

Forum: Minnan or Taiwanese i¼ ê-©å•-話æ -啰語i¼‰

Topic: çf•é-¯æœ¨é½Š Subject: Re: çf•é-¯æœ¨é½Š

Posted by: Tim Luo

Posted on: 2007/6/8 11:30:58

As promised, I herein input what I know about this particular expression.

From my personal experience, I never heard anyone actually pronounce the second character as a  $\mathring{a}... + \grave{e}^{\bullet 2}$  (lok) before I learned of it from books or the like. Therefore I think it might be helpful to clarify this from historical data. We can see from one of the links that  $\grave{e} \cdot \pm \mathring{a} \, \hat{e}^3 / -\mathring{a}...$ , said something about why it's so.

For this, we need to know when  $\dot{e}(\pm\dot{a})^{\dot{e}}(\pm\dot{a})$ 

I am a dictionary collector and I have some older dictionaries first published back in the nineteenth century on Minnan (or Amoy) by foreign missionaries. The first one is called å » ^è · ± å ¤ § è ¾ -å ... , (Chinese-English Dictionary of the Vernacular or Spoken Language of Amoy) by Rev. Carstairs Douglas and published in 1873. The second is called English and Chinese Dictionary of the Amoy Dialect(è · ± å » ^å -— å ... ,) by Rev. John McGowan and published in 1883. You can find oo1 loo2 bok8 ce5 (transcribed in TLPA for easier reading in this post) in both dictionaries.

In the first dictionary, under loo2, it says "oo1-loo2-bok8-ce5", Urumutsi, a place of severe transportation (see ce5). and under ce5, it says "oo1-loo2-bok8-ce5", Urumutsi, a Chinese province in Central Asia; said also in reference to travellers' tales, "all bosh".

The word bosh basically means nonsense in British English. In the second dictionary under "bosh", it says  $cf \cdot e^{-c}$  (evidently a typo) oo1-loo2-bok8-ce5.

Tim

<Typo corrected for Urumutsi.>

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