

A Study on Initial Consonant System and Some Phonetic Changes of Dai and Thai Languages Based on Cultural Identity

He Lei

Yunnan Normal University Business School, Kunming, China

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Abstract: Thai and Dai Languages Belong to the Zhuang-Dai Language Branch of the Zhuang-Dong Language Family of the Sino-Tibetan Language Family. There Are Many Similarities in Pronunciation, Vocabulary and Grammar between the Two Languages. They Have Many Similarities in Pronunciation. Even If They Are Different in Some Aspects, They Are Regular in Their Internal Parts. Based on the Perspective of Cultural Identity, This Paper Intends to Take Thai Standard Dialect and Dehong Dai Dialect as Research Objects, Compare Their Similarities and Differences in Pronunciation, and Find out the Corresponding Laws of the Two Languages in Pronunciation, So as to Prove the Consistency of Their Initial Consonant Systems in the Early Period, and Talk about Some Phonetic Changes between Them.

1. Introduction

Thai is Thailand's National Language and Official Language, with a Population of about 70 Million. According to the Geographical Distribution of the Dai People, Thai Can Be Divided into Four Major Dialects [1]. They Are Thai in Central China, Namely Bangkok Dialect, Northeast Dialect, Northern Dialect and Southern Dialect. from the Perspective of Vocabulary and Pronunciation, Xishuangbanna Dai Dialect is Relatively Close to Thai, So the Dai Language Chooses Xishuangbanna Dialect as the Representative Point of Comparison. Cultural Identity Refers to the Confirmation of the Common Culture between People or between Individuals and Groups [2]. Using the Same Cultural Symbols, Following the Common Cultural Concept, Adhering to the Common Mode of Thinking and Code of Conduct Are the Basis of Cultural Identity. Thai and Dai Languages in Chiang Mai Area in Northern Thailand Are Relatively Close, But Due to Lack of Materials, Bangkok Dialect Can Only Be Chosen as the Representative Point. These Regular Difficulties Are Closely Related to the Learners' Mother Tongue Habits. after a Period of Study, These Difficulties Will Be Solved to Varying Degrees. Compared with the Learners in Other Countries, Thai Chinese Pronunciation Has a Deeper Imprint of Mother Tongue Pronunciation, Forming a Group Pronunciation Characteristic Different from That of Learners from Other Mother Tongue Backgrounds [3]. According to the Principle of Loudness Change of Syllable Structure and the Restriction of Initial Consonant Change on Tone Development in Chinese Dialects, We Believe That the Key Factor Restricting Tone Origin is the Change of Consonant Phonetic Features in Initial Consonant Positions, and the Disappearance and Change of Rhyme Endings Generally Will Not Have Direct Influence on Tone Origin and Development [4]. the Sound Change Mechanism of Real Language Can Confirm Our Hypothesis. This Article Intends to Find out the Similarities and Differences between Them through the Comparison of Initial Consonants, to Prove the Consistency of Their Early Initial Consonant Systems, and to Talk about Some Phonetic Changes between Them.

2. Monosyllabic Character of Words and Conditions for Tone Generation

Whether the Phonetic Form of the Basic Structural Unit of a Language is Monosyllabic or Polysyllabic Involves a Series of Fundamental Principles of the Language System, Including the Non-Linear Phonetic Features Parasitic on Syllables. the Origin and Development of Tones Need to Be Discussed in Relation to This Structural Feature [5]. Interlanguage Theory Holds That Bias is an Inevitable Phenomenon in the Process of Second Language Acquisition and an Inherent Feature of

