

Fifth Edition of the Study Days on Chinese Linguistics Milan, Italy, November 23-24, 2018

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The Study Days on Chinese Linguistics are a series of conferences organised by the Italian Association of Chinese Linguistics (<https://linguisticacinese.wixsite.com/ailc>). The first meeting was held at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice in 2014. In 2015 the meeting was held at University of Milan, in 2016 at Roma Tre University, and in 2017 at the “L’Orientale” University of Naples. The fifth edition of the Study Days was held at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan, Italy, on November 23-24, 2018.

The conference took place for one and a half day, with 23 presentations on a broad range of topics in Chinese linguistics. While the majority of the participants was affiliated with an Italian university, there were also participants from abroad. The keynote presentation was delivered by Marie-Claude Paris, *emerita* of the Université Paris Diderot (Paris VII). The title of her talk, discussing the issue of sentence structure in Chinese, was “Are ‘complex’ sentences that ‘simple’?”.

Syntax was the topic of many papers, including LIU Zhenyu’s “The light verb in the intransitives containing objects and existential sentences”, SUN Yangyu’s “A syntactic analysis of the event-decomposition of Mandarin *ba*-construction”, Anna Morbiato’s “Cognitive restrictions on sentence-initial position in Mandarin Chinese”, and Carmen Lepadat’s “Dislocazione a destra del topic o anteposizione del focus? Uno studio preliminare sul cinese parlato” (“Right dislocation of the topic or focus preposing? A preliminary study of spoken Chinese”).

Several papers focused on semantics, as e. g. Martina Materassi’s “Le relazioni semantiche interne ai composti nominali cinesi: un modello distribuzionale” (“Semantic relations within Chinese compound nouns: a distributional model”) and Patrizia Pacioni’s “Plurality and a special plural classifier in Cantonese”. Two talks were about discourse markers, namely Chiara Piccinini’s “Analysis of discourse markers used by Italian learners of Chinese as a foreign language during spoken Chinese language courses”, and Chiara Romagnoli’s “Uso e funzioni del segnale discorsivo *ranhou*: una ricerca preliminare” (“Usage and functions of the discourse marker *ranhou*: a preliminary study”).

While many other papers touched upon acquisitional issues, a few talks specifically focused on Chinese as a foreign language: Tina Čok’s “Concettualizzazione e produzione dell’azione verbale in cinese, italiano e sloveno” (“Conceptualisation and production of verbal *Aktionsart* in Chinese, Italian and Slovenian”), Valeria Varriano’s “È davvero possibile imparare il cinese

divertendosi?” (“Can learning Chinese really be fun?”), and LI Hsuan Li and JUAN Liang-Ting’s “Interlanguage requesting behavior in e-mail and pedagogical suggestions: a study of Czech learners’ Chinese email requests”. Another recurrent topic of the conference was the history of Chinese linguistics and grammar writing, including Tommaso Pellin’s “Conceptual metaphors in the earliest Chinese grammar studies”, Luisa Maria Paternicò’s “Shaping Cantonese grammar – early analyses in Western sources”, and Mariarosaria Gianninoto’s “The translation and adaptation of Chinese linguistic terminology in Julien’s *Traité chinois des particules* (1869)”.

Lastly, several talks focused on issues related to translation and the lexicon of Chinese: Timon Gatta’s “Chinese philosophical lexicon in the 19th century between Protestant dictionaries and Japanese sources: some examples”, Serena Zuccheri’s “Analisi del turpiloquio e dei fenomeni di interdizione linguistica nella traduzione cinese della prima stagione di *Gomorra* – La serie” (“An analysis of swearwords and tabooing in the Chinese translation of the first season of *Gomorra*”), Michele Mannoni’s “(In)justice: extrajudicial legal jargon in Taiwan”, and Lara Colangelo’s “La formazione del lessico giuridico romanistico cinese: riflessioni preliminari sulle problematiche relative alla resa dei concetti di ‘dolo’ e ‘colpa’” (“The formation of the Chinese lexicon on Roman law: preliminary observation on issues related to the translation of ‘wilful misconduct’ and ‘negligence’”).

The sixth edition of the Study Days on Chinese Linguistics will be held at the Department of Interpreting and Translation of the University of Bologna, Forlì, Italy, June 24-26, 2020. The call for papers will be announced soon.

9. Norddeutsches Chinesischlehrertreffen Konfuzius-Institut an der Universität Hamburg, 24.11.2018

Torben Müller

Es ist inzwischen zu einer guten Tradition unter den Kolleginnen und Kollegen in Norddeutschland geworden, einmal jährlich zum Chinesischlehrertreffen zu fahren, um viele bekannte Gesichter wiederzutreffen und neue kennenzulernen. Daneben bietet das Treffen auch eine willkommene Gelegenheit, sich über alternative Lehrmethoden zu informieren und sich über Neuigkeiten rund um das Fach auszutauschen. Wie schon öfter in der Vergangenheit hat sich auch dieses Jahr das Konfuzius-Institut an der Universität Hamburg als