

Abstract

My aim to study is based on the Portuguese-Chinese Dictionary compiled by Matteo Ricci and Michele Ruggieri, the two famous to Macau preacher in the 16th century. Quantitative analysis has been applied to this research including categorical quantification, categorical quantification in word pairs, statistics on the frequency of use for different parts of speech, and categorical statistics on the various formations of phrases. The characteristics of the vocabulary in the Portuguese-Chinese Dictionary have been summed up by means of the quantitative analysis.

At the same time, a systematic comparison has been made between the Chinese vocabulary in the said dictionary and the vocabulary of classical Chinese and modern Chinese. Besides, some analyses have been done about the affix of the word, the change of term of address, the spread of the vocabulary in dialects in the dictionary.

All in all, this thesis aims to analyse the characteristics of the Chinese vocabulary and provide some information for further research on chronological changes of the Chinese vocabulary through the Portuguese-Chinese Dictionary.

Key words: Matteo Ricci, Michele Ruggieri, Portuguese-Chinese Dictionary, Chinese Dictionary