

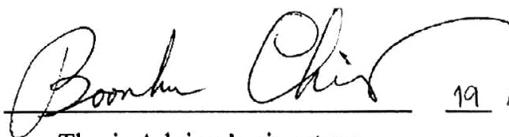
Piyawat Wangsai 2007: A Comparative Study of Phonological Yong and Northern Thai Language (Kammuang). Master of Arts (Thai Language), Major Field: Thai Language, Department of Thai Language. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Boonlue Chaimano, Ph.D. 279 pages.

The objective of this thesis is to study the phonological structure of Yong language, which is spoken in the village of Lao Du, Nong Yuang district, Wiang Nong Long sub-district, comparing to that of Northern Thai, which is spoken in the village of Pa Rok Fa, Nam Dip district, Pa Sang district, Lamphun province. The interview method was used by asking the informants about basic words and applying the data to analyze the consonants and vowels based on the minimal pair method. The tones were also analyzed by using William J. Gedney's tone box. Then, the information from both languages was utilized in order to compare with each other.

The comparative study shows that there are 19 phonemes in Yong and Northern Thai language. The result found that both have 19 consonant phonemes. There are 2 consonant clusters in Yong language and 6 in Northern Thai. All of the 18 vowel phonemes in Yong language are simple vowels, while in Northern Thai language consists of 18 simple vowel phonemes and 3 diphthongs. Both languages, in addition, have 6 tones. The tonal splits of Yong and Northern Thai language are the same. Nevertheless, there are differences between both languages only in the phonetic feature of tone in both dialects. The tonal splits occur in both dialects have the same phoneme. However, there are systematically different between Yong language and Northern Thai language. Therefore /e/ /ɤ/ and /o/ in Northern Thai language occur to /i/ /ɯ/ and /u/ in Yong language, /ɛ/ in Yong language occur to /a/ in Northern Thai language conditionally occur, and /ia/ /ɯa/ and /ua/ in Northern Thai language occur to /e/ or /e:/, /ɤ/ or /ɤ:/ and /o/ or /o:/ in Yong language



Student's signature



Thesis Advisor's signature

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