



**A PHONOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF
THREE CENTRAL KARENIC
LANGUAGES**

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PAYAP UNIVERSITY

**A PHONOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF
THREE CENTRAL KARENIC
LANGUAGES**

by

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RESUME

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ABSTRACT

A PHONOLOGICAL STUDY OF THREE CENTRAL KARENIC LANGUAGES

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The purpose of this study is to analyze the phonological systems of Bwe, Geba 1 and Geba 2. This study uses phonological inventories and the distribution of phonological units in order to compare those languages.

Chapter one gives the historical and geographical backgrounds of each language. Chapter two presents the phonology of Bwe which consists of 23 consonant phonemes. The vowel system consists of 10 clear vowel phonemes and 9 breathy vowel phonemes. There are 4 tones in Bwe. Chapter three presents the phonology of Geba 1 which consists of 24 consonant phonemes. The vowel system consists of 10 clear vowel phonemes and 10 breathy vowel phonemes. There are 4 tones in Geba 1. Chapter five presents the phonology of Geba 2 which consists of 25 consonant phonemes. The vowel system consists of 10 clear vowel phonemes and 10 breathy vowel phonemes. There are 4 tones in Geba 2. Chapter six concludes that Bwe, Geba 1 and Geba 2 are genetically closely related to each other, which supports the subgrouping of these languages within the Central Karenic branch based on lexicostatistical evidence and the result from the comparison of phonology in chapter five. A computer software program called "Speech Manager" was used to make phonetic charts and to separate the consonant charts from the vowel charts.

บทคัดย่อ

การวิเคราะห์ระบบเสียงของภาษากะเหรี่ยงตอนกลาง 3 ภาษา

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วิทยานิพนธ์ฉบับนี้มีวัตถุประสงค์ในการวิเคราะห์ระบบเสียงของภาษาบวย, กะปอกกลุ่มที่ 1 และ กะปอกกลุ่มที่ 2 โดยเปรียบเทียบระบบเสียงของภาษาทั้งสามภาษา ได้แก่ระบบพยัญชนะ, ระบบสระ และระบบวรรณยุกต์ ในบทที่ 1 ได้กล่าวถึงประวัติความเป็นมาและลักษณะภูมิศาสตร์ของแต่ละภาษา บทที่ 2 นำเสนอระบบเสียงของภาษาบวย ซึ่งประกอบด้วยพยัญชนะ 23 ตัว สระ 19 ตัวและวรรณยุกต์ 4 ตัว บทที่ 3 นำเสนอระบบเสียงของภาษากะปอกกลุ่มที่ 1 ซึ่งประกอบด้วยพยัญชนะ 24 ตัว สระ 20 ตัวและวรรณยุกต์ 4 ตัว บทที่ 4 นำเสนอระบบเสียงของภาษากะปอกกลุ่มที่ 2 ซึ่งประกอบด้วยพยัญชนะ 25 ตัว สระ 20 ตัวและวรรณยุกต์ 4 ตัว บทที่ 6 สรุประบบเสียงทั้งสามภาษามีความคล้ายคลึงกัน ซึ่งดูได้จากการเปรียบเทียบในบทที่ 5 ซึ่งในการวิเคราะห์ระบบเสียงในวิทยานิพนธ์ฉบับนี้ ได้ใช้โปรแกรมชื่อ “Speech Manager” ในการสร้างแผนภูมิพยัญชนะ และสระ

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

C	Consonant
C ₁	Initial Consonant
C ₂	Second member of consonant cluster
C ₃	Final consonant
V	Vowel
vd.	Voiced
vl.	Voiceless
[]	Phonetic transcription
/ /	Phonemic transcription
[..]	Breathy voice
[.]	Syllable boundary
T	Tone
l	Low Tone
↑	Mid Tone
↑	High Tone
↑̂	Half-High Rising Tone