An Analytical Study of Burmese Loanwords in Shan Language
การศึกษาวิเคราะห์คำยืมภาษาพม่าที่ปรากฏในภาษาฉาน

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บทคัดย่อ

บทความวิจัยนี้ มีวัตถุประสงค์ คือ 1) เพื่อศึกษาประวัติศาสตร์ของชาวฉานและคำยืมที่ปรากฏในภาษาฉาน 2) เพื่อศึกษาปัจจัยของการยืมคำจากภาษาพม่าที่นำมาใช้ในภาษาฉาน และ3) เพื่อวิเคราะห์คำยืม ภาษาพม่าที่ปรากฏในภาษาฉาน

การรวบรวมข้อมูลของการศึกษาวิจัยครั้งนี้ แบ่งออกเป็นสองวิธี คือ 1) ข้อมูลหลัก 2) ข้อมูลรอง **ส่วนข้อมูลหลัก** เป็นการรวบรวมข้อมูลจากพจนานุกรมภาษาฉานและภาษาอังกฤษ และพจนานุกรมภาษาฉานและภาษาพม่า **ส่วนข้อมูลรองคือ** เป็นการรวบรวมข้อมูลจากการสำรวจเอกสารที่เกี่ยวข้อง เช่นวิทยานิพนธ์ หนังสือ ตำราวิชาการ บทความวิชาการ และวารสารอื่น ๆ

การวิเคราะห์งานวิจัยครั้งนี้ แบ่งออกเป็นสองส่วน คือ 1) ประเภทของคำยืม 2) การเปลี่ยนแปลงความหมายของคำยืม **ประเภทของคำยืมได้แก่** การทับศัพท์ การแปลคำยืมแบบผสม และคำยืมที่มีการเปลี่ยนแปลง และวิเคราะห์การเปลี่ยนแปลงความหมายชนิดของคำยืมภาษาพม่าที่ปรากฏในภาษาฉาน

จากการศึกษาครั้งนี้ ได้พบคำยืมภาษาพม่าที่ปรากฏในภาษาฉาน จำนวน 309 คำ ได้แบ่งออกเป็น 4 ชนิดหลัก ๆ ก็คือ (1) การทับศัพท์ จำนวน 127 คำ คิดเป็นร้อยละ 41.10% (2) คำยืมแบบผสม จำนวน 120 คำ คิดเป็นร้อยละ 38.83%, 3 คำยืมที่มีการเปลี่ยนแปลง จำนวน 20 คำ คิดเป็นร้อยละ 9.52% และ (4) การแปลศัพท์ จำนวน 13 คำ คิดเป็นร้อยละ 6.19% วิเคราะห์ข้อมูลของการศึกษาวิจัยนี้ ได้อธิบายผลพร้อมภาพประกอบ

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นอกจากนี้ผลการวิจัยพบว่า จากการศึกษาประวัติศาสตร์ของชาวฉาน ในช่วงรัฐฉานตกเป็นอาณานิคมของอังกฤษตั้งแต่ปี ค.ศ. 1893-1945 อังกฤษจัดให้ภาษาอังกฤษเป็นภาษาที่หนึ่ง และภาษาพม่าเป็นภาษาที่สอง โดยไม่ได้ให้ความสำคัญกับภาษาอื่น ๆ เช่น ภาษามอญ ภาษาฉานเป็นต้น

การวิจัยครั้งนี้พบว่า การทับศัพท์ถูกนำมาใช้มากที่สุด และมีคำยืมที่มีความหมายดั้งเดิมถูกนำมาใช้มากกว่า คำศัพท์ที่มีการเปลี่ยนแปลงทางความหมาย และได้นำเสนอข้อมูลเชิงลึกเกี่ยวกับคำยืมภาษาพม่าที่ปรากฏในภาษาฉาน

คำสำคัญ: คำยืม, ภาษาพม่า, ภาษาฉาน, ภาษา

Abstract

The objectives of this research were 1) to study history of the Shan and its loanwords, 2) to study the factors of borrowing loanwords from the Burmese language and 3) to analyze Burmese loanwords found in Shan language.

