Research on Super Dialect and Standardization of Yi Language

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Abstract: In modern Chinese, people's research on language mainly focuses on corpus construction, phonetics, and grammar. Yi language is a language with a long history, yet very colorful and unique. It has unique historical significance and cultural value, and is known as one of the "oldest languages in the world". Yi language is an important part of Chinese, and it is also called "live ink". It is unique with its own unique language and style. However, with the development of the times, the sense of existence of Yi language super dialects is getting lower and lower. To this end, this article explores the issue of Yi language super-dialect and standardization. This article draws conclusions through a series of data investigation and analysis. The standardization of Yi language beyond dialect is an important literary task. In order to protect the characteristics and cultural traditions of ethnic minorities in our country, the standardization of Yi language must start with its pronunciation and ideology, and uniformly summarize the characteristics of Yi language used in different regions, and then form Standardized literature basis.

1. Introduction

The language and characters of the Yi people have inherited and recorded the long history and splendid culture of the Yi people. The Yi people have written many excellent works in the Yi language, and the Yi language tells moving stories to generations of Yi people. Our language and writing have gone through thousands of years of evolution and development, have withstood thousands of years of tests, and have come to today with our nation. However, today we can see very clearly that the use of Yi language by the Yi people has already gone downhill.

There are many researches on Yi language super-dialect and standardization. For example, it has been suggested that at this stage, the Chinese transcription of minority languages has become a very common phenomenon. Starting from the conceptual integration theory of cognitive linguistics, he explored the standardization of Chinese transliteration of kinship terms in the northern dialects of Yi language, and tried to provide a reference standard for the Chinese transliteration of basic Yi language vocabulary [1]. Others have done research on the lingo of the Lalu dialect of the Yi people. They believed that cryptic language is the linguistic imprint of national cultural life and summarized the lingo from three aspects: food, national title, and action. With the in-depth development of urbanization and the acceleration of social transformation, these lingoes are gradually becoming endangered [2]. In addition, some scholars said that the social service function of Yi language has been continuously strengthened, and the promotion and use of Yi language has shown a prosperous trend. The addition of Yi language signs on the plaques of bus stops has further promoted the application and promotion of Yi language [3].

The main research contents of this article include the origin of Yi language, the reasons for its gradual disappearance, the six major dialects of Yi language, the concept of super dialects, and the standardization of Yi language. Through a series of studies, it was discovered that the Yi language has a long history and can be said to be a gem in the history of Chinese civilization. Therefore, in order to protect the inheritance of the intangible cultural heritage of Yi language, it is necessary to standardize the pronunciation, text and other places.

2. Yi Language Super Dialect

2.1 Origin of Yi Language

The emergence and development of the Yi script is the same as the history of the Yi people. It has experienced a rugged, tortuous, long and bumpy road. Although it has been discriminated against and tortured by the feudal ruling class in all dynasties, it has always been "wildfire". "Endless", has been circulated endlessly for thousands of years, showing its extraordinary vitality rooted in the strong national consciousness of the Yi people. For its existence and value, it was only gradually aroused the attention and research of some insightful people in China in the 1930s [4].

2.2 Reasons for the Decline of Yi Language

(1) The impact of a strong culture on a weak culture. This kind of shock will bring some negative influences to our culture and language, but if we find a balance to face the shock like other fraternal nations, it will also bring us opportunities and development. It depends on how we deal with such shocks.

(2) A wrong language and ideology of this nation. This misconception is largely rooted in ourselves, we can change and we are trying to change. The use of a nation's language and writing has a very important relationship with the nation's attitude towards its own language and writing. If the Yi compatriots consciously learn and use it, even if the population is small, then we can continue to use and improve it. If even we ourselves are unwilling to learn and use Yi language, then even if we have a large population, then we Language and writing will also be wiped out by ourselves [5].

2.3 Six Dialects of Yi Language

Like Chinese, Yi language is based on pictographic characters. However, the pictogram of Yi language is different from the pictographic representation of Chinese characters. It is a text symbol outlined by a highly linear pictographic form, which reflects mental state and national ideology of the Yi nationality. The original meaning of the Yi language is to indicate a fixed original meaning and develop into multiple intentions instead of expressing a syllable. Only by correctly grasping the ideology and original meaning of the Yi language can the Yi language be unified and the Yi language Embark on a good development path.

(1) Northern dialect.