Second Language Acquisition [6]. Xishuangbanna Dai Language is Mainly Distributed in Xishuangbanna Autonomous Prefecture. Due to Its Geographical Proximity to Thailand, Thai and West Dai Have High Phonetic Similarity, and West Dai People with High Native Language Familiarity Can Communicate with Thai People Almost Simply. Identity is One of the Basic Functions Inherent in Culture. Having a Common Culture is Often the Foundation of National Identity and Social Identity. from the Perspective of Vocabulary and Pronunciation, Xishuangbanna Dai Dialect is Relatively Close to Thai, So the Dai Language Chooses Xishuangbanna Dialect as the Representative Point of Comparison. Thai and Dai Languages in Chiang Mai Area in Northern Thailand Are Relatively Close, But Due to Lack of Materials, Bangkok Dialect Can Only Be Chosen as the Representative Point. Their Common Property is That the Segments They Control Can Become the Basic Structural Form for Encoding Reality [7]. Although Word is a Concept Abstracted from Chinese Studies, It is of General Linguistic Significance and Suitable for the Study of Eastern Monosyllabic Languages. Tone is a Phonetic Feature of a Word.

Although both language contrastive analysis theory and error analysis theory regard “errors” as errors and failures of learners in the process of acquiring a second language, ignoring the dynamic development characteristics of the second language acquisition process and the individual differences of learners, the methods of language contrastive analysis and error analysis still have reference value in the study of second language acquisition, especially for the study of phonetic acquisition. The theme of cultural identity is the issue of self-identity and the legitimacy of identity [8]. Specifically, through self-expansion, we should turn “I” into “us” and confirm our common identity. For example, Chinese, Tibetan and Vietnamese. Therefore, tone is a common type of monosyllabic language, which has nothing to do with genetics and cannot be used for historical comparative study of different languages. This nature determines that the research on the origin of tone must find its cause from the principle of syllable structure. When we say that the pronunciation is exactly the same, we mean that the initial consonants and vowels are exactly the same and the tone category is equivalent. There are not many such words if even the tone values are required to be exactly the same. Structurally, cognate words include monosyllabic words, polysyllabic monosyllabic words and compound words. In contrast, the difference in pronunciation between the German Dai and Thai is more obvious than that of the Western Dai.

3. Vowel Changes and Their Corresponding Relations

3.1 Merging Monovowels in Dehong Dai Language

In Dehong ancient Dai language, vowels can be used as vowels alone. In modern spoken English, there is no rhyme left. The Thai language retains the sound of slurs quite completely and has a clear and turbid opposition. The German and Dai people no longer use the sound of slurs, only the sound of slurs and fricative [9]. Although this is a structural principle extracted from Chinese studies, it has universal theoretical significance. It is not only suitable for the study of eastern monosyllabic languages, but also has important theoretical value for the study of the phonetic structure of western polysyllabic languages, because the underlying structural principles of syllables are roughly the same. It is consistent in Thai and Chinese, but there are still many participants who have made mistakes. Therefore, we have repeatedly reviewed the pronunciation of Thai words that contain the above consonants in Thai. Not exactly the same. Thai has 9 monophones, of which there are 7 standard vowels and 2 non-standard vowels. They are: i, e, ε, a, ə, w, u, o, ɔ. Thai vowels are divided into long and short vowels, and long and short opposites have different meanings. Only a very small number of function words in the Dai dialect of De Dai and mangshi still have ε rhyme. It is obvious that the actual pronunciations of these consonants in Chinese and Thai are not exactly the same, of which [k] and [kn] are especially obvious. After investigation, we found that there are slight differences in the pronunciation methods and positions of this group of consonants between Chinese and Thai.