Collecting data of the research study consisted of two methods; namely, primary data and secondary data. Primary data was directly collected information from A Shan – English Dictionary and Shan – Myanmar Dictionary. Secondary data was collected information from documentary survey like thesis, academic books, academic articles and journals.

The analysis was divided into two parts: types of loanwords and semantic changes. There were four main types of loanwords: transliteration, loan translation, loan blend, and loan shift; and the second part is related to four main kinds of loanwords according to semantic changes. The data were analyzed according to the method of assimilation into Burmese and Shan context.

The units for this study were found 309 Burmese loanwords in Shan had found from the data collections, divided into four types: (1) 127 words of transliteration (41.10%), (2) 120 words of Loan blended (38.83%), (3) 20 words of Loan shift (9.52%), and (4) 13 words of Loan translation (6.19%). Data analysis of the research study was shown and discussed with illustrations.

Based on the findings, according to Shan history, from the time that Shan was the colony of British since 1893-1945. British administrators made the Burmese language a second language in Burma Proper which killed the Mon and Shan language.

It was found that transliteration was used most. Besides, original meaning was used most in the contexts according to semantic changes. To conclude, this study offers insight into Burmese loanwords in the Shan language.

Keyword: Loanwords, Burmese, Shan, Language

1. Introduction

Myanmar, a vast country with a space of 261,789 square miles is the largest country in the Southeast Asian region. It is a simmering stew of ethnic diversity where the area of the Burmese majority is encircled by separate ethnic states for the Chins, Kachins, Shans, Karens, Kayahs, Arakanese, Mons and many other minority ethnic groups. (Klein, W., 1983: 7)

Today, Myanmar is a multi-national state which has a population of around 52 million. According to Wheatley, “About two thirds of its population are Burmans and the other third is made up of a variety of ethnic groups, including other Tibeto-Burman speaking people such as Chin, Naga and Karen. Mon-Khmer people such as the Mon, Padaung and the Shan, whose language is very closely related to that of Thai and other nationalities such as Chinese

and Indians who live mostly in towns". (Wheatley, J. K., 1987: 106) Most of the ethnic groups have their own languages and their own writing systems. They speak their own language within their family and in daily transactions and the Burmese language is used in schools or when dealing with authority and in cross-cultural communication. In this manner Burmese emerges as the language of education and the media, of business and administration, and of communication between ethnic groups.

Wherever there are culture contacts of any sort between the speakers of different languages, speakers will make use of word from other languages, to refer to things, processes, and ways of behavior, organization, or thinking, for which words are not available or convenient in their own languages.

The Borrowing is the one mechanic of language change which may consists of the lexical borrowing, phonological borrowing, and syntactic borrowing in recipient language and in donor language. (Arlotto, A., 1972: 195) The lexical borrowing is the most common type of interaction between languages. Words can be taken very freely from one language into another. In general, recipient languages rather pronounce the donor languages with their own phonological system. And sometimes, recipient language may borrow only the meaning of words from the donor language and forming the new words based on their linguistic system.

Shan is a language which borrowed a lot of words from foreign languages, such as English, Thai, Pali and Burmese. From the time that Shan was the colony of British since 1893-1945. British administrators made the Burmese language a second language in Burma Proper which killed the Mon and Shan language. The British never encouraged any languages except Burmese as can be seen from the fact that all schools in Shan States and other

Frontier Areas taught Burmese and English in classes. Burmese and English from the influence of education and language contacts. Since the Union of Burma was independent from British in 1947, the Burmese culture and tradition came into the Shan. Burmese Language has become the important language taught in schools, used in business and trade, and among young Shan students. So, at present, we can find a lot of Burmese Loan words in Shan. (Tzang Yawnghwe Chao, 1987: 51)

By the reason, on March 2, 1962, General Ne Win staged a coup d'état, which has resulted in a socialist ideology, and the country has been ruled by the current military regime since then.