The northern language (namely, Daliangshan Yi language) spans Sichuan and Yunnan provinces. The population using this dialect is about 3.02 million, distributed in more than 40 counties and cities. The Yi people who speak the northern dialect call themselves no33su33. (Transliteration "Nuosu") The northern sub-dialect includes three dialects: Shengzha, Yinuo and Tianba. The southern sub-dialect is divided into two dialects, namely Butuo Tuyu and Huili Tuyu (that is, the local dialect of "so33ndi21ho21" commonly called by the Yi people in Liangshan).

(2) Eastern dialect

Eastern dialects are mainly distributed in Guizhou Province and Yunnan Province, followed by Sichuan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The Yi people who speak the eastern dialect call themselves no55su33phu55, and there are about 2.4million people. The eastern dialects are divided into three sub-dialects of Yunnan and Guizhou, Panxian and Northeast Yunnan. The sub-dialects of Yunnan and Guizhou include four dialects: Shuixi, Wusa, Mangbu, and Wumeng. The sub-dialects of northeastern Yunnan include Wulu, Qiaowu, Wuding, Xundian, and Kun'an.

(3) Southeastern dialect

Southeastern dialects are mainly distributed in southeastern Yunnan. People who speak the dialect of the southeast call themselves ni21, a33xi21, sa33ni31 and so on, and there are about 420000 people.

The southeast dialect is divided into four upper languages: Yiliang, Maitreya, Huami, and Wenxi. The internal differences of this native language are quite large.

(4) Western dialect

Western dialects are mainly distributed in western Yunnan. The Yi people who speak the western dialect call themselves 1a31lo33pa31, and there are about 650000 people. The western

dialect is divided into two dialects, Dongshan and Xishan [6-7].

(5) Central dialect

Central dialects are mainly distributed in central Yunnan. The central dialect is divided into two native languages, Nanhua and Dayao.

(6) Southern dialect

The southern dialect of Yi language, also known as Nisu, is a dialect of Yi language, mainly distributed in southern Yunnan Province, with 1.64million speakers. Most people who speak this dialect call themselves "Nisu"/niˈlsuɬ/. There are traditional characters in the southern dialect, with concise glyphs and smooth strokes. Lin'an Prefecture (now Jianshui County) in the Ming and Qing Dynasties implemented the Yi language examination system, and it was this Yi language that was used.

2.4 Yi language Super Dialect

The Yi language super dialect means that different Yi language dialects can all choose to use same character as writing tools.

Some researchers believe that the Yi dialect and native language are too complicated, and they hold a negative or skeptical attitude towards the unity of the Yi language. Indeed, during the development of the Yi language, in order to meet the needs of the society, the use of different dialects, sub-dialects, native dialects, and sub-tu dialects in the orthodox Yi script has produced different changes, forming the diversity of the Yi language and culture. However, we know that ideographic and super-dialectic texts themselves do not express differences in dialects or native languages. Traditional Yi language can avoid a difference in Yi dialects and become a "book with text" that emphasizes the unity of form and meaning. Historical experience, actual conditions, and realistic requirements have determined that the Yi people's writing must take the road of "super dialect writing" in order to truly achieve unity. "The Yi nationality is different from other nationalities. Most of the scripts of other nationalities are Pinyin scripts, but the traditional Yi nationality scripts are 'ideographic and ideographic phonetic combined' scripts. We take the road of ideology, which is determined by the particularity of the Yi language writing is a symbol for recording language. If we want so many branches of Yi people across the country to have a unified set of writings, it is only possible to follow the path of ideology [8].

3. Research on Yi Language Standardization

3.1 Yi language Standardization Factors

Whether the writing can be unified depends on two factors: one is the common political environment, cultural background and common social living environment, which is not only a prerequisite for the unification of writing requirements, but also a necessary guarantee for the implementation of the unified writing policy; the second is here common language formed naturally on the basis. The unification of writing is based on the unification of dialects, and the unification of writing records is a common language. Due to various reasons of the pronunciation and shape of Yi language, different problems will arise in the handling of orthodox characters and standard pronunciation [9].

In considering the issue of Yi language norms, we have to supplement the Yi nationality's ideology, that is, when we are discussing the related issues of Yi language unification, we must return to the Yi nationality's history and Yi nationality thinking. Of course, it's no final conclusion about what Yi thinking is, but such as thinking exists objectively. The sentence patterns of Yi language are divided into different sentence patterns due to different dividing standards. Generally speaking, they are divided into four kinds of sentence patterns: declarative sentence, imperative sentence, question sentence and negative sentence according to the grammatical characteristics of single sentence.

(1) Declarative sentences are divided into the following types:

1) S+V type, such as

ꃅ ꑮ ꆹ ꆺ.

