The Relationship among Yao, She, and Hakka through Phonetic Analyses

Language contact and phonetic adaptation of the Minorities

Languages in China

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Modern Chinese linguists have focused mainly on the evolution of Mandarin; few have taken into account the elements of linguistic substrate and language contact, and thus viewed Hakka, Yue, and Min as local variations of southern Chinese language.

Orderly phonetic correspondence with Middle Chinese are found in Chinese dialects, such as Hakka, Min, and Yue, yet their phonological structure reflect traces of linguistic substrate or language contact. Contrastive phonetic analyses on Hakka, She, and Yao are the focus of this paper, historical evolution and language contact within are also attempted. The aims are to study, analyze and compare Hakka and its sub-dialects; to compare She, its variation, "She Hwa", and its sub-dialects, then further expand to compare Yao-Mian and its related dialects.

Through analyzing underlying phonological systems, we found that:

- Hakka and She are basically of the same consonant system ("sheng mu"), none of them are of palatal consonants, yet owing to different levels of influence from Mandarin, very few palatalized consonants are preserved and very few specific re-contact relationships exist.
- 2. In comparison with She Hwa and Hakka, preservation of a whole set of palatal consonants, a few labial consonants, and specific consonants is significant in She. Except these, basically She is of the same consonant system with Hakka and She Hwa.
- 3. There are 4 consonant systems in Mian, Yao's sub-division: a normal consonant system, a palatal consonant system, a labial consonant system, and a palatal-labial consonant system. Deleting the later three non-Mandarin consonant systems as

well as the specific non-Mandarin consonants in the normal consonant system in Mian, we will have a similar consonant system with Hakka and She.

We will be able to gather more information by analyzing and comparing rhyme systems and tone systems of Yao, She, and Hakka.

From the differences and similarities shown in the phonemic systems and the information shown, we are able to detect the effects of the assimilation principle on each phonological system, as well as the residue preservation. From phonological structures, historical and geographical relations, we assert that She, She Hwa and Hakka have adapted phonologically and Mandarinized after language contact, yet underlying phonetic influences are preserved. Basically, by the definition of language contact, we categorize the level of Mandarinization from more to less and thus the order of Yao-She-She Hwa-Hakka to show the evolving trend.

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從語音系統的比較試論瑶語、畲語、客語的關係

----漢語與少數民族語言的接觸與語音調整 (提要)

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從現代漢語論者,往往以漢語爲演化的中心,很少考慮到歷史演化中的語言底層和語言接觸因素,因此認爲客家語、粵語和閩南語都屬於漢語南方的地方變體。但是漢語方言中的客家話、閩南話、粵語等等方言,雖然和漢語中古音具有相當嚴整的語音對應關係,它的音系結構仍然保有底層語言或語言接觸的痕跡。本論文專就客家語、畲語和瑤語的語音比較分析,試圖討論其歷史演化和語言接觸的關係。

本論文通過客家語及其次方言的考察、分析和比較,也比較畲族所使用的「畲語」「畲話」及其方言,更擴大比較瑶族勉語及其相關方言。例如:經過音系的深層比較,我們可以看到:

- 1.客家語和畲語這兩種語言、基本上具有相同的聲位系統,都不具有顎化的 聲位;只是歷經漢語化的深淺略異,偶有殘留的顎化聲位、個別特殊的再接觸關係。
- 2.「畲語」比起「畲話」和客家話,保留了一整套的顎化的聲位,殘留了少數唇化聲位,以及個別的特殊聲位之外,其餘的聲位系統、大體就是客家語和「畲話」所擁有的聲位系統。
- 3. 瑤族中的勉語支系、其聲位系統可以分爲四大部分:一般聲位系統、顎化的聲位系統、唇化的聲位系統、唇顎化的聲位系統,如果減去後面三套非漢語的聲位系統,又減去一般聲位系統中的非漢語特殊聲母,大抵便是客家語或畲話的聲位系統。

以上是聲位系統的分析比較,如果加上瑶畲客語韻位系統、調位系統的分析 比較,我們還可以獲得更多的訊息。

從其音位系統的異同關聯及其顯現的訊息,我們可以看到在語言的接觸變化中,「存同去異」原則下的音系調整和新變,也可以看到音系中保守力量的殘存。從音系結構和時空關係來看,我們可以推論出畲語、畲話和客家話、都已經或多或少在接觸漢語後、調整了各自的音系,不同程度的漢語化了,但是還保有底層語音的影響。從接觸的程度來說,隨著接觸的加深,由非漢語到漢語的變化中,我們大體可以嘗試依次排列成:瑶語 > 畲語 > 畲話 > 客家話 這樣的演變方向。