The Panglong Agreement has never been recognized by the Burmese military government, leaving significant participatory ethnic groups wholly dissatisfied. Certain nationalist policies, such as the promotion of Burmese culture and the compulsion to use only the Burmese language in schools across the country, have combined to suppress and subvert the cultures of larger ethnic groups, such as the Shan or Tai, the Karen, and the Mon. These ethnicities maintain that Ne Win's military regime has tried to suppress them as well as to assimilate or dissolve their nations. Therefore, a number of anti-Burma armies have arisen, led, for instance, by the Shan or Tai, the Karen, and the Mon.

By the politics and government policy, nowadays, Burmese loan words are generally found in the Shan language both of written and spoken language. And some of them replace the Shan words that Shan people has ever used in the time that Shan has been the colony of British in 1893-1945. (Martin Stuart-Fox, 1997: 29)

At the present, the Burmese loan words that Shan has borrowed into the Shan language are a lot and always increasing, such as the vocabularies in

everyday life, culture, tradition, sciences, new technology and so on. But there are still not the exhaustive studies about Burmese loan words in the Shan language and their influence on it at present. So, the researcher is interested to collect and analyses them for studying how they are changed their semantic and phonological system in Shan, also how they influence on the Shan language and the way people use and perceive their ethnic language and culture.

2. Objectives of the Research

1. To study history and background of the Shan and its loanwords.
2. To study the factors of Burmese loanwords used in Shan language.
3. To analyze the features of Burmese loanwords in Shan language.

3. Research Methodology

This is a documentary research. The objectives of the research were to study history and background of the Shan and its loanwords, to study the factors of Burmese borrowing words in Shan and to analysis Burmese loanwords in the Shan. The researcher studied from A Shan – English Dictionary, Shan - Myanmar Dictionary and the modern usage Shan books, academic books, thesis, documentary, article and journals. After that the research methodology has been finalized.

With consideration to research method, it was predominately related to the linguistic data obtained by observation. The procedures used in gathering the data in this study portray into four major parts as follows:

3.1 Scope of content

The study of An Analytical Study of Burmese Loanwords in Shan Language will collect information from the A Shan – English Dictionary and Shan – Myanmar Dictionary. The more information will be taken from Shan history, Theses, books, articles, research works and online sources related to

Shan people and Shan language, and other related books written in English, Myanmar, Thai and Shan languages.

3.2 Research Design

This study was a documentary research. The method of data collection had mainly emphasized the result of documentary style by the A Shan – English Dictionary, Shan – Myanmar Dictionary, academic books, thesis, documentary, article and journals. Every stage of data collection was performed systematically to make things comfortable and useful to value the study. Therefore, research design was the most important part of the data collection methods that extremely benefit for the study and helpful to succeed in terms of data collection.

3.3 Research Tools

These main tools for the study as the following:

The main important parts in this study based on content analysis as documentary research by selecting primary sources from Shan – English Dictionary, Shan – Myanmar Dictionary, academic books.

The guideline for collecting data and analysis method were advised by the adviser and collected by the researcher within ten months from April 2020 to January 2021.

After collecting data, at the first this research was carried out by the library research books in the fields of language such as literature, sociolinguistic, Shan language history, linguistic cross-cultural communication, especially loan words transliteration from libraries.

Then, the secondary data and related information were collected from dictionary online, thesis, article, journals, and the internet. However, the study was also set on review of literature and the previous study was below:

Definition of loanwords, meaning of Burmese loanwords, history of Burmese loanwords spoken in Shan language, language borrowing, language change, kinds of language change, sociolinguistic, borrowing words were studied from books of university libraries and some related information search from the internet. The types of Burmese loanwords were collected from spoken in Shan language in Shan State, Myanmar. All loanwords were collected from A Shan – English Dictionary, Shan – Myanmar Dictionary, academic books to consider the original spelling and pronunciation. The origins and the pronunciation of those loanwords were searched from A Shan – English Dictionary. Besides, the internet, dictionary online and a few books are relating.

3.4 Data Collection

Collecting data of the research study was consisted of two methods; namely, primary data and secondary data.