Mu Xia(S), comes(V)

When V is a judgment verb, the S+V form becomes S+ꆹ ...... ꄡ structure. Sometimes you can omit the preceding "ꆹ". For example: ꉙ ꆹ ꃅ ꑮ ꄡ becomes: ꉙ ꃅ ꑮ ꄡ , but there is no natural sentence.

2) O+ location + V (split and automatic) type, such as:

Enabling usage

ꑺ		ꋊ ꐚ		ꄯ	sheeps	mountain	on
sheeps	mountain		on		O	place	V
O	place	V					

Initiative usage

This kind of sentence pattern is also called an existential sentence. When "ꄯ " is used here to mean "you", it means that the sheep on the mountain is put on the mountain by someone, and it is used; when "ꌠ " is used to mean "you", it means For the sheep, he ran up the mountain by himself. But when it is translated into Chinese, it is translated as: There are sheep on the mountain.

3) S+V1+O+V2 type, such as:

ꀨ ꀕ		ꀋ ꆹ ꈚ		ꁧ ꄷ		ꄯ
Aniu		stands		book	reads	
S		V1		O	V2	

This kind of sentence pattern is also called continuous-predicate sentence, and its characteristic is that the object is sandwiched between two verbs.

4) S+O1+ꋅ +O2+v type, such as:

ꆏ		ꁧ ꄷ		ꋅ	ꀋ		ꆏ
Your		book		take	him		give
S		O1		ꋅ	O2		v

This kind of sentence pattern is very similar to the "ba" sentence in Chinese. The subject makes the performer make an action to point to the object.

5) O+S+ꆱ +V+Vi type, such as:

ꆿ ꋅ		ꀋ	ꆱ		ꇢ		ꇅ ꐚ
Grass		cows	been		eaten		over
O		S	ꆱ		V		Vi

This sentence pattern is very similar to the passive sentence in Chinese, but the word order is not completely consistent. The Chinese marker is in front of the object, and the Yi language is in front of the formal subject.

(2) Interrogative sentence

There are two ways of expressing interrogative sentences in Yi language. One is to express a question by overlapping verbs or adjectives, and the other is to use interrogative words. The words in Yi language that ask about quality, quantity, volume, area, height, location, and time Derived from the original question word "ꆽ " plus specific words. Use "ꑴ " when asking about the type. Such as:

1) ꆏ ꅝ ꑲ ꋊ ꀊ ?

You home come do

2) ꉙ ꆽ ꑲ ꋊ ?

He where does sit

3) ꑴ ꃤ ꄯ ?

What kind of is?

The "ꀊ " in (1) is a duplication symbol, overlapping the preceding "ꋊ " to express doubt. Both "ꆽ " in (2) and "ꑴ " in (3) are question words.

(3) Imperative sentence

In Yi language, imperative sentences are generally without a subject, and only use verbs or verbs

with additional elements. Such as:

ⵒ ⵟ ! (Sit down) ⵚ ⵛ ⵁ ! (Out)

(4) Negative sentence

Negative sentences in Yi language generally have to add the negative words ⵗ , ⵞ and ⵓ in front of the verb to indicate negation, such as:

ⵍ ⵗ ⵊ ⵏ

I'm not coming

ⵅ ⵒ ⵞ ⵟ

Don't know him or her

ⵎ ⵓ ⵙ

You don't go.

For example, first, the word order of Yi language is the subject-object predicate. And decorations are both Chinese language ingenuity and artistic sentiment that cannot be surpassed. Second, in the writing of Yi characters, such as "Ri", the logic of Chinese characters is "enter first, and then close the door" as three strokes. The Yi language "ⵔ " is written in Yi language logic as "dig the pond first, then store the water" as a stroke. Third, in terms of textual ideology, Chinese character ideology is intuitive and pictographic, while Yi language is highly linear and abstract ideology. These are all Chinese characters that cannot be surpassed. This is also a problem that cannot be ignored in the Yi language norms [10].

3.2 Standardization Direction

(1) The selection of standard characters must be based on the respect for the development of Yi language, and the original meaning of the characters must be deeply studied based on the status quo of the provinces. Secondly, combined with the choice of sound, the original meaning and font form are preferred. Therefore, all fonts written with homophones need to be discarded. In the formulation of the Yi language standard program, based on the "Regulation Program", it is necessary to make a determination to formulate a standard program in reaching a unified opinion. After that, the most important thing is to insist that the Yi language of the second set of plans must not be used, and the form of writing and the typesetting of words must be unified. First, it must be based on Bimo's writing style and typesetting, that is, the Yi language in the northern dialect must be consistent with the current other dialects, so that the universal Yi language can be finalized as soon as possible. Second, in the selection of orthodox fonts, most of the fonts in the "Regulation Plan" can be continued. Clockwise 90° is the norm. Individual characters can be slightly adjusted according to the font design and aesthetics. In addition, the prevailing Liangshan Yi language and typesetting issues will objectively exist for a long period of time.

