u=ko tsitsi=ko ka ɲjaŋ
DIST=DEF later=DEF subsistence 1PL
(Because of that) later, we have earned just a little bit (of tourist money).

(15) mume tsa-pʌ ko-pʌ
family eat-NMLZ dress-NMLZ
The families eat, and dress (themselves) (with this income).

(16) muŋa pʌ=ri thīŋ ke pha-pʌ
low.down.place Kathmandu=LOC house also pay-NMLZ
(and with this) we pay the rent in Kathmandu (the down-valley place).
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(17) \( u=ko \quad kola \; phis \; pha-pa \)
    DIST=DEF child fee pay-NMLZ
    (The income) also pays the (school) fees of children.

(18) \( u=ko \quad tsu \; t\dot{a}rtse \; kh\dot{a}(-p) \quad khja \; a-re \)
    DIST=DEF PROX income come-NMLZ place NEG-COP
    There is no other place that this income comes from (i.e., we have other source of income).

(19) \( pi-l\ddot{i} \quad tsa \; tsa \; kh\dot{a} \; lo \; ts\dot{a} \quad ra \)
    say-CAUSE little little come HON little PRTC
    This is because some tourists come (although) in a small number.