1. Primary Data

Primary data was directly collected information from A Shan – English Dictionary and Shan – Myanmar Dictionary.

2. Secondary Data

Secondary data was collected information from documentary survey like thesis books, academic books, academic articles and journals. These things are used for supporting information and study. Documentary survey could be good guidelines to develop the research as well because it can make the research a new version and also different from the previous study.

The total data were written down to find out the original language and pronunciation as the following transliteration which was concentrated on English. Then, all items were classification in each type of loanwords. After that, number of Burmese loanwords samplings from spoken

and writing in Shan language expected noun and proper names was analyzed to figure out the conditional potency of usage. However, the transliterations in those words would be indicated as the possible coinage from dictionaries and discussed the result.

3.5 Data Analysis

Data analysis of the research study was in form of content analysis based on data procedures and research tools. It can be described as follows:

1. Exploring a variety of related documentary researches helped analyze and synthesize the data.

2. For statistical method, researcher used the method of Mean, Average, Standard Deviation and Percentage in order to analyze the data, calculate the data, and conclude the data.

3. Analyzing Burmese loan word Structure using in Shan.

1) Analyzing the meaning of the Burmese loan words using in Shan

2) Analyzing the reason why they borrow the loan words for writing and Shan speaking.

3) Analyzing the factor of borrowing Burmese loan words.

4. Results

Semantic Field	Number	Percentage
Education	11	3.56%
Religion	174	56.31%
Culture	11	3.56%
Politics	58	18.77%
Clothing	8	2.59%

Beliefs	12	3.88%
Days	7	2.27%
Animal	10	3.24%
Food	11	3.56%
Flower	7	2.27%
Total	**309**	**100%**

From Table 1, it was showed that religious words were used most while loan of day and flower were found the least.

Table 2 Types of Burmese loanwords and Feature of loanwords in Shan

Semantic Field	Number	Percentage
Transliteration	127	41.10%
Loan Translation	42	13.59%
Loan Shift	20	6.47%
Loan Blended	120	38.83%
Total	**309**	**100%**

From Table 2, it was showed that transliteration was used most while loan shift was found the least.

Some examples of transliteration

Shan	Phonetic Transcription	Burmese		Meaning
ymif:	paaŋ4	yifh	pin	To invite.

“ymif:/ paaŋ4 /” is borrowed from Burmese “yifh/ pint”. The pronunciation sounds is quite different with the original word, but it is the same meaning. This is why it is categorized as “transliteration”. In addition, the

meaning of the word "ymif:/ paaŋ4/" given in the dictionary is associated with the meaning in the Shan context. Thus, it conveys an original meaning of the word.

Some examples of loan translation

Shan	Phonetic Transcriptions	Burmese	Phonetic Transcriptions	Meaning
Wlofxlyf:	to1- t^{h}op4	udk,fawG.	kou -dwei./ kò - dwe̜i	Experience

Wlofxlyf:/ to1- t^{h}op4/ is translated from the original Burmese word "udk,fawG which means "Expirerace". The Shan has translated the word of "udk,fawG. /kou -dwei./kò - dwe̜i/" from Burmese into Shan "Wlofxlyf:/ to1- t^{h}op4/". It is translating word from Burmese into Shan. Therefore, it is translation loan word.

Some examples of loan shift

Shan	Phonetic Transcription	Burmese	Phonetic Transcription	Meaning
uBmif.	kjaaŋ5	usifh	kjin./ʧi̜	To do, perform, practice, used with.

uBmif. / kjaaŋ5/ is a loan shift that borrowed from Burmese /usifh/ kjin./ʧi̜ / and sound to fit Shan pronunciation. The variances of languages have been created with convenient utterances for the Shan language.

Some examples of loan blend

Shan	Phonetic Transcriptions	Burmese	Phonetic Transcriptions	Meaning
Vh;tK:ulof:	Laɪ ʔaa4ko4	tm;udk;	ʔaa4ko4	To trust in, rely on.

