

WANJILYN CHUTIWAT : THE CH-C-S CORRESPONDENCE SET IN THE TRANSITION AREA OF THAI DIALECTS IN UTTARADIT. THESIS ADVISOR : CHALIDA RODJANAWATHANAVUTHI, Ph.D. 195 pp.

This thesis is a study of the ch-c-s correspondence set in the transition area of Thai dialects in Uttaradit Province, with an aim to explain the linguistic types at both speaker and location levels. The results have been used in defining dialect area and identifying dialect mixtures in the area.

The data was collected by means of questionnaires containing 10 sound correspondence-testing words which were sent to the principals of 124 schools under the province's Elementary Education Office. The principals were asked to find five people in their respective villages as questionnaire respondents. The returned questionnaires accounted for 96.77 percent of the total number sent.

The study results show that Uttaradit's transition area has a total of 22 linguistic types at the speaker-level and 45 at the location-level. At the speaker-level, 4 types are classified as identical languages, and 18 are non-identical languages. At the location-level, 10 types are classified as identical languages and 35 are non-identical languages. The most widely used dialect in the area is Northeastern Thai dialect.

Seven dialect areas were found in the area of study. There are three where a single dialect is spoken : the Central Thai, the Northern Thai and the Northeastern Thai areas. The other four areas use different mixtures of Thai dialects : Central-Northern, Central-Northeastern, Northern-Northeastern, and Central-Northern-Northeastern.

As for dialect mixtures found in the transition area, there are two types of Central-Northern mixture; four types of Central-Northeastern mixture; four types of Northern-Northeastern mixture; and two types of Central-Northern-Northeastern mixture.