

Studia Orientalia Slovaca

19 · I (2020)

Štúdie · Articles

Tibetan Purificatory *Sel* Rituals: Fragments of the Tradition from the Borderlands of the Tibetan Plateau..... I
Daniel Berounský

Abstract One of the purificatory rituals mentioned in the Tibetan texts is sel. It is rarely practiced nowadays in Tibet. Such rituals were predominantly performed for purification of the pollution coming from incest and killing a relative. The paper firstly uses extracts from the 14th century influential compendium of Bon religion entitled Sutra of Immaculate Splendour. It mentions animals to be offered including flying squirrel. A recently resurfaced text entitled White Purification sel of the Clean Gods containing longer myth on the origin of the ritual is introduced next. The text presents this ritual as a tradition of the original Tibetan families. The crucial role of mediator between gods and people is played by Wise Bat. Lastly, this paper deals with texts and memoirs of the ritual specialists called leu. They used to perform their rituals in the forested regions of north-eastern Tibet prior to the Cultural Revolution in China. The sel ritual purifying, namely pollution from incest, was among the main ritual repertoire of the leu ritualists. From the surviving texts, flying squirrel emerges as an important animal purifying such pollution. The leu texts further explicate that the pollution from incest is seen as having serious cosmological implications. Its consequence is blockage of the heavenly source of the human progeny. It is argued in the paper that in this case it is likely that the local tradition from the forested parts of the eastern Tibet entered the universal religion of Bon and perhaps also the pan-Tibetan religious values in the distant past. The non-Buddhist religious traditions should be seen as a diverse specific local lore which only with the dominance of Buddhism on the Tibetan Plateau started to be perceived increasingly as an abstract unit. The leu tradition was unique in a sense that until recently it probably did not identify itself with such abstract constructs but continued to focus mainly on a variety of practical ritual means for solving problems.

Keywords Tibet, Tibetan rituals, Bön religion, animal offerings, flying squirrel, bat

Attitudes of Bangkok Catholics Toward Buddhists According to
the Theology of Religions..... 67
Francis Chan

Abstract This research was conducted to study attitudes of Bangkok Catholics toward Buddhists. The four-model theology of religions was used as the theoretical framework to ascertain the results. The study first critically examined the four-model theology of religions. Then in-depth interviews were carried out with 25 Bangkok Catholics to examine their attitudes, positions, and views toward Buddhism and Thai Buddhists according to the theology of religions. It was found that none of the Catholic subjects had the attitude of exclusivism, while the majority had the attitude of pluralism. This study shows the significance of how a tiny minority Asian Church has adapted to a dominant Buddhist majority socioculturally, politically, and even theologically.

Keywords Catholic Church, Thailand, theology of religions, Buddhist-Catholic relations

Annihilation of Caste or Its Reinforcement? Emancipation Strategies of
Tamil Dalits 87
Pavel Hons

Abstract The struggle for the emancipation of the Dalits has a long and rich history in Tamil Nadu. It was accelerated in the 1990s in connection with the widespread dissemination of Ambedkar's ideas, which were accepted and further elaborated—especially by the Paraiyars and the Arunthathiyars. Despite this, the caste barriers among Tamil Dalits do not seem to have diminished. Based primarily on original sources in Tamil, this article sets out to answer the question of why this is the case. It compares the ideological production of the three major Tamil Dalit castes (the Paraiyars, the Devendrars, and the Arunthathiyars) in relation to four respective spheres: designation, caste histories, caste heroes, and attitudes towards the question of caste. It explores the role which caste plays in their ideologies and their strategies of emancipation. Primarily, the article argues that there exists a growing divergence between the trajectories of the emancipation efforts of the three castes, with seemingly little prospect of mutual cooperation in the near future.

Keywords Dalits, Tamil Nadu · emancipation, identity, caste

Verb Collocations in Chinese—Retrieving, Visualization and Analysis of
Corpus Data 121

Luboš Gajdoš

Abstract The study freely follows my articles about sentence constituents in Chinese. In this article, unlike the previous ones, I try to use mainly the statistical approach. The statistical approach is based on two criteria: the position of a noun to the verb (keyword) and its frequency (or more precisely the logDice score) in one sentence. The obtained statistical data are displayed in the form of a heatmap. The data analysis not only shows the differences between verbs, but the results may also be seen as a possible solution to complex issues, such as tagging of verbs, categorizations of verbs etc.

Keywords Modern Chinese, corpus linguistics, collocation, logDice, heatmap, visualization

Critical Remarks On Current Romanization of Korean Into the System of
Slovak Graphemes 139

Miloš Procházka

Abstract Romanization of Korean alphabet into Slovak writing system that is currently in use (codified some decades ago) has been inherited from previous period of close diplomatic and ideological relations between former socialist Czechoslovakia and Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea. Currently, the Czech Republic uses its own transcription system that differs slightly from the Slovak. The Slovak Republic since the beginning of 1990s has strengthened its ties with the Republic of Korea while mutual exchange (economic, cultural, education and in the field of sports) between both republics has increased dramatically within last two decades. Moreover, both languages have undergone a certain shift in phonology since 1950s; so naturally, the old system of Romanization does not meet the current demands. This reveals that the revision of currently used Romanization system of Korean into the system of Slovak graphemes is highly desired.

Keywords Romanization, Korean language, Korean phonology, Korean alphabet, Korean graphemes, Korean sounds, Korean phonemes, Slovak language, Slovak phonology, Slovak alphabet, Slovak graphemes, Slovak sounds, Slovak phonemes

Portraits of Femininity In Korean Medieval Literature: Stories from Im
Pang's *Ch'ŏnyerok* 165
Miriam Löwensteinová and Sunbee Yu

Abstract This article deals with the most frequent character types depicting models of womanhood in medieval Korean literature. However, Korean literature does not offer only didactic characters, even though they were preferred and are prevalent as a result. In literary genres intended for entertainment, especially p'aeŏl and yadam literature, the spectrum of characters is broader. We document this fact in an analysis of the Ch'ŏnyerok, an anthology of stories written by Im Pang in the early eighteenth century. In it women are surprisingly dominant; their activities even compensate for their male counterparts' passivity and incompetence. Nevertheless, these narratives accept the established Confucian models for their protagonists. Therefore, we also aim to discuss the most popular female character types contained in the stories of the Ch'ŏnyerok in the context of kodae sosoŏl and p'ansori tales that came later. Some present caricatures of the era, whereas others present everlasting ideals. Two stories about women demonstrate absolute female dominance; traditional gender roles are reversed and the female characters mock male vanity.

Keywords Korean medieval literature, Im Pang, Ch'ŏnyerok, p'aeŏl, yadam, models, biographies, women, ideal