

摘要

本文通过实验语音学的方法对 Ghomálá'语语音系统进行了全面的研究。Ghomálá'语是喀麦隆西部省巴米雷克民族所说的十一种语言之一。属于尼日尔-刚果语系、班图语族、东格拉斯菲尔德 (Eastern Grassfields) 语支下的巴米雷克语的一种变体, 以 Bandjoun 地区的方言为代表, 是各种巴米雷克语中具有书写形式的一种语言。本研究以 10 名以 Ghomálá'语为母语的男女性为发音人, 实地录制了他们的 Ghomálá'语元音、辅音及声调发音, 并使用 Praat 语音软件、Excel 软件等对他们的发音进行了整理、标注、分析和作图。本论文共分七章。第一章为绪论, 交代了研究背景、研究意义和价值。第二章为非洲语言及 Ghomálá'语语音研究综述, 回顾了非洲语言以及 Ghomálá'语概况和 Ghomálá'语语音的研究。第三章为研究设计, 介绍了研究对象、发音人基本信息、实验语料、设备以及环境、分析内容与打算使用的研究方法。第四章为 Ghomálá'语单元音的描写和分析, 对该语言的 10 个元音进行了深入的实验语音学研究, 确定了各个元音的国际音标。第五章为对 Ghomálá'语的辅音进行了描写和分析, 由此得出男女发音人各个辅音的频谱、时长等声学特征。第六章为 Ghomálá'语声调的描写和分析, 相对基频曲线描写与分析结果显示, 确定了 Ghomálá'语 5 个声调的调值。研究表明, Ghomálá'语的声调可以分成两类: 平调和曲折调。平调包括中调 33、高调 55、低调 11; 曲折调包括升调 25 和降调 52。对声调绝对时长的观察显示, 五个声调从长到短的顺序是: 升调、中调、高调、降调、低调。

关键词: Ghomálá'语; 实验语音学; 元音; 辅音; 声调

Abstract

This paper is an experimental phonetic study of the vowels, consonants and tones of the Ghomálá' language. Ghomálá' is one of the eleven languages used in the western province of Cameroon, most particularly by the Bamileke group. A language with a specific writing system, it is a variant of the Bamileke language belonging to the Niger-Congo, Bantu and Eastern Grassfields language family represented by the dialect of the Bandjoun village. The experimental study of this paper is carried out on both men and women who use Ghomálá' as their mother tongue. This research uses the Praat software and Microsoft Excel to record and analyze the phonetic data.

The first chapter of the paper is the introduction. The main content of this chapter is the research background, the significance and the purpose of the research. The second chapter is the overview of the study of African languages and a brief introduction of Ghomálá'. This part also introduces the basic geography, demography, history, linguistic system of Ghomálá' and its phonetic system. The third chapter is the research design. This chapter mainly introduces the basic information of the speaker, the word list design, the experimental setting as well as the research methods and procedure to be used. The main content of the fourth chapter is the description and analysis of Ghomálá' vowels with respect to their formant features, relative positions in the vowel chart and length based on experimental data from the ten speakers. The fifth chapter describes and analyzes the consonants of the Ghomálá' language, with regard to spectrum features, length, breathiness of voiced aspirated plosives and so on, also based on experimental data from the ten speakers. We have identified the acoustic feature of each consonant, and have found acoustic similarities among sonorants as well as between fricatives and the fricative parts in affricates. We also find that the majority of women have a longer articulation of most consonants than men. The sixth chapter is the description and analysis of Ghomálá' tones. Fundamental frequency curve description and analysis show that Ghomálá' tones can be classified in two types: level tones (including 33, 11 and 55) and contour tones (including 25 and 52). Their duration, in descending order, is as follows: rising tone 25 > high tone 55 > mid tone 33 > falling tone 52 > low tone 11.

Keywords: Ghomálá'; expérimental phonetics; vowel; consonant; tone