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横向传递和方言形成

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提要

本文探讨汉语历史发展中的一个基本问题，汉语方言形成的主要机制。通过对现代方言分布，汉族发展历史，以及人的语言能力等方面的分析，本文对汉语方言形成提出新的解释。所提供的分析显示，汉语方言形成的主要机制是不完善语言转换。这样，方言形成的原因是“横向传递”的结果，不是“纵向传递”，也不是“纵向-横向传递”的综合结果。

关键词

方言形成 横向传递 语言转换

HORIZONTAL TRANSMISSION AND DIALECT FORMATION

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ABSTRACT

This article investigates the main mechanism of dialect formation, which is a fundamental issue in the historical development of Chinese. Based on the analyses of the distribution of modern dialects, the historical development of Han Chinese, and human language ability, this article proposes a new explanation for the formation of Chinese dialects. The analyses provided demonstrate that the main mechanism of dialect formation is imperfect language shift. Thus, the formation of Chinese dialects is the result of horizontal transmission, not the result of vertical transmission or even of a combination of vertical and horizontal transmission.

KEYWORDS

Dialect formation Horizontal transmission Language shift