

JOURNAL LA SOCIALE

VOL. 01, ISSUE 01 (001-004), 2020

A Sociolinguistic Study on the Development of Grammar System of Treatment Expression

Akira Yonemoto

Faculty of Environment and Information Studies, Keio University, Japan

Corresponding Author: Akira Email: hbkrkzk@gmail.com



Article Info

Article history:

Received 08 January 2020 Received in revised form 15

January 2020

Accepted 22 January 2020

Keywords: Honorific Expression Culture Society

Abstract

Analysis of the language in which honorific expressions are developed has revealed various findings. The social and cultural background can be considered by analyzing the history of the honorifics, etc., but the honorifics are often used in colloquial language. Is also an issue of this research. Since honorifics reflect not only their practical aspects but also society, culture, and ideas, it is one clue to know from the history and usage of honorifics, and there is room for sociolinguistic analysis and consideration. Is an area where there are still many.

Introduction

The honorific is a special expression for expressing respect or politeness by changing the way to state the same thing, and is one of the treatment expressions. Expressions of respect can be expressed in any language, but not many languages have grammatical and lexical systematic expressions. Typical languages include Japanese, Korean, Javanese, Vietnamese, Tibetan, Bengali, and Tamil. In order for treatment expressions to become grammatically and lexically systematically form, not only the influence of the original language but also the need for various respect expressions from the social background have emerged as honorific expressions. it is conceivable that. For this reason, in this paper, Japanese is an isolated word, Korean is also an isolated word, Javanese is a Malay-Polynesian Sunda-Sulawesi group, and Pet-Muong is an Austro-Asian Mon-Khmer group. Focusing on honorifics, we look at the treatment expressions in five languages of all different languages of Vietnamese as a group of words, Sina-Tibetan Chinese, and the Chinese as a Sino-Chinese language. Factors and processes that develop the treatment expressions as a grammatical system I would like to analyze and discuss the cultural and social background.

Of these, Chinese has not developed grammatical and lexical treatment expressions, but it is listed as a comparison object. In addition, the other four languages are all different languages, and because of the large number of speakers, etc., the treatment expressions and honorific expressions of each language are relatively popular, and there are many materials etc., so these four languages were selected.

In the following, we will look at the characteristics of honorifies in each language, focusing on comparisons with other languages and historical research based on previous research.

Japanese

Japanese is an isolated word used mainly in Japan, and has about 125 million speakers. The first book written is currently available and can be traced back to the Wei Zhi-Wajin biography, written in the third century. The Japanese that was formed at that time was the modern Japanese, then used Japanese, medieval Japanese, modern Japanese, and then the current Japanese (Miyachi, 1981).

Honorifics in modern Japanese are largely divided into honorific, humble, and courteous. (In the "Guidelines for Honorifics" issued in 2007 by the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Council for Cultural Affairs, polite and beautified words were added. 5). Ichikyo Kaneda and others point out that the distinctive parts of Japanese honorifics are relative honorifics and grammar.

Korean

Korean is an isolated language used mainly in the Republic of Korea and the Democratic Republic of Korea, and has about 80 million speakers. The ancient Korean language, the origin of modern Korean language, has been preserved since the Unification Shilla era of 668-900.

Korean honorifics are classified into three categories: interpersonal honorifics, subject honorifics, and object honorifics, which are roughly equivalent to Japanese polite, humble, and honorific. Another characteristic feature is that Japanese honorifics are relative to the concepts of Uchi and Soto, while Korean honorifics are relative to the hierarchy.

Javanese

Javanese is a language mainly spoken in central and eastern Java, Indonesia, and belongs to the Austronesian Malay-Polynesian Sunda Sulawesi group. Although the number of speakers is 75 million, the official language in Indonesia is currently set to be Indonesian of the Austronesian language, and in addition to speaking the native language as Javanese, most people also speak Indonesian as a second language Learn and talk. At present, the number of speakers, especially young people, is gradually decreasing, and language has been changing. The oldest document is written in the 9th century.

Honorifics in Javanese are separated from normal (Ngoko) and polite (Krama). Nagoko is used for close friends and the present, and Krama is used for superiors and in other words use (Restali, 2010). In addition, there are other Madya bodies with a degree of respect between ordinary and polite bodies, and Ngoko bodies and Krama bodies have different degrees of Krama Inggil body (or Krama Alus body/high degree) and Krama Andhap body (medium). Degree), Krama Lugu body (low degree), Ngoko Alus body (high degree), Ngoko Lugu (low degree), etc. These words are partially different and distinguished by the use of words of each honorific degree.

Vietnamese

Vietnamese is a language mainly spoken in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and belongs to the Pet Khmer language group of the Austro-Asian tribe of Mon Khmer. There are about 70 million speakers. One of the earliest books was a collection of 1440 Kuon poems.

The distinctive feature of Vietnamese honorifics is that, like Japanese and Korean, it is an unusual language that combines all respected, humble, and polite words, but differs mainly in

that respect is expressed in nouns (Thu, 2016). Ishiyama (2014) attributed this to the influence of Chinese.

