

Guangli Huang 2012: An Analytical Study of the Chinese Loanwords in Thai.

Master of Arts (Thai Language), Major Field: Thai Language, Department of Thai Language. Thesis Advisor: Mr. Saman Kaewruang, Ph.D. 313 pages.

The present thesis has two purposes as following: 1) to study the origin of the Chinese loanwords in Thai and, 2) to compare the meanings of the Chinese loanwords in Thai with the words in Chinese language. The data for this thesis are the loanwords which the researcher has collected from three dictionaries, consisting of the Thai Dictionary 1999 by the Royal Institute; the Dictionary of Siamese Language 1873 by D.B. Bradley; and A Dictionary of the Siamese Language 1884 by J. Caswell.

The researcher has studied and analyzed the origins and aspects of those words altogether with comparing the meanings of those loanwords with their original words in the current Chinese language. By the study result, the total number of 316 Chinese loanwords was found, being classified as 192 loanwords existing in the Thai Dictionary 1999; 75 loanwords in the Dictionary of Siamese Language 1873; and 49 loanwords in A Dictionary of the Siamese Language 1884 respectively. The loanwords were found in 5 aspects: transliteration, proper names, partially omission, abbreviation, and the mixture of Thai and Chinese words. It is also found that the biggest number of 262 loanwords is from Chaozhou Chinese; 32 from Mandarin Chinese; and the smallest number of 22 words from Cantonese Chinese. By the word-meanings, it is found that 201 loanwords are of the original meaning, 82 loanwords of the narrower meaning, 22 loanwords are of the broader meaning, and 10 loanwords of the transmitted meaning.

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