

Abstract

This dissertation is divided into 3 sections. The first section gives a general picture of the appearance of the Macanese and the portuguese dialect and their evolutions in last 4 centuries. The second section gives a brief description of the evolutionary history of the study of portuguese dialect in Macau in the last century. The final section deals with a study of the glossary, which is the major constituent of the dissertation. In this dissertation, the author tried to examine the set of 395 glossaries of the table of vocabulary at the back of "The Monograph of Macau". In the study the author tried to find out the regularities which may exist in the phonetics, word construction and syntax of the portuguese dialect in Macau, and tried to concisely analyze the given pronunciation in chinese.

In the final part of the dissertation lists a table of comparisons. On one side is the results of conversion of the aforementioned glossaries prepared by Luís G. Gomes together with C.R. Bawden while the author's analysis results are on the other side for comparison purpose. In addition to the converted portuguese glossaries prepared by the above three, the table also lists the author's individual interpretations and evidential information. The quotations of the information have also been cited in the table for ease of reference.

It must be clearly pointed out that due to the involvement of different chinese dialects, especially putonghua and cantonese, together with portuguese in the table of vocabulary in the final section of the study, the author would give definitions hereafter to avoid the ambiguity in concepts. Since the table of vocabulary was prepared in the 18th century when the concept of putonghua was nonexistent then, the 'mandarin' referred is not Putonghua but its predecessor 'The Official Language of the North' while the 'cantonese' refers to the major dialects spoken in the regions of the Pearl River Delta.

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