



澳門大學

UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU  
UNIVERSITY OF MACAU

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

“CANTONESE WITH AN ACCENT”  
IDENTITY, SYMBOLIC POWER AND  
HEGEMONY IN ZHUHAI

Submitted by

Wang Wei

(M-B1-4131-7)

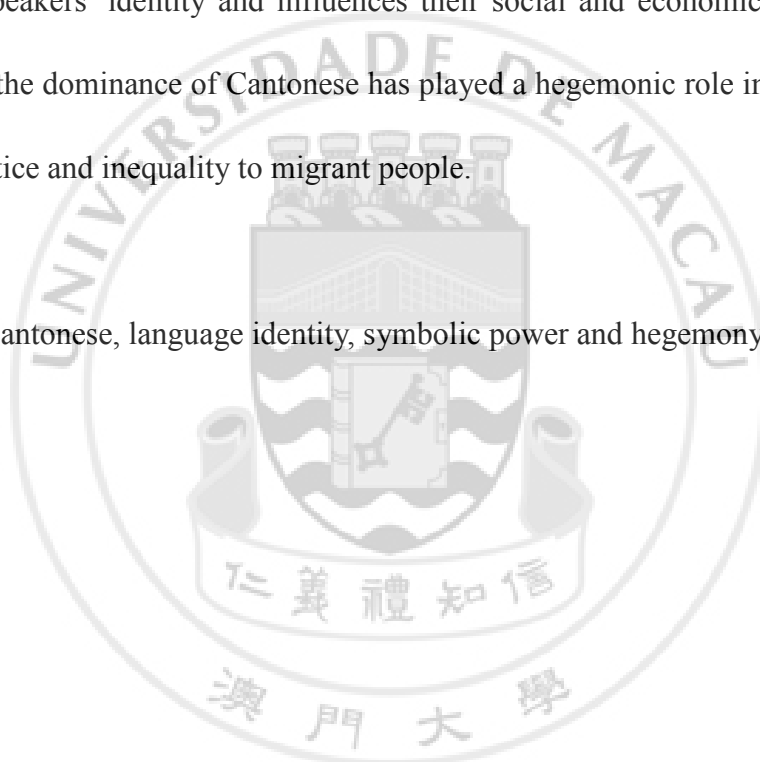
Supervisor: Dr. Shi Wei

A thesis in partial fulfillment of requirements  
for the degree of Master of Arts  
in Communication and New Media  
at the University of Macau  
August 2013

## Abstract

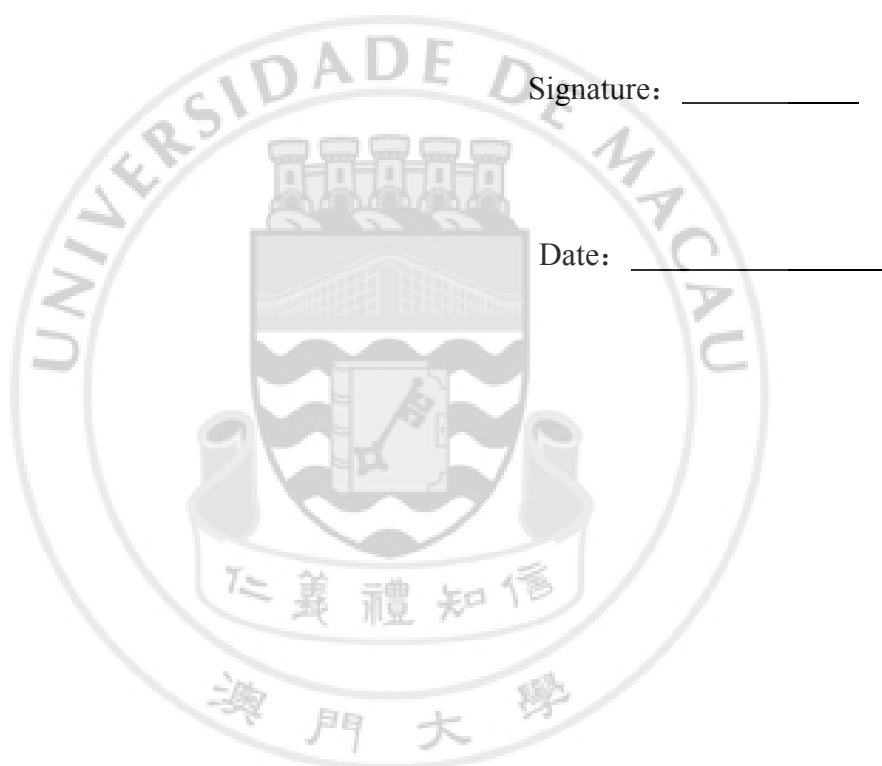
The purpose of this paper is to study the role of Cantonese in the identity reconstruction process of migrant people, and its relationship with symbolic power and cultural hegemony. To aid my analysis, I conducted 22 open-ended interviews; most of the subjects were migrant people who came from remote areas. Their experience showed that during their adaptation process, Cantonese works as a symbolic mark to distinguish speakers' identity and influences their social and economic positions. To some extent, the dominance of Cantonese has played a hegemonic role in this field and brought injustice and inequality to migrant people.