"Vh;tK:ulof: /ʔaa4ko4"is borrowed from "tm;udk; /ʔaa4ko4". "Vh;tK:ulof: /ʔaa4 ko4 " is a combination of a Shan morpheme (Vh; /Laɪ) and the Burmese morpheme (tm;udk; /ʔaa4 ko4); therefore, this borrowed word is categorized as "loan blend". Semantically, the meaning of the word "tm;udk; /ʔaa4ko4" given in the dictionary is associated with the meaning in the Shan context. Thus, it conveys an original meaning of the word.

5. Conclusion, Discussion and Succussion

As mentioned above, the key objective of the study is to study history and background of Shan and its loanwords, to study the factors of Burmese Loanwords used in Shan Language and to analyze Burmese loanwords in Shan Language. The researcher had collected the Burmese loanwords from A Shan – English Dictionary, Shan – Myanmar Dictionary, academic books and others. Then, all items had been written down and classified types. Amounts of loan words pattern in contexts with the Shan language words coinages were shown to get the possible potential conditions if usage.

The outcome from the study was found 309 items from A Shan – English Dictionary, Shan – Myanmar Dictionary, academic books and others that relating to this study, which were partitioned into four types of Burmese loanwords such as; transliteration, Loan Translation, Loan Shift and Loan Blended. Firstly, the greater portion loan words were found Burmese loanwords which are carried out directly with a little bit or no change to the particular word 127 items or about (41.10%). So, this method is particularly endeavoring to sustain the origin sound. Secondly, Loan Translation which is translated loanword and the word is available in the language 42 items or about (13.59%). Thirdly, Loan Shift which is absolutely shifted from the primary language to existing word in the language 20 items or about (6.47%). Lastly, loanwords

which are combined between Shan language words and Burmese words is called Loan Blended is 120 items or completely 38.83%.

Generally, there are many Burmese loanwords are mixed and switched-on transliteration form with one to another. The reason is at the first stage of reception of culture, political and technology, so, there is no time to cut out coined words. It is immensely possible to translate noun or technical terms and proper names from Burmese language into receptor by utilizing the existing Shan language words. Besides, it is very intricate to express the actual passion of loan words which are obscured in all elements of these new words because we are not native – speaker. Therefore, a loan word is quite instantly discreet and acceptable for the Shan people in Shan State.

However, loan words from various languages and word borrowing are both one way to increment the word stock of language.

Therefore, it can be summarized that Burmese loan words are frequently used since the Shan people who work in city town are able to understand the words directly better than Shan translation meaning.

Discussion

Based on the results, the transliteration and original meaning were found the most in this research study since the Shan state is the part of Union of Myanmar and using the Burmese language as an official. This also applies to the aspect of loan words regarding meaning to the degree that Shan meanings of these loan words are not different from the Burmese meanings.

The current study is also relatively consistent with two previous works from Phannida Khanthaphad in 2016 who investigated English loan words in Shan language. In the article focus to study how English loan words are adopted in Shan language, features of English loanwords in Shan language, and factors in borrowing English words in Shan language. Many reasons were found

in English loan words in Shan language, which were single English words, Shan-English compounds, and English compounds.

Suggestion

In researcher's opinion, Burmese loanwords are beneficial for Shan people who are accustomed to using these words commonly as almost transliterations both of general terms and technical terms because of the convenience in speaking.

This study was limited to the loanwords collected from A Shan – English Dictionary, Shan – Myanmar Dictionary as well as academic books and others. This study is also restricted to the borrowing of Burmese loanwords into the Shan language. Therefore, further studies should be undertaken as follows:

1. A study of further investigations can be done on the borrowing of words from other languages besides Thai language such Shan, Burmese.

2. A study in the type of language changes of Burmese loanwords.

3. A study of sociolinguistics between main character's conversations in plots.

4. An expanding of figure out Burmese loanwords in other similar plots.

5. A further study on various sources of spoken language used in newspapers, medicine's brochures and mass media source like internet.

6. A further study to collect the more Burmese loanwords spoken in Shan language in Kachin State and so on.

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