(2) The problem of standard tone.

Due to the barriers of mountains and rivers in the past and the gaps in the communication between people in the dialect area, many dialects and native dialects of Yi have been formed over time. The biggest difference between dialects is the presence or absence of voiced complex consonants in the nose crown, which are common in the north, east, and southeast of Yi language. And it has been disappeared with the evolution in southern, western and central Yunnan. Fortunately, the basic pronunciation of Yi language have similarity rate over 80%, and words and expressions have a similarity rate of over 75%. However, only 30-40% of sentences are connected. People with little knowledge of dialects cannot communicate. This has led to a general academic interpretation that it is not possible to communicate between Yi dialects. In fact, it is not. It is just that different regions are affected by Chinese. Different words and words derived from different sources have appeared. This has led to differences in sentences and increased sinicization after liberation. It is even worse for Yi language. Regarding the correct pronunciation of Yi characters, this article puts forward that, in principle, one character has one sound, and one sound has an original meaning. Multiple homophones and a large number of synonyms can be allowed. The original pronunciation is basically not required to be constructed in the northern dialect.

In handling the standard pronunciation of the Yi language, it is necessary to consider each dialect

area, and it is necessary to take care of the central and western dialect areas. For the current two dialect areas, due to various reasons, there is no inheritance of Yi language. It is necessary to make necessary explanations for the pronunciation of individual characters in the literary plan. The Yi language education must be combined with actual situation of different dialects. The final unification of the plan will surely enter these two dialect areas [11].

Due to various economic, political, and social reasons, Yi language in different regions has different vocabulary. The Yi language has produced various dialect vocabularies. We need to organize the Yi language objectively and scientifically with the purpose of enriching the Yi language vocabulary and pay attention to distinguishing common words. Vocabulary and dialect vocabulary, the northern dialect also urgently needs to absorb other dialect vocabulary to supplement itself, for example: First, the current place names in various places should be collated with local vocabulary as a standard. Second, the vocabulary of foreign nationalities in various places before the Qing Dynasty can be reserved and used. Third, sort out synonyms and antonyms of Yi language. Fourth, after the founding of the People's Republic of China, foreign words and professional terms should be standardized based on the northern dialect.

3.3 The Significance of Yi Language Standardization

The Yi language has a long history, records the vast historical and cultural heritage of the Yi people, and has important theoretical value and research significance.

(1) In theory, the standardization of Yi language can break the limitations of Yi language in various places, and realize the combination of characters in the areas where Yi language is used by exploring standardization methods. Secondly, the standardization research of Yi language is helpful to provide reference for philology research.

(2) In practice, the standardization research of Yi language is conducive to the communication between Yi people and other ethnic groups, so that Yi language culture can be learned, protected and inherited. Secondly, it is conducive to the unity and friendly exchanges of the Yi people. Finally, the written language written in the universal phonetic system can also contribute to the formation of Yi Mandarin [12].

4. Survey of Opinions on Standardization of Yi Language Super Dialects

In response to this research, this article conducted field investigations and interviews with 50 experts, the Yi people and the local government for their opinions on the standardization of Yi super dialects.

4.1 Research on the Direction of Standardization

According to the findings of the investigation, the standardization improvement direction of Yi language can be started in the following aspects: font arrangement, phonetic symbols, characters, phonetics, text and other consistent design. Refer to Table 1 for specific support conditions.

