The Evolution of Zhizhuangzhang Initial Consonants in Zhiyan Cluster of Jin Dialect*

Feng Gao
School of Literature
Xi'an University
Xi'an, China 710065

Abstract—The ancient Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in Zhiyan cluster of Jin dialect belong to Changxu type. The modern pronunciation pattern of Zhizhuangzhang groups in Zhiyan cluster is in line with the dialect of “Zhongyuan Yinyun”, which was formed at the latest in the Yuan Dynasty.

Keywords—ancient Zhizhuangzhang; modern pronunciation type; formation time; Zhiyan cluster; Jin dialect

I. INTRODUCTION

Zhiyan cluster of Jin dialect is located in Yan'an City, Shaanxi Province, including dialects of six counties: Wuqi, Zhidan, Ansai, Yan'an, Yanchang and Ganquan. [1] Zhiyan cluster is in the transitional zone between Jin dialect and official language of central China. It has transitional features in many aspects of the dialect. However, the modern pronunciation of Zhiyan cluster is completely consistent with the mainstream of Jin dialect in Shaanxi and is very stable.

II. THE MODERN PRONUNCIATION TYPE OF ZHIZHUANGZHANG INITIAL CONSONANTS GROUPS IN ZHIYAN CLUSTER OF JIN DIALECT

The division and combination rules and the distribution of the pronunciation of ancient Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in the six counties of Zhiyan cluster of Jin dialect showed a very strong consistency. The modern pronunciations of the ancient Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants are the combination of the Zhierzhuang opening mouth and the Hongyin word of Jing group (except the Dangjiangshezhuang group, the Jiangshezhi group, the Zhierzhuang and Zhisanzhang group) is read as tʂ group, the round-mouth combination of Zhishezhang and Zhuang group (except for the Zhishezhang group, including the Dangjiangshezhuang group and the Jiangshezhi group) is read as ʦ group, and the modern pronunciation of Dangkaisanzhang group and the Jiangkaierzhuang group evolved with round-mouth characters. There is no variation in the initial consonant of modern pronunciation of the round-mouth characters.

From the classification of the sounds of the ancient Zhizhuangzhang Jing group, there are usually three types of

*This article is one of the achievements of the National Social Science Fund Major Project "Atlas of Northwest Dialect (No. 16:JJD7400 10)".

Copyright © 2018, the Authors. Published by Atlantis Press. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).
and Wubao Zhangjiashan. The Dangjiangshe open-mouth group, Jiangkai second group and Zhizhuang round-mouth group are read as ʦ group, and Engkai second group is read as ɕ group. [4] This is different from the pronunciation of other Jin dialect areas in Northern Shaanxi but consistent with the dialects of Shanxi Linxian on the other side of the Yellow River. There are 16 dialect areas in central Shanxi that also incorporate Zhizhuangzhang round-mouth into Jing Hongyin Group, including dialects in Linxian, Liulin, and Lishi in western district, and Xiaoyi, Jixiu, Pingding and Heshun in the central district.

They connect to each other geographically, forming a narrow dialect band. [5] Six dialect areas including Kengzhen in northern Shaanxi and Shanxi Linxian and Liulin are on opposite sides of the river, so the Zhizhuangzhang round-mouth ʦ group should be the result of the influence of the above Shanxi dialect.

The modern pronunciation type of Zhizhuangzhang in Shanxi dialect in the east of Zhiyan cluster is rich. Wang Hongjun (2007) conducted an in-depth study of the modern pronunciation of ancient Zhizhuangzhang group of 101 dialect areas in Shanxi, and divided them into three categories: I Zhizhuangzhang dichotomy type; II Zhizhuangzhang integration type; III Zhizhuangzhang integration type of Jing four groups. The Zhizhuangzhang dichotomy type I include 57 dialect areas with the largest number. They are widely distributed in various regions of Shanxi. Wang Wen continued to subdivide the 57 dialect areas into 4 types. The difference is mainly the conflation and phonological values of the round-mouth pronunciation. The first one is similar to the division and combination of Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in Zhiyan cluster, all of which belong to the Changxu type. This type is distributed in 29 dialect areas, of which there are 23 areas belonging to the typical Changxu type: Datong, Tianshui, Shanyin, Shuoxian, Hongjun (2007) conducted an in-depth study of the modern pronunciation type of Zhizhuangzhang in Shanxi Linxian in the east of Zhiyan cluster is rich. Wang Hongjun believes that "the dialect I should be the native level of dialects" in the three types of Zhizhuangzhang groups (except Jiangshe) and the three open-mouth second characters of Guzhizhuangzhang groups (except Jiangshe) and the three open-mouth second characters in the same group: "zhi, liu, and shenshe". The description is not in detail, so the specific distribution area cannot be found. [7] Therefore, the modern pronunciation type of Zhizhuangzhang in Guanzhong dialect should belong to the variable Changxu type.