3.2 Changes of Vowels in Dai Language in Xishuangbanna

The short vowels e, 0 and a of the ancient Dai language have changed under certain conditions, i.e. (1)e becomes I before the endings m and n. (2)o becomes U at the end of m, n and before. (3) A becomes C between the initial consonant of the tip of the tongue and the end of n and t. Under the same initial consonant, A also becomes before the end of m. The short vowels E and 0 in Bannaguyi are also short vowels in Thai, while the long vowels in Dehong Dai are long vowels, but they should be short vowels in the early stage. The aspirated sound in Thai is opposite to the unvoiced sound. Only the unvoiced sound is used in the Dai nationality. The unique vibrato R in Thai is no longer used in the Dai nationality, and all the vibrato R are merged into the clear fricative sound. The two languages are the same or corresponding in pronunciation, but the meanings of the two languages are different, and the two languages are different in the same concept. There are 599 monosyllabic words and 77 polysyllabic words from different sources. In Chinese, the blocking method of the tongue root sounds [k] and [kn] is to lift the tongue root against the soft jaw and blast it into sounds by air flow. Although [k] and [kn] in Thai are also described as clear stop sounds at the root of the tongue, the opposition between [k] and [kh] in Thai is not obvious and sounds a bit close to h[x] in Chinese, because the parts that should be blocked are relatively relaxed, so it is the back of the tongue that actually resists the soft engagement and forms the block, which is slightly forward than in Chinese, and the block is not as tight as in Chinese and the delivery volume is relatively large. Tension increases gradually before the vowel peak and decreases gradually after the vowel peak, but there is no difference in the function of the initial consonant and the final consonant. Tone is a later suprasegmental phenomenon of monosyllabic language, which is parasitic on syllables. Its origin and development cannot be controlled by this general structural principle.

3.3 The Problem That the Dehong Dai Language Aw Corresponds to the Banna and Thai Ai

Aw and ai are two different finals in Dehong Dai language. The words formed by aw are basically ai finals in Banna and Thailand. Early aw vowels can be represented by the vowel of the word “Da” in Thai. There are more than 20 words of this vowel in Thai. On the other hand, these 20 words all use the mother of aw in Dehong Dai language. The changes of the two groups of monophonic phonemes are only the level of the tongue position. The difference of the level of the tongue position in Thai has a distinctive meaning, while Dehai only selects the group of the half-high tongue position. The half-low phonemes in Thai are also incorporated into the corresponding half-high vowel phonemes. Because monosyllables are only a necessary condition, not a sufficient condition, for a language to judge tones. For example, in the Tibetan language reflected in Tibetan literature in the 7th century, the structural units of Tibetan language in Gansu and Qinghai regions are all monosyllabic, but there is no tone yet. The reason is that the internal structure of syllables is complicated: another vowel symbol in Thai originally indicates ai, which can be represented by the vowel of the word “yuan”. The words in Banna and Thai that are made up of ai finals all use ai finals in Dehong Dai languages. Thus, the two vowel symbols in Thai (including Lao) reflect the opposition between aw and ai in the early days. In both Chinese and Thai languages, the phonetic symbols m,n,f,l and the consonants they represent are basically the same, so they do not bother the learners. Some phonetic symbols are used in both Chinese and Thai, but the consonants they represent are different.

4. Comparison of Initial Consonant Systems between Dai and Thai

The initial consonant system of modern Dai and Thai is not complicated (see consonant phoneme), which is a phoneme summarized from the phonetic point of view. But from the point of view of words, the number of initial consonants is more than that. A consonant letter represents a phoneme. Of all the phonetic symbols, Thai phonetic symbols j and ch have the greatest interference. The consonants represented by the phonetic symbols J and ch in Thai are glossal midtones [c] and [ch], while in Chinese j means glossal pronunciations [t], and ch means retrolingual pronunciations [t]. Therefore, the presence or absence of tones in a language or dialect

must have one condition, that is, the structural rules of monosyllables are relatively simple. If Chinese phonological terminology is used, the consonants and vowels can only be assumed by one phoneme, i.e. only one structural component can appear in each position. Apart from the letters specially used for spelling Buddhist sutra borrowings, the rest can be divided into two categories: one belongs to ancient clear consonants, i.e. high consonants in ancient Dai language and high consonants and middle consonants in Thai language; The other is voiced consonants, i.e. lower consonants in ancient Dai and Thai languages.