**Keywords:** Cantonese, language identity, symbolic power and hegemony



## Declaration

I declare that the thesis represents my own work, except where due acknowledgement is made, and that it has not been previously included in a thesis, dissertation or report submitted to this University or to any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualification.



## Acknowledgements

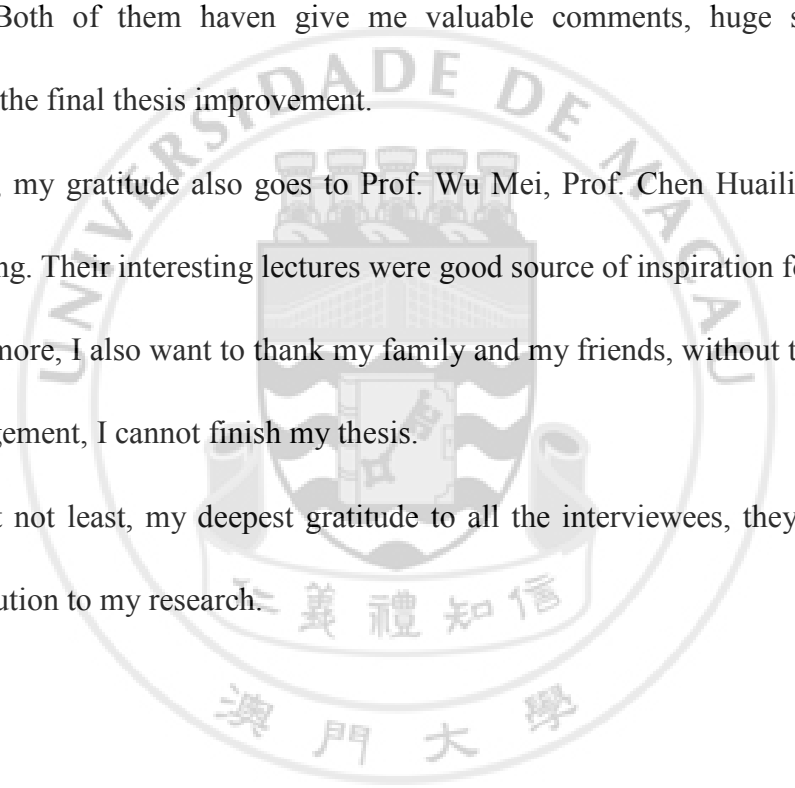
First of all, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to my thesis supervisor, Dr. Shi Wei, who gave indispensable help, guidance and encouraging during the whole process of researching, modifying and writing of this thesis.

Moreover, I would like to thank Dr. Li Ying for acceptance to be my chair of oral defense committee and Dr. Chang Wen-Yu(Angela) for being examiner of the committee. Both of them haven't give me valuable comments, huge support and guidance for the final thesis improvement.

Besides, my gratitude also goes to Prof. Wu Mei, Prof. Chen Huailin, and Prof. Liu Shih-Diing. Their interesting lectures were good source of inspiration for me.

Furthermore, I also want to thank my family and my friends, without their support and encouragement, I cannot finish my thesis.

Last but not least, my deepest gratitude to all the interviewees, they have made great contribution to my research.



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