Nominalization in Rawang, with an excursus on “descriptive” linguistics and linguistic theory

Randy J. LaPolla
La Trobe University

This paper discusses the various forms, origins, and uses of nominalization in the Rawang language, a Tibeto-Burman language of northern Myanmar, with data taken mainly from naturally occurring texts. There will a short excursus on the value of using natural data, the value of documentation and archiving, and the nature of so-called “descriptive” linguistics as theoretical linguistics.