Adnominal Possessive Constructions In Mainland Southeast Asia

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Outline

1. Introduction
2. Structural types of adnominal possessive constructions in MSEA
3. Structural splits in MSEA
4. Areal diffusion
5. Summary
Mainland Southeast Asia

- Sino-Tibetan (12)
- Austroasiatic (9)
- Tai-Kadai (4)
- Hmong-Mien (3)
- Austronesian (1)
Adnominal possessive construction

- kinship ("Mary’s father")
- body-Part ("Mary’s head")
- ownership ("Mary’s car")
Structural types

(1) Juxtapostion: Bisu (Sino-Tibetan)

*Chi Daeng* yum

Chi Daeng house

‘Chi Daeng’s house’ (Day 2009: 20)
Structural types

(2) Juxtaposition (with a classifier): Cantonese (Sino-Tibetan)

\[ a^3baa \quad di \quad syu \]

father   CL    books

‘some books of father’s’  (Shan 2013: 306)
Structural types

(3) With a preposition as the possessive marker: Lao (Tai-Kadai)

mèè¹ khòng³ caw⁴

mother of 2SG

‘your mother’ (Enfield 2007: 94)
Structural types

(4) With a particle as the possessive marker: Wa (Austroasiatic)

\[ \text{ŋɛʔ} \quad tʃɛ \quad aika \]
house \quad POSS \quad Aika

‘Ai Kar's house.’ (Ma Shengmai 2012: 70)
Structural types

(5) With a pronoun as the possessive marker: Bai (Sino-Tibetan)

\[ j\ddot{a}^{55}k\dddot{e}^{55}x0^{21} \quad ma^{55} \quad j\varsigma^{33} \]

family Yang 3PL daughter

‘the daughter of family Yang’s ’ (Xu & Zhao 1984: 71)
Structural types

Structural Types

Juxtaposition

Constructions with a possessive marker

no classifier

with a classifier

preposition/particle

pronoun
## Word order

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language family</th>
<th>PR N</th>
<th>N PR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austronesian</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sino-Tibetan</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>Hmong-Mien</td>
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<td>Tai-Kadai</td>
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Structural splits

- Possessor-based split
- Alienability split
- Structural split conditioned by the ellipsis of the possessed noun
Possessor-based split

- Sino-Tibetan (4)
- Austronesian (1)
Possessor-based split

- singular vs. plural

  Jingpho, Bai (2 Sino-Tibetan)

- pronoun vs. noun: pronominal possessors are less likely to take a possessive marker.

  Huihui (1 Austronesian)
  Bai, Geba Karen, Daai Chin (3 Sino-Tibetan)
Possessor-based split

(6) Jingpho (Sino-Tibetan)

ŋie\textsuperscript{55} \ aʔ\textsuperscript{31} \ poŋ\textsuperscript{33}tin\textsuperscript{33}

1SG.GEN \ POSS \ pen

‘my pen’ \ (Liu Lu 1984:54)

\textcolor{orange}{an}\textsuperscript{55}the\textsuperscript{33} \ aʔ\textsuperscript{31} \ a31kho\textsuperscript{55} \ a31khaŋ\textsuperscript{55}

1PL \ POSS \ right

‘our right’ \ (Liu Lu 1984:74)
Possessor-based split

(7) Bai (Sino-Tibetan)

\[ n\text{a}^{55} \quad t\text{št}u^{33} \]
\[ \text{2SG.GEN} \quad \text{sister-in-law} \]
‘your sister-in-law’ (Xu & Zhao 1984:17)

\[ \text{ŋa}^{55} \quad t\text{ɕi}^{31} \]
\[ \text{1PL} \quad \text{field} \]
‘our field’ (Xu & Zhao 1984:38)
Alienability split

The inalienable possession is less likely to be marked by the possessive marker.

- Bai (Sino-Tibetan)
- Wa (Austroasiatic)
- Lao (Tai-Kadai)
Alienability split

- Austroasiatic (1)
- Sino-Tibetan (1)
- Tai-Kadai (1)
Alienability split

(8) Wa (Austroasiatic)

ŋɛʔ t∫ɛ aika
house POSS Aika
‘Ai Kar's house.’ (Ma Shengmai 2012: 70)

kwĩŋ aika
father AiKa
‘Aika's father.’ (Ma Shengmai 2012: 70)
Structural split conditioned by the ellipsis of the possessed noun
Structural split conditioned by the ellipsis of the possessed noun

(9) Khmu (Austroasiatic)

dɛn  hɛm
bed   younger brother
‘younger brother’s bed’ (Chen 2002: 152)

hɔŋ  me
POSS    2SG
‘yours’ (Chen 2002: 152)
Areal Diffusion

- The influence of Sinitic languages
- The influence of Lao
The influence of Sinitic languages

- Cun (Tai-Kadai; Hainan)
- Gelao (Tai-Kadai; Southwest China)
- Huihui (Austronesian; Hainan)
The influence of Sinitic languages

- Tai-Kadai
- Austronesian
The influence of Sinitic languages

(10) Huihui (Austronesian)

\( \text{kho}^{24} \quad \text{ha}^{33} \)
shoe \hspace{1cm} \text{2SG}
‘your shoe’ (Zheng 1997: 69)

\( \text{ha}^{33} \quad \text{sa}^{33} \quad \text{ʔa}^{ll} \quad \text{sa:u}^{ll} \)
2SG \hspace{1cm} \text{POSS} \hspace{1cm} \text{sister-in-law}
‘your sister-in-law’ (Zheng 1997: 87)
The influence of Sinitic languages

(11) Gelao (Tai-Kadai)

to\textsuperscript{33} \quad ti\textsuperscript{33}
older brother \quad POSS
‘older brother’s’ (He 1983: 48)

\textit{mi}\textsuperscript{55} \quad to\textsuperscript{33}
POSS \quad older brother
‘older brother’s’ (He 1983: 48)
The influence of Lao

(12) Lao (Tai-Kadai)

\[ taa^3 \quad khòòng^3 \quad khòòj^5 \]
\[ \text{eye(s)} \quad \text{POSS} \quad \text{ISG} \]
‘my eye(s)’ (Enfield 2007: 94)

Samre (Austroasiatic)

\[ chòhɔɔ^451 \quad khɔɔŋŋ^332 \quad ʔiŋ^332 \]
\[ \text{dog} \quad \text{POSS} \quad \text{ISG} \]
‘my dog’ (Ploykaew 1986: 120)
Austroasiatic languages

- **Borrow marker from Lao**
- **N preposition PR**
- **N particle PR**
Change in Austroasiatic Languages?

- N PR
- N POSS PR
- (The influence from Lao)
Areal diffusion

- In the history, the people of MSEA have once spoken Austroasiatic languages in a ‘continuous distribution’, and it was ‘broken up by the historical expansions of Chinese, Tai, Vietnamese, Burman and Austronesian peoples’ (Bellwood 1992: 109; cf. Enfield & Comrie 2015: 4).
Summary

- An overview of the main structural types.
- There are three types of structural splits: possessor-based splits, alienability splits and splits conditioned by omission of possessum.
- Two Language contact patterns in MSEA are discussed.
References

References

THANK YOU

СПАСИБО

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謝謝