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KEY WORD : SINO-TIBETAN/SYNTAX/PWO KAREN/HILL TRIBE

LALIN BENJAKUL : A SYNTACTICAL STUDY OF THE PWO KAREN DIALECT IN HUAY-HOM-NOK VILLAGE, TAMBON THA MAE LOB, MAE THA DISTRICT, LAMPHUM PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR : SUJARITLAK DEEPADUNG, Ph.D., SUWILAI PREMSRIRAT, Ph.D., PATTIYA JIMREIVAT, Ph.D 111 p. ISBN 974-589-245-9

The main objective of this thesis is to present a syntactical study of the Pwo Karen dialect in Huay-Hom-Nok village. A general grammatical sketch of the clauses, sentences, phrases and word types is presented in a Tagmemics model. The data of more than 1,000 samples were classified into subgroups according to their functions and forms. The data was collected by interviewing six informants who use the Karen language in daily life and also live in the village.

The results of the study reveal that : in **Chapter III**, clauses, they obligatorily consist of nuclear and optionally of periphery elements. The general structure of a Karen clause is **S-Pred-IO-DO**. The nuclear form of a transitive clause is **S-Pred-O**, but this nuclear may be changed to **O-S-Pred** when the object is emphasized. In an ambient clause, I found the word /t<sup>h</sup>ə<sup>1</sup>/ 'impersonal it' occurred before the ambient or descriptive verbs. In **Chapter IV**, sentences, there are both an initial conjunction and a medial conjunction. Also, there is one internal conjunction /mi<sup>2</sup>/ 'if' which occurs within a subordinate clause. In **Chapter V**, phrases, there can be more than one verb and preverb in one verb phrase. For an adpositional phrase, there are two relators to relate a noun or pronoun to a verb. One relator occurs before a nominal phrase. The other occurs after a nominal phrase (the two cannot be interchanged). In **Chapter VI**, word classes, I found that in Pwo Karen of this village, classifiers and numerals have to occur together, neither of them can occur alone in a numeral classifier phrase. All countable nouns have to be associated with classifiers. For Preverb, /be<sup>3</sup>/ is a special word: as a causative preverb, its meaning indicates 'a passive voice', as a main verb, its meaning is 'to touch', as a postverbal modal, its meaning is 'correctly' and as a descriptive verb, its meaning is 'cheap'.

The study also indicates that Standard Thai which is used through mass media and education has the most influence on the Pwo Karen in Huay-Hom-Nok village. It makes the new generation in Huay-Hom-Nok use a lot of loan words from Thai in daily life.