

中文及雙語學系研究研討會系列

《亞洲地理語言學工程2015-2017概要》

講者

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摘要

我們計劃根據亞洲2000至4000個不同地點的下述8個語言特徵來繪製語言地圖：1) 太陽，2) 稻子，3) 奶，4) 風，5) 鐵，6) 如何數名詞（類別詞），7) 聲調和重音，和8) 下雨。本報告是2015年至2017年度研究成果的綜述。

我們的首要目標是運用正統的地理語言學方法研究每一個語族。其結果是觀察到一些引人注目的跨語族的語言變化或傳播的機制。首先是“借譯calque”，也就是詞語構成部分的直譯

如有些南島語、侗台語、南亞語和漢語等東南亞語言把“太陽”稱作“白天的眼睛”。語言接觸的結果是除了詞語的借用以外，詞序的借用也經常見到。語言的普遍性也在各語族裡都有同等表現：我們選擇調查“稻子”和“奶”是為了分析農業和畜牧業的傳播過程，我們發現在中心地區有分辨細微的部分詞義場，但在周邊地區只用籠統的詞語。這些語言學上的發現需要從事物傳播和人類集團移動的角度去進行解釋。

Abstract

Eight basic meanings were used as the focus of investigation for a linguistic maps project involving approximately 2000 to 4000 places in different parts of Asia. These basic meanings are (1) the sun, (2) rice plant, (3) milk, (4) wind, (5) iron, (6) morphemes or classifiers used for counting nouns, (7) tone and accent, and (8) the inchoative reference to raining ('it rains'). This presentation focuses on the findings from 2015 to 2017. The first goal is to apply the conventional geolinguistics method to identify the words for expressing the above-mentioned basic meanings across different language families. Careful analysis of the data shows some striking mechanisms of linguistic diffusion or language change in different language families. One commonly used mechanisms is calquing or the use of morpheme-by-morpheme translation, such as expressing referring to "the sun" using the lexical expression equivalent to "the eye of the day" in different Southeast Asian language families, including Austronesian, Tai-Kadai, Austroasiatic, and Sinitic. Borrowing is by no means limited to words; borrowing of syntactic features like word order as a language contact phenomenon is also observable. Parallel phenomena, possibly reflecting language universals, have also been found. "Rice plant" and "milk" were chosen for examining the patterns and processes of the spread of farming and cattle breeding. In many micro semantic fields, precise distinctions are discernible in the central area, but less so in peripheral areas. These linguistic findings will be interpreted in terms of the probability of diffusion of things as well as possible migration of human groups over thousands of years.