

BOOK NOTICES

Chang, Kun. 1987. *Hanyu Yinyunshi Lunwenji*. Taipei: Lianjing Chuban Gongsi. Pp.253.

This volume contains 4 published articles by Chang Kun (one was co-authored with B. Shefts Chang), centering on historical phonology and the Qie-Yun. These have been translated into Chinese by Chang Hsien-Pao, now known as Chang Kuang-Yu. The volume begins with a short preface by Chang Kuang-Yu, and ends with an interview of Chang Kun by Chang Kuang-Yu.

Cheng, Robert L. and Shuanfan Huang. eds. 1988. *The Structure of Taiwanese: a Modern Synthesis*. Taipei: Wenhe Chubanshe. Pp.388.

"... In the first section, Yasushi Higuchi offers an analysis of the phonological features of the Lökkang dialect. Yu-hung Chang, K. T. Hsu and Jeffrey Tung focus on Church romanization as a system of representation and they all find it wanting, though each stressing different aspects of the inadequacies of the system, and suggesting an alternative of reducing Taiwanese to writing. The first section is then rounded off with a thorough study of our types of orthographic representations for Taiwanese used in extant dictionaries - Chinese characters, kana, romanization and national phonetic symbols - by Robert Cheng.

Five articles on aspects of Taiwanese morphology and syntax comprise Section 2. Shuanfan Huang's 'Remarks on Taiwanese morphology' shows that Taiwanese morphology is essentially a headless language and that Taiwanese compounding morphology is constructed not on the principle of headship, but on the principle that governs syntax. Y.C. Li examines structural differences between Taiwanese and Mandarin, especially in regard to various VP constructions, and suggests that some syntactic distinctions in Taiwanese may reflect features preserved from Archaic Chinese. Feng-fu Tsao's contribution

is a contrastive study of the case-marking functions of Mandarin *gei* and Taiwanese *hou*. Finally, Chinfa Lien offers a prototype approach to the analysis of sentence-final particles. He concentrates on parameters governing the use of particles la, a, o, lo, kong, koh-le and tloh-si.

Section 3 brings together four articles on the sociolinguistic scene and language policy in Taiwan, three of which, interestingly, are by three international scholars. Taiwan, with its 14,000 square miles and 20 million inhabitants, is a language laboratory of manageable size, small enough for microscopic sociolinguistic inquiry. Van den Berg leads off in this section with an analysis of Taiwan's sociolinguistic landscape and patterns of language use in terms of the accommodation theory. Cornelius Kubler adds perspectives not at all well documented to date: he analysis of code switching between Taiwanese and Mandarin, which has become very common in Taiwan in recent years. Esther Figueroa's article raises a number of theoretical questions through which Taiwan's language policy (a subfield within language planning) may be evaluated. Shuanfan Huang's article offers an analysis of the role of social factors on language use, language maintenance and language shift. The results of his study show that Hakka and non-Mandarin mainland dialects are languishing, while Mandarin and Southern Mandarin are vibrant, high-vitality languages.

The authors of the papers in Section 4 examine the paleography of Taiwanese words and lexical studies. Shou-li Wu begins the section with a competent survey of past scholarship in these areas. Wayren Horng marshalls evidence from both historical phonology and dialectology in support of his etymological proposals for Taiwanese words. Finally, Lily Su's paper studies Taiwanese elements in modern Chinese novels, noting problems of inconsistency, and linguistic and literary factors affecting the choice of these Taiwanese elements. ..." From the editors' Introduction.

He, Da-An. 1988. *Guīlyu yu Fangxiang: Bianqianzhong de Yinyun*

Jiegou. Special Publication of the Institute of History and Philology No. 90. Taipei: Academia Sinica. Pp.196.

This is an important new study of phonological systems in transition. The volume begins with many cogent theoretical observations on language contact and types of change. These are followed by detailed analyses of several especially interesting issues in Chinese dialects, including voicing and aspiration in Yongxing (a Xiang dialect in Sichuan), the status of Gan, and the distribution of /x/ and /f/ in the southwest.

