

## Relative Clauses in the Puxi Variety of Qiang

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### *Abstract*

The Puxi variety of Qiang is spoken in Puxi Township (蒲溪鄉), Li County (理縣), Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture (阿壩藏族羌族自治州), Sichuan Province (四川省), China. It has about 2,000 speakers. The Puxi variety of Qiang belongs to the Daqishan subdialect (大岐山土語) of the Southern dialect of Qiang (羌語南部方言). It is mutually intelligible with other varieties within the Daqishan subdialect, but mutually unintelligible with other subdialects in the Southern dialect or the Northern dialect.

In this paper, we describe and analyze how to form relative constructions in the Puxi variety of Qiang. Relative clauses in the Puxi variety of Qiang can be quite complex. We find that there are head-external relative clauses, including pre-head relative clauses, post-head relative clauses, and headless relative clauses, and head-internal relative clauses. Two different nominalizers and definite marking or indefinite marking are used as relative clause markers; the choice depends on the semantic role of the head in the relative clause. There are also some relative clauses that are not marked by nominalization, but marked by person with aspect marking.