The west of Zhiyan cluster is Gansu and Ningxia, and its dialect belongs to Qinlong and Longzhong cluster of the Central Plain official language and Longdong area in Gansu is adjacent to Wuqi and Zhidan. There are relatively few materials related to Gansu dialect. “Gansu Dialect Profile” (1960) mentioned that in the dialect of the Longdong Region, "some ʦ group words are read as ʈʂ groups, including the open-mouth two characters of Guzhizhuangzhang groups (except Jiangshe) and the three open-mouth second characters in the same group: "zhi, liu, and shenshe". The description is not in detail, so the specific distribution area cannot be found. The Zones of Chinese Dialects in the Four Provinces of Shanxi, Gansu, Ningxia and Qinghai (1986) lists the classification and distribution of the four characters of “zhu, chu, shu, and ru”, in which the sound value of initial consonant in Ji type and Ding type didn't change. Ji type are distributed in 11 places such as Wuzhong and Zhongwei in Yinnan cluster, and Jiayuguan, Jiuquan, Yunan, Jinta, Anxi, Wuwei, Minqin, Dunhuang in Hexi cluster, Gulong, Tianzhu, Yinchuan, Yanchi, six places in Lanzhou cluster including Yuzhong and Minqin, ten places in Qinlong cluster, Pingliang and Guyuan, and ten places in Longzhong cluster in Linxia and Lintao. Ding type are distributed in Qingyang, Huaxian, Huachi, Heshui and Dunhuang in Gansu, (Shanxi) Longxian, Yan'an, Ganquan, Yanchang, Dingbian, Baihe, Pingli, and Zhen'an. [9][10]

It can be seen from the above that the typical Changxu type is mainly distributed in the northwestern part of Shanxi, the north and west part of Shanxi, the eastern part of Gansu, and most part of Ningxia, which are roughly connected in geographic position. The Zhiyan cluster is located in the central and western part of the cluster.

IV. THE FORMATION TIME OF MODERN PRONUNCIATION OF ZHIZHUANGZHANG INITIAL CONSONANTS IN ZHIYAN CLUSTER OF JIN DIALECT

Zhiyan cluster of Jin dialect is neatly divided into two categories according to the ancient sound conditions of Zhihuanzhang and Zhisanzhang in "Zhongyuan Yinyun" and there is no irregular change that some words have been changed while some words have not been changed, indicating the modern pronunciation of Zhizhuangzhang is the original level of dialect, instead of the result of the influence of external dialects. The Zhizhuangzhang of Zhiyan cluster is similar to the diale of Shanxi Jin dialect. Wang Hongjun believes that "the dialect I should be the native level of dialects" in the three types of Zhizhuangzhang groups in Shanxi dialect. [5] Our view is consistent with that of Mr. Wang Hongjun.
Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in Zhiyan cluster of Jin dialect have three characteristics: Zhizhuang groups and Zhisanzhang are dichotomy, the pronunciation of Zhikaisanzhuang is same to open-mouth Zhi group, and Jiangkai Erzhizhuang group and Dangkai Sanzhuang group are read as round-mouth words. Some scholars have studied the formation of these three characteristics.

Luo Changpei (1933), through the study of Dunhuang literature reflecting the northwestern dialect pronunciation of the late Tang and Five Dynasties, believed that the Zhizhongzhuang consonants in the northwest China in Tang and Five Dynasties had been mixed. [11] This conclusion is slightly improper. Shao Rongfen (1963) drew the slightly different conclusion through the investigation of the wrongly written characters and strange articles in Dunhuang folk literature and the comparison of Luo Changpei's Chinese and Tibetan audio materials. He holds that "it can be believed that Zhi and Zhang initial consonants in the third-class rhyme can no longer be distinguished", and we seem to be sure that Zhishechongmu and Changmu are mixed. That is to say, only part of the word in Zhi group is merged into the Zhi and Zhang group, and the Zhi group is still independent. As for the performance of the second-class Zhi group, Shao Wen did not discuss it. [12] Wanbo (2009) combined the research of each school and compared the following literature materials: Zhan Zilei's "Zhengzitong" in the late Tang and early Qing dynasties, Zhou Deqing's "Zhongyuan Yinyun" in the Yuan Dynasty, Wu Yue's "Yunbu" in the Southern Song Dynasty, Wu Shaoyi's "The Sound Map for Erya" reflecting the actual voice in the Five Dynasties and the early Song Dynasty, and Dunhuang literature reflecting the northwestern dialect of the Tang and Five Dynasties. Finally, the following conclusions are drawn: the two types of Zhizhuang and Zhisanzhang groups have been formed in the late Tang Dynasty and the Five Dynasties. After North Song Dynasty and South Song Dynasty, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties, they remain in modern Gan dialect, Hakka dialect, and some Shanxi and Shandong dialects. [13] According to the existing materials, the opposition between Zhizhuang and Zhisanzhang is also preserved in the Jin dialect of the Northern Shaanxi and part of the Central Plains official language.

