

Dr. Tenzing Lhamo

Assistant Professor of Linguistics

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PROFILE

Field linguist documenting the endangered languages of the eastern Himalaya and building open dictionaries and speech corpora with local communities.

Research interests: Language documentation · tone and phonology · community archives · speech technology for small languages

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Linguistics <i>Centre for Linguistics, Northern Capital University</i> Thesis: A grammar of Lepcha-Kirati contact varieties	2012 – 2017
M.A., Linguistics <i>Northern Capital University</i>	2010 – 2012
B.A., English <i>Himalayan Hills College, Darjeeling</i>	2007 – 2010

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor <i>Department of Linguistics, Kanchenjunga University</i> - Lead a documentation project on 4 endangered languages; 600 hours of annotated recordings archived. - Built an open online dictionary with 9,000 entries, co-edited by community members.	2018 – Present
Documentation Fellow <i>Endangered Languages Programme (international foundation)</i> Trained 12 community researchers in recording and transcription.	2017 – 2018

PUBLICATIONS

- Lhamo, T., Kim, J., Okafor, D., & Gupta, R. (2026). Rethinking prosody in Bengali questions. *Studies in Phonology and Morphology*, 29(1), 790–810.
- Sato, Y., Mensah, K., Lhamo, T., & Menon, V. (2026). Revisiting code-mixing in Hinglish speech. *Journal of South Asian Linguistics*, 35(12), 602–620.
- Haddad, N., & Lhamo, T. (2026). Measuring code-mixing in Hinglish speech. *Studies in Phonology and Morphology*, 32(7), 225–239.
- Lhamo, T., Banerjee, P., Chen, L., & Menon, V. (2025). Revisiting documentation of endangered tribal languages. *Proceedings of the Workshop on Indian Language Computing*, pp. 144–157.
- Gupta, R., Lhamo, T., Sato, Y., & Kim, J. (2025). Scaling morphological parsing for Dravidian languages. *Studies in Phonology and Morphology*, 10(9), 722–733.
- Menon, V., Iyer, M., Rao, S., & Lhamo, T. (2025). Revisiting tone in Tibeto-Burman languages. *Language Documentation Quarterly*, 22(8), 83–101.

- Haddad, N., & **Lhamo, T.** (2024). Towards tone in Tibeto-Burman languages. *Proceedings of the Workshop on Indian Language Computing*, pp. 577–590.
- Iyer, M., **Lhamo, T.**, & Okafor, D. (2024). Evidence on documentation of endangered tribal languages. *Language Documentation Quarterly*, 42(10), 353–370.
- Lhamo, T.**, Sato, Y., Iyer, M., & Menon, V. (2024). Measuring child language acquisition in multilingual homes. *Proceedings of the Workshop on Indian Language Computing*, pp. 519–529.
- Menon, V., **Lhamo, T.**, Haddad, N., & Mensah, K. (2023). Designing for code-mixing in Hinglish speech. *Proceedings of the Workshop on Indian Language Computing*, pp. 732–740.
- Gupta, R., **Lhamo, T.**, & Chen, L. (2023). Rethinking code-mixing in Hinglish speech. *Studies in Phonology and Morphology*, 40(3), 263–274.
- Banerjee, P., Sato, Y., Rao, S., & **Lhamo, T.** (2023). Measuring documentation of endangered tribal languages. *Studies in Phonology and Morphology*, 46(12), 651–662.

BOOKS

- Lhamo, T. (2021). *A Grammar of Lepcha-Kirati Contact Varieties*. Gangtok: Mountain Echo Press.
- Lhamo, T., & Rai, D. (eds.) (2024). *Voices of the Eastern Himalaya: A Reader*. New Delhi: Lotus Leaf Press.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

- Seminar: “Revisiting prosody in Bengali questions”, *Studies in Phonology and Morphology*, Melbourne, 2026.
- Seminar: “Evidence on child language acquisition in multilingual homes”, *Language Documentation Quarterly*, London, 2026.
- Keynote: “Evidence on code-mixing in Hinglish speech”, *Symposium on South Asian Linguistics*, Melbourne, 2025.
- Poster: “Rethinking morphological parsing for Dravidian languages”, *Language Documentation Quarterly*, New Delhi, 2025.
- Seminar: “A study of tone in Tibeto-Burman languages”, *Symposium on South Asian Linguistics*, London, 2024.
- Seminar: “Designing for child language acquisition in multilingual homes”, *Symposium on South Asian Linguistics*, London, 2024.
- Seminar: “Designing for prosody in Bengali questions”, *Language Documentation Quarterly*, Singapore, 2023.
- Seminar: “Scaling code-mixing in Hinglish speech”, *Language Documentation Quarterly*, Bengaluru, 2023.

TEACHING

- Phonetics and Phonology
- Field Methods in Linguistics
- Language and Society in Northeast India

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONOURS

- Documentation grant, international endangered-languages foundation (2019–2023), USD 120,000
- National award for contribution to tribal languages (2023)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Advisor, state language commission (2021–present)

- Reviewer, Language Documentation Quarterly

SKILLS

Fieldwork: ELAN, Praat, FLEEx, audio-video recording, community training

Computing: Python, speech corpus preparation

Languages: Lepcha, Nepali, Hindi, English, Tibetan (reading)

REFERENCES

Prof. A. Sen

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Dr. M. Okoye

Programme Director, international endangered-languages foundation

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