Hashimoto, Mantaro. 1985. **Yuyan Dili Leixingxue.** Beijing Daxue Chubanshe. Pp.220.

This is a Chinese translation by Yu Zhi-Hong, with a preface to the Chinese version by Hashimoto, and another short introduction by Zhu De-Xi. The original work was published in Tokyo in 1978.

Ma, Da-You. 1987. **Yuyan Xinxi he Yuyin Tongxin.** Shanghai: Zhi-shi Chubanshe. Pp.267.

This is an overall survey by a researcher of the Institute of Acoustics in Beijing. It presupposes some technical background in the information sciences.

Wang, Shi-Yuan, ed 1987. **Yuyan yu Renlei Jiaoji.** Guangxi Jiaoyu Chubanshe. Pp.203.

This is a Chinese translation of a collection of articles from the Scientific American, previously published by W.H.Freeman under the title, Human Communication, 1982. 13 of the original 18 articles have been translated here by a team of linguists from the Shanghai area, including You Ru-Jie and Pan Wu-Yun.

Wang, Shi-Yuan. 1988. **Yuyan yu Yuyin.** Taipei: Wenhe Chuban Gongsu. Pp.167.

This volume is based largely on Wang's lectures at Beijing University, which appeared in Yuyanxue Luncong 11, 1983.

Woon, Wee Lee. 1987. *Chinese Writing, its Origin and Evolution*. Hong Kong: Joint Publishing Company. Pp.327.

"This book looks at some early pottery inscriptions in order to better understand the old problem of the origin of Chinese writing. It moves on to discuss the formal evolution of early Chinese picture characters, as a means of acquiring a further understanding of the history of Chinese writing in the earliest stages. It then attempts to give a systematic analysis and reconstruction of the details of the structural evolution of Chinese characters, and to review the various factors contributing to the development of Chinese writing in later periods." (From the back cover).

Woon, Wee Lee. 1987. *Hainan Fangyan*. Hong Kong: Joint Publishing Company. Pp.293.

This is primarily a study of the Wen-Chang dialect of Hainan. It discusses the phonology from a traditional perspective, noting the various multiple readings, and relating the sounds to the Qie Yun categories. The volume includes some 20 pages of texts that have been phonetically annotated.

Yuan, Xiao-Yuan, ed. 1986, 1987. *Wenzi yu Wenhua*, 2 volumes. Pp.167 and 280. Beijing: Guangming Ribao Chubanshe.

These two volumes contain over 40 articles of varying degrees of specialization, ranging from detailed etymological studies to programmatic suggestions on orthography reform.

Zhang, Ning. 1986. *Jianshui Fangyanzhi*. Kunming: Minshe Chubanshe. Pp.211.

Jianshui is situated in the center of the Hani-Yi Autonomous County of Yunnan. Consequently, this southwestern dialect is influenced by a variety of non-Han languages. The present study treats the phonology and grammar, and includes a small lexicon and 20 some pages of phonetically annotated texts.

Zhongguo Da Baike Chuanshu. 1988. **Yuyan, Wenzhi**. Pp.605. Shanghai: Xinhua Shudian.

This is a volume from the first major Chinese encyclopedia. It begins with a 5 page preface by Lyu Shu-Xiang, *Yuyan he yuyan yanjiu*. The entries are typically written by leading authorities. The effectiveness of the volume is enhanced by an extensive index as well as numerous color illustrations.

Zhongguo Yinyunxue Yanjiuhui. 1984. **Yinyunxue Yanjiu I**. Beijing: Zhonghua Shuju. P .547.

This volume is based on the first conference held at the formation of the society, which took place in October 1980 in Wuhan. It includes 30 articles concerned with traditional phonology contributed by well known Chinese scholars.