It is also a long-standing tradition that the pronunciation of Zhishe open-mouth Zhi group in medieval times is the same to that of Zhizhuang group. Sang Yuhong (2009) found that in the modern Chinese period, there are three kinds of pronunciation expressions in Zhishe open-mouth third-class Zhizhuangzhang group after sorting out the pronunciation of modern Chinese literature. First, Zhikaisanzhanzi group is same to Zhi group, and opposite to Zhan group. "List of Ancient and Modern Rhymes", "Basiba", "Mongolian rhyme", and "Xiru Ermu Zi" belong to this category; second, Zhikaisanzhang group is same to Zhan group, and opposite to Zhi group. "Zhongyuan Yinyun", "Yunlue Yitong", "Yunlue Huitong", "Cheng Tai Yun", and "Five Yuan Fangyin" belong to this category; third, the initial consonant and vowel in Zhikaisanzhi, Zhan, and Zhi groups are all the same. "Sima Wengong and other rhyme maps" and "Yinyunjicheng" belong to this category. [14] The Northern Shaanxi Jin dialect, including Zhiyan cluster, maintains the opposition between the Zhizhuang group and Zhisanzhang, and Zhikaisanzhang group has the same pronunciation to Zhan group, which belongs to the second category. Among several books reflecting this category, the earliest one is "Zhongyuan Yinyun" (1324). When discussing the initial consonants in "Zhongyuan Yinyun", Ning Jifu (1964) pointed out: "The ancient Zhishe open-mouth Zhi group is merged into Zhiyan zhe and combined with Zhan group characters". [15] This shows that from the Yuan Dynasty to the latest, Zhikai Sanzhuangzhang group has been merged and is opposite to the Zhi group.

It is the common feature of official language and Jin dialect that Jiangkai Erzhizhuang group and the Dangkai Sanzhuang group is read as round-mouth characters. It is the same in Beijing, Jinnan, Taiyuan, Wuhan, Hefei and Yangzhou. Mai Yun (2010) pointed out: "According to the current existing material, the material that first showed the round-mouth pronunciation of Jiangshezhizhao group is probably the "Sisheng dengzi" of the Southern Song Dynasty. As for Dangshezhao group, there is a medial sound 'h' with the remark of unknown nature in "Mongolia characters rhyme" in Yuan Dynasty." [16] It can be seen from the time sequence that, due to the convergence of Yang Yun and Jiang Yun, the words of Dangkaisanzhuang group were influenced by the words of Jiangkai'erzhizhuang, and they were changed to round-mouth pronunciation.

V. CONCLUSION

Li Jianxiao believes that the phonetic pattern of Zhizhuangzhang in the Jin dialect of Northern Shaanxi should have taken shape in the northwestern dialects of the Tang and Five Dynasties. [4] We believe that only two parts of Zhizhuangzhang initial consonant were formed in Tang and Five Dynasties and later the rest pronunciations of Zhikaisanzhang group, Jiangkai'erzhizhuang group and the Dangkaisanzhang groups were gradually formed. The modern pronunciation pattern of Zhizhaoshanxi groups in Zhiyan cluster is in line with the dialect of "Zhongyuan Yinyun", which was formed at the latest in the Yuan Dynasty. It is precisely because the modern pronunciation pattern of Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in Zhiyan cluster has been formed for hundreds of years, and the modern pronunciation pattern of Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in the surrounding large-scale dialect is the same that the Zhizhuangzhang initial consonants in Zhiyan cluster very stable. Even under today's strong influence of Mandarin, it didn't change obviously. Up to now, the modern pronunciation rules of the old words, immigrant words and new-style words in Zhiyan cluster of Jin dialect are basically the same. The same is true of other northern Shaanxi Jin dialects.

REFERENCES