थाङ्मी

A Grammar of the Thangmi Language

This monograph is a grammar of Thangmi, an endangered Tibeto-Burman language spoken in the districts of Dolakhā and Sindhupālcok in central-eastern Nepal. The language is spoken by upwards of 25,000 people belonging to an ethnic group of the same name. The Thangmi are one of the most socio-economically disadvantaged communities in Nepal.

The book is comprised of three sections: a grammatical description of the Dolakhā dialect of Thangmi, a collection of glossed oral texts and a lexicon with relevant examples. In addition to an analysis of Thangmi phonology, nominal morphology and the verbal agreement system, the grammar includes an ethnolinguistic introduction to the speakers and their culture.

Mark Turin is a linguistic anthropologist. He trained in social anthropology at the University of Cambridge and in descriptive and comparative linguistics at Leiden University. As a member of the Himalayan Languages Project, he conducted fieldwork on the previously undescribed Thangmi language spoken in eastern Nepal and in India's Darjeeling district. Turin is also co-director of the Digital Himalaya Project based jointly at the universities of Cambridge and Cornell. He is currently working on the first phase of a linguistic survey of Sikkim through the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology in Gangtok, where he is a visiting scholar. Turin has edited three books, compiled a trilingual Thangmi-Nepali-English glossary and written several articles on the languages and cultures of the Himalayas. This monograph is his doctoral dissertation.

Mark Turin

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with an ethnolinguistic introduction to the speakers and their culture by Mark Turin