

GLOSSARY

Hills: The terms "hills" or "hill region" used throughout this study include

all of Nepal from the Siwaliks foothill range north to the Tibetan border. This is a somewhat broader definition than the Nepalis use. The term *pahar* means hill in Nepali and is defined by Nepalis as any mountain that does not have snow on it the year around, i.e., any mountain less than approximately 17,000 feet in elevation. The Nepalis generally do not consider Kathmandu Valley or the three low-lying "inner tarai" valleys as part of the hill region but, in proper geographical terms, they are integral parts of the hill region and are treated as part of the hill region in this study.

Hill people: This term, as used in the study, can be defined in two ways. First, linguistically, i.e., the people whose mother tongue or first language is one that predominates in the hill region of Nepal: Nepali, Newari, Magar, Gurung, Rai, Limbu, Tamang, Sunwar, Thakali, or Sherpa. Second, the term can be defined sociologically, as including those people who belong to the Hindu caste groups found in the hills: hill Brahmin, Chetri, Gharri, Kumhale, Majhi, Kami, Sunar, Damai, and Sariki, as well as the hill-tribal groups: Magar, Gurung, Rai, Limbu, Sunwar, Tamang, Thakali, and Sherpa. The Newars are hill people who do not fit into either the caste-Hindu or tribal category. Many persons in Kathmandu Valley tend to regard *Paharis* or hill people as culturally unsophisticated and, therefore, do not call themselves hill people. There are, in fact, differences in educational attainment and technological sophistication between many Kathmandu Valley dwellers and most of the people living in other parts of the hill region, but in order to make broader cultural comparisons in this study between people of the hill and plains region, Kathmandu Valley dwellers have been included in the more general category of hill people.

Inner tarai: There are three low-lying valleys between the Siwaliks (sometimes called the Churia Range) and the Mahabharat Range: one on the Rapti River in the west, the largest on the Gandak/Narayani River in central Nepal, and the third on the Trifuga River in eastern Nepal. These have been inhabited mainly by Tharus until recently, but now they also contain large numbers of settlers from the hills.

Geographically, economically, and to some extent culturally these valleys are part of the hill region and are not part of the tarai region included in this study.

Mother tongue: This is the "first language" an individual learns to speak, and the language he uses within his family circle. In the study, the terms mother tongue (used by the Nepalese census) and first language are used interchangeably.

Outer tarai: This is the region referred to in the study simply as the tarai. It includes all the territory in Nepal south of the Siwaliks Range. It is the flat plains region of Nepal, the northern fringe of the Gangetic plain that lies within Nepal's national boundaries.

Nepalization: This term has been coined for use in this study to describe the process by which plains people living in Nepal take on the characteristics of the Nepalese culture. The major element of the Nepalization process is the learning of Nepali. However, the adoption of the dress, food, and manners of the hill people is also part of the process.

Plains languages: These are languages spoken by people who live on the Gangetic plain, either on the Indian or Nepalese side of the border. The major languages are Hindi, Urdu, Maithili, Bhojpuri, and Bengali; languages spoken by fewer people include Jhangar, Marwari, Raji, and various dialects of these languages such as Awadhi and the Morang Pradesh dialects.

Plains people: This term, as used in the study, is based on linguistic distinctions. Plains people are those who speak plains languages as their mother tongues or first languages, whether they were born or live in the plains or the hills.

Plains-tribal languages: In Nepal, the Tharus speak principally dialects of Maithili and Bhojpuri. In northern Uttar Pradesh are Tharus who speak dialects of Hindi. The Rajbanshis and Tajpurias speak dialects of Bengali. It is likely that the Mechis, Gangais, and Dhimals also speak Bengali dialects. Santali is a language in its own right; those who speak it are migrants from the Chota Nagpur Plateau in India. Several of the very small tribes such as the Dangars appear to have languages of their own.

Plains tribes: These are groups living chiefly on the plains, which do not fit into the Hindu caste system. A number of these groups are to be found in the tarai. The Tharus are by far the most numerous; others are mentioned above.

I. PUBLICATIONS

- Birch, Gunnar. Industrial
Bista, Dor Bahadur. and Bro
Dhital, Bhaarat. ment of
Reform, Research
Jha, Vedanand. Ministry
of Nepal
Lange, Dieter. sha Dist
Corpora
Mahendra Bir. New Er
mandu
of Nepa
———. *Procla*
Bikram
Ministr
ment o
———. *Prono*
King M
transla
1968.
Malhotra, Ra. mandu
Gove
———. *The*
of Info
1966.