Chinese

Chinese is a language mainly spoken in the People's Republic of China, Singapore, etc., and belongs to the Sina-Tibetan Sina language group. There are about 1.3 billion speakers. Chinese has a long history, and it is said that the skeletal script, which was the basis of Chinese characters, was established in the 15th century BC.

Although it is difficult to say that modern Chinese has an honorific system as a grammar, respectful expressions at the word level, such as using the personal pronoun "您" or adding a verb "Seki" to express politeness, are not (Ying, 2006; Bridge, 1989)

Comparative Study and Consideration

In the previous section, we saw the formation of each language and the characteristics of honorifics. Honorifics are a grammar system for expressing respect, and it can be seen that the grammar system is formed in each language in a different form and usage.

One of the trends is that all languages are Asian languages. Although the languages are all different, this is thought to reflect Oriental thought, which has a deep respect for superiors. At the same time, we can see the influence of Chinese, especially Vietnamese. In modern Chinese, it is difficult to say that honorifics are established as a grammatical system, but this is limited to modern Chinese, and traditional Chinese has a complicated honorific system, which is Ishiyama (2014) states that it has influenced other languages in East Asia, and appears in respectful expressions like words in modern Vietnamese. In addition, in modern Indonesian, the descriptive sentence ends with "pak" meaning "father" and "bu" meaning "mother" to show respect for men and women, respectively. There is a usage like that, and it is known as the influence of Chinese (De Casparis, 1975).

Although both are common grammatical expressions that express the concept of honorifics and respect for superiors, there are differences in grammatical expressions. Specifically, for example, comparing Japanese and Korean, there is a difference between relative honorifics and absolute honorifics (Self-righteousness, 1993). Originally, Japanese used absolute honorifics, but with the passage of time and language changes, the use of relative honorifics gradually changed. In fact, conversations within the royal family still use absolute honorifics, and this is not to say that absolute honorifics do not exist at all. Rather, both Japanese and Korean are used depending on the situation, but the tendency is that one of them is frequently used. On the other hand, it is also a fact that there is a bias in the frequency of use, which is a difference between the honorifics of the two. This is thought to reflect the difference in social and cultural ideas between the two. According to Bai (1993), "In the case of younger bosses, honorifics seem to be used very naturally in Japan, but in Korea there is often some resistance to using honorifics. In the case of the superiors, it seems that there is not much unnaturalness in the case of honorifics in Japan, but there is a great hesitation in doing so in Korea. Differences in the use of honorifics are caused by differences in cultural ideas.

In addition, the transition from Chinese to modern Chinese in China, and the change from Java and other languages to Indonesian, have been reduced and reduced in honorific terms. This is a typical example in which the language is gradually simplified. Even in the language in which the honorific language is currently maintained, the simplification of the honorific language and a decreasing trend are seen.

Conclusion

Analysis of the language in which honorific expressions are developed has revealed various findings. Due to the background of Oriental thought, grammatical differences and differences in usage, there are minor differences in culture and society, and the tendency to simplify and omit honorific terms. On the other hand, in this paper, only the prior studies were analyzed after analysis, and there may be some deviations from the actual usage. The social and cultural background can be considered by analyzing the history of the honorifics, etc., but the honorifics are often used in colloquial language. Is also an issue of this research. Since honorifics reflect not only their practical aspects but also society, culture, and ideas, it is one clue to know from the history and usage of honorifics, and there is room for sociolinguistic analysis and consideration. Is an area where there are still many.

References

- Bridge, W. R. (1989) Honorific Expressions in Modern Chinese I Comparison with Japanese I, Language and Culture, No. 2.
- De Casparis, J. G. (1975). *Indonesian Palaeography: A History of Writing in Indonesia from the Beginnings to CAD 1500* (Vol. 4, No. 1). Brill.
- Ishiyama, T. (2014). A Study on Modern Honorifics in Japanese and Vietnamese. *Studies in Modern Japanese Studies*, 46.
- Miyachi, H. (1981). History of Honorific Languages. Lecture Japanese Studies 9, Meiji Shoin,
- Restali, S. B. (2010). *Descriptive Research on Honorifics in Javanese-Focusing on Third-Party Honorifics*. (Doctoral Dissertation) Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.
- Self-righteousness. (1993). Comparison of Absolute Honorific and Relative Honorific Japanese-Korean Honorifics", "Japanese Language Education in the World"
- Thu, N. H. (2016). *Japanese and Vietnamese-Comparison of the Ways to Travel*. Lecture Japanese Studies.
- Uchino, B. N., Cacioppo, J. T., & Kiecolt-Glaser, J. K. (1996). The relationship between social support and physiological processes: a review with emphasis on underlying mechanisms and implications for health. *Psychological bulletin*, 119(3), 488.
- Vanclay, F. (2002). Conceptualising social impacts. *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*, 22(3), 183-211.
- Ying, D., H. (2006). *Honorific Expressions in Modern Chinese*. Chiba University Studies in Social and Cultural Science.