



Forum: Minnan or Taiwanese i¼ê—æ^—à°è²¼%

Topic: $\zeta f \bullet \acute{e} - \acute{a} \acute{o} \acute{e} \acute{e} \frac{1}{2} \acute{S}$

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 ㄅ (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 ㄅ said something about why it's so.

For this, we need to know when è^{±â}è¾-â... was published. From <http://203.64.42.21/iug/ungian/SoannTeng/subok/POJ.htm>, we can find è^{±â}è¾-â..., and è^{±â}â—â.... The said dictionary should be the one called A Practical English-Hokkien Dictionary(â“ç”è^{±â}è¾-â...), or any other one published after the establishment of Republican China or there won't be words like "æ...æœ«æŽž (should be æ°)â••é• â¼žçf•é¬æœ«é½Šä¼†tè†øçš„äºŒæ¬—â®~â“j1¼Œèè†èµ¬è©²ăœçš„ă¥†éç“ç°ăĴ—".

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 廈門方言字典 (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 (廈門方言英華字典) by Rev. John McGowan and published in 1883. You can find 001 002 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. æ̃é-é½Š* (evidently a typo) *oo1-loo2-bok8-ce5*.

Tim

<Typo corrected for Urumutsi.>