The initial consonants of the middle group in Thai are differentiated at an early stage, which can be proved by the relationship between them and the initial consonants of the high group in Bannagu Dai. Moreover, when the syllables formed by the initial consonants of the middle group are not tone-marked, they should be tone 1 of the ancient tone category (Thai has been merged into tone 2), which is the same in Bannagu Dai. In terms of vocabulary, they have developed a number of words from different sources. Some of these differences are often related to contact with other nationalities and the influence of other languages. For example, the old loanwords in Dai and Thai are the same whether borrowed from Chinese, Pali or Sanskrit, but the new loanwords are different. The uniqueness of cultural identity lies in that the index of identity is not people's natural attributes or physiological characteristics, but people's social attributes and cultural attributes. The syllable structure takes the vowel nucleus as the core, and the pronunciation loudness of the phoneme in the front part of the syllable increases gradually. The change of the phonetic features will transform the high and low volume into the phonetic features of the suprasegmental sound. After that, the phoneme loudness gradually decreases, and the change of the phonetic features will change the structure of the vowel itself. Its reduced loudness cannot be directly converted into the phonetic features of the suprasegmental sound. The two opposite categories in the second language are assimilated into the two opposite categories in the mother tongue, so that the two opposite categories in the second language can be well distinguished and assimilated into one category in the mother tongue, and they are thought to have the same degree of similarity as this category in the mother tongue, thus the two categories cannot be well distinguished.

There are 7 initials in the group: k, ts, p, b, t, d, j, and their ancient phonological structures (4) are: ts, p, j, d. Among them, the consonants B and D with front guttural stops are common to many Zhuang and Dong languages. Thai still retains the writing style of j. Dai people have close contacts with Han people, and the neologism terms after liberation are basically absorbed from Chinese, thus generating a large number of Chinese neologisms. Due to social reasons, Thai is closer to the west, so it has absorbed more English loanwords and a small amount of loanwords from neighboring Cambodian. The vowels of Burmese are generally divided into unit vowels, which are derived from the ending -m, -n, the ending-opening rhyme of diphthongs and the ending -P, -t, -k etc. weakened to-? The resulting diphthongs promoted sound rhyme. Therefore, I began to actively adjust my pronunciation and try to make it conform to the phonetic rules of Chinese. At this time, the difference in each learner's perception and analysis of sound results in different results when they distinguish the three groups of affricates in Chinese which are closer to their mother tongue. in the group of initial consonants of j[c] and ch[ch], which the learner thinks are closest to their mother tongue, he may continue to use the phonetic form of mother tongue instead. of course, in history, there are also some old borrowed words (including Chinese, Pali and Sanskrit) which are borrowed separately, or which are borrowed by a and not borrowed by b, which also results in lexical differences.

5. Conclusion

According to the arrangement of tone orders, there are 10 tones in the speech. Although the tone values are different and their tone categories are merged, the changes are regular. Thai and Dedai are cognate languages and have many similarities and differences in pronunciation. Although there are differences between the two languages due to geographical barriers, their changes are not chaotic but regular. The pronunciations before the tongue, before the tip of the tongue and after the tip of the tongue in the Chinese initial consonant system are difficult for Thais to acquire Chinese

initial consonants. Under the effect of multiple psychological processes of perceptual assimilation, they are hard to distinguish the differences between the initials that exist in these Chinese but are missing in their mother tongue. Serious errors have occurred and the fossilization phenomenon is consistent with the initial consonant system of Dai and Thai in their early days. The modern Dehong Dai language is quite different from Banna and Thai, but it is regularly connected internally. Homologous words have proved this point. In this sense, the cultural crisis of modernity is the crisis of people and culture relations and the crisis of cultural identity. In short, modernity shows the real root of cultural identity. Their early initial consonants should be divided into clear and muddy consonants. Through the above analysis, the author has preliminarily found out the corresponding laws of the different phonemes in Thai and German Dai, laying a foundation for the historical comparison between the later languages. Due to the limited time and personal level, if there are any errors or omissions in the text, I hope to give some corrections.

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