

Editorial Note

August 2018

We are very happy to present the 19th volume of the SOAS Working Papers in Linguistics. This volume features papers by current research students and recent graduates of the Department of Linguistics at SOAS. In addition it features papers from colleagues outside of the department on topics and areas of interest aligned with the department.

The wide variety of papers is indicative of the high quality research taking place in the department with complementary papers on linguistics and sociolinguistic topics with a focus on a wide variety of settings and languages. This volume contains research from a range of contexts from Africa, Europe and Asia with the papers presented in the following sections: Syntax, Morphosyntax, Phonology and Sociolinguistics.

Abubakari begins the section on Syntax focusing on the process of relativisation in Kúsààl, a Mabia (Gur) language, spoken in Ghana, Africa. Based on fieldwork and native speaker intuitions, Abubakari demonstrates how Kúsààl has both in-situ, and left-headed, internally-headed relative clauses. Switching the focus to Asia, Yarar presents differential case marking in Turkish wh-object phrases. The findings of Yarar's study indicate that both specificity and animacy are operative in the case marking of Turkish wh-object phrases. In the section on Morphosyntax, Harvey's article focuses on gender and number in word-markers in Gorwaa, a South-Cushitic language from Tanzania, Africa, providing a comprehensive morphosyntactic description of the noun. Phonology presents Youngberg's review of previous representations of the moraic nasal in Japanese. Youngberg concludes that the moraic nasal is in fact a long nasal vowel. The volume concludes with two papers on Sociolinguistics. Telep concentrates on stereotypes of Francanglais among immigrants from Cameroon, based in Paris, France. Based on ethnographic fieldwork, Telep analyses metapragmatic discourses and finds that speakers look down on Francanglais, categorising it as a slang and sub-standard form of French. Lastly, Steigertahl discusses the similarities and differences between the concepts of language and dialect, from researchers' and speakers' perspectives, and how these express ideologies and attitudes towards various speech varieties in four Namibian communities in Africa.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped us through the editing process. Particularly, Lu Lu for helping to set us up as editors and for sharing her editorial experience, Charlotte Hemmings for the same; the anonymous reviewers for taking their time to thoroughly and constructively critique all the papers, not only the ones included in the volume; and to the authors for bearing with us through the long journey to printing and publication. We would like to thank the SOAS Department of Linguistics, in both its incarnations, for the financial and moral support received. Many thanks to the SOAS Print Room, and particularly Steve Redding, for their help and support. Thanks to Helen Porter

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