



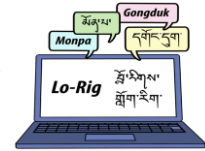
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CENTRE FOR BHUTAN &
GNH STUDIES



Language Documentation and Description Workshop – 1 “Linguistic Fieldwork”

The Lo-Rig Project, in cooperation with the Centre for Bhutan and GNH Studies, is pleased to announce its first annual workshop on “Language Documentation and Description”.

Date: Monday, November 30 to Sunday, December 6, 2026.

Maximum number of participants: 30 (15 sponsored Bhutanese participants, 10 sponsored regional participants, 5 additional regional participants).

Location: Centre for Bhutan and GNH Studies, Langjopakha, Thimphu, Bhutan.

Resource persons: Prof. Dr. Tim Bodt, Dr. Michael Bayona, Ms. Afsana Ferdous Asha and Ms. Tshering Om Tamang (Trinity College Dublin), Mr. Rinchen Wangdi and Ms. Sonam Lhamo (CBS).

Short description:

This is the first in a series of three annual workshops organized by the Lo-Rig project, funded by the European Research Council, and hosted by the Centre for Bhutan and GNH Studies in Thimphu. The workshops aim to bring together (community) linguists, language consultants, teachers, cultural officers, professionals from cultural departments, NGOs, language advocates and anyone else with an interest in linguistic research and analysis working primarily on Trans-Himalayan (a.k.a. Sino-Tibetan, a.k.a. Tibeto-Burman) languages of the SAARC member states (India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Bhutan). The first workshop will cover linguistic fieldwork and data collection and storage, the second workshop will discuss the transcription and translation of recordings using the software ELAN and applying Automatic Speech Recognition methodologies, while the third workshop will focus on the analysis of the transcribed and translated texts and preparing scientific and community-oriented outputs.

Goals:

The workshops will be instrumental in sensitizing and training linguists, language consultants and community linguists to the theory and practice of language documentation and promotion, including the opportunities offered by ASR methodologies. This transfer of knowledge and skills will build the local and regional research capacity and contribute to the long-term benefits of the Lo-Rig project. The workshops will also bring together people from different professional backgrounds, working on different languages, and from different countries, encouraging networking and the exchange of ideas and experiences and establishing best practices.



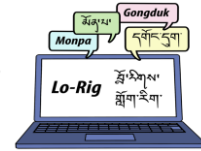
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Preliminary workshop planning:

Day 1 (Monday 30/11/2026): Registration, welcome, introductions

Day 2 (Tuesday 01/12/2026): Linguistics, language documentation, linguistic fieldwork

Day 3 (Wednesday 02/12/2026): Research ethics, producing outputs, local field visit

Day 4 (Thursday 03/12/2026): Recording equipment and data storage

Day 5 (Friday 04/12/2026): Phonetics and phonology, orthographies, and the IPA

Day 6 (Saturday 05/12/2026): Closing sessions

Day 7 (Sunday 06/12/2026): Field excursion

Application:

Eligibility: The workshops are open to applicants from any educational and professional background, including grass-roots community-based organisations and private individuals. The main eligibility criterion is to have a strong interest in learning about language documentation and description and a strong motivation to put that into practice, for example, by conducting language documentation and description, by developing materials, outputs, tools and content for language preservation and revitalisation, or by simply wanting to promote your own mother tongue locally. We accept applications from nationals of India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Bhutan. Preference will be given to people working on Trans-Himalayan languages, but applicants working on languages of other language families and language isolates are also welcome to apply. Applicants should supply a motivated willingness and ability to attend the full cycle of all three workshops (late 2026, late 2027, late 2028.)

Application procedure: Interested prospective participants are requested to fill out an online form with their personal background and motivation: <https://forms.gle/ZuRFpSt5CaA18LCN6>. Queries can be addressed by phone to Ms. Sonam Lhamo on 77322293, by WhatsApp to Ms. Tshering Tamang at +97577471462 or Dr. Tim Bodt at +31649957778, or by email to Ms. Tshering Tamang at tamangt@tcd.ie or Dr. Tim Bodt at tim.bodt@tcd.ie. Please note that final acceptance to the workshop is strongly linked to motivation.

Application deadline: August 15th, 2026 (acceptance communicated by September 15th, 2026)

Equal opportunities: This workshop aims to provide and enhance equal opportunities among people of all different backgrounds. We strongly encourage the application by women, people belonging to diverse minority ethno-linguistic communities, castes, and tribes, and early career researchers. There is no minimal educational qualification to participate. While there is no English language proficiency requirement, some level of English is required because much of the training will be conducted in English to enable contributions by international resource persons and participants.

Funding: To encourage the participation of a wide variety of people, including those from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, the workshop provides support to 15 Bhutanese and up to 10 regional participants.