Table 1. Direction of Standardization

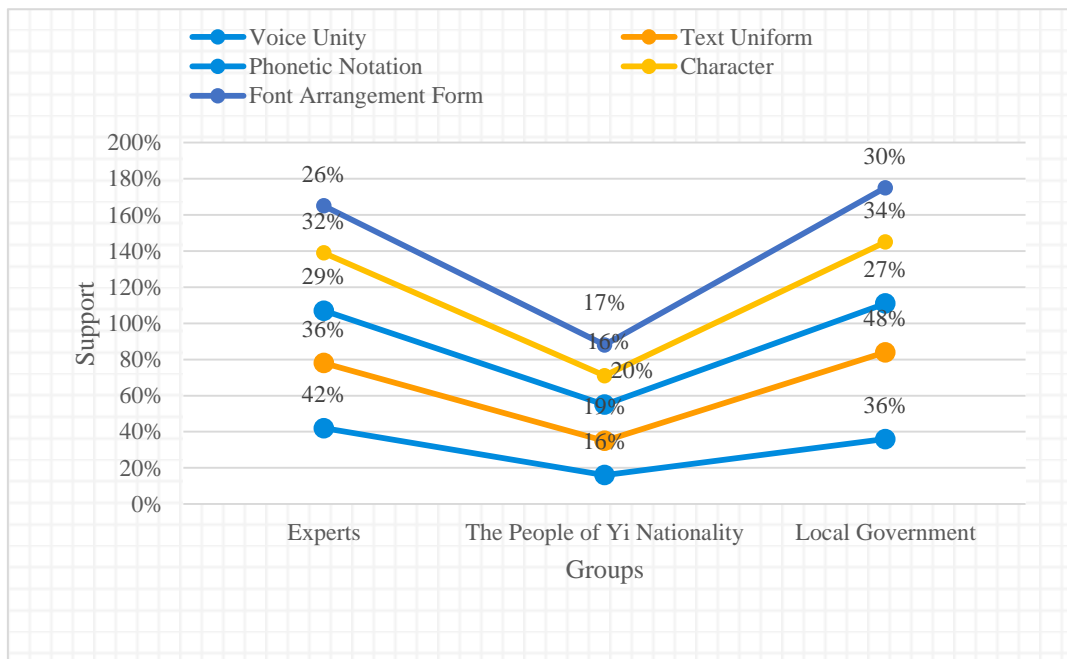| range	Voice Unity	Text Uniform	Phonetic Notation	Character	Font Arrangement Form
Experts	42%	36%	29%	32%	26%
The People of Yi Nationality	16%	19%	20%	16%	17%
Local Government	36%	48%	27%	34%	30%

Figure 1. Direction of Standardization

As shown in Figure 1, we can find that a more obvious problem currently exists is that the Yi people are not very in favor of the standardization of Yi language super-dialects, and the general support is low. However, experts and local governments are focusing on the consistency of text and voice specifications in regard to the standardized design of national script. Of course, the standardization of Yi language should also retain the original square-shaped character system and the original syllable system.

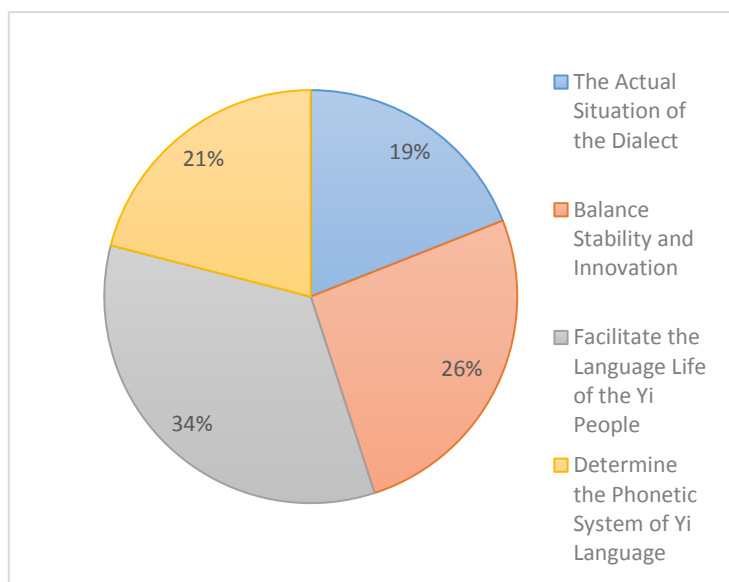**4.2 The Standardization Principle of Yi Language Super Dialect**

Figure 2. The Standardization Principle of Yi Language Super Dialect

As shown in Figure 2, the standardization of Yi language super dialect must consider these principles. One is to consider the actual situation of dialects. 19% of people think it is necessary to consider the actual situation. The second is to balance stability and innovation. The standardization of language cannot be separated from the experience of the predecessors. 26% of people support it. 21% of people asked to determine the phonetic system of Yi language. The most important thing is that the standardization of the Yi language must be aimed at facilitating the language life of the Yi people.

4.3 Project of Liangshan Yi Prefecture Academic Leader and Backup Candidates:

For the sustainable development of Yi language, the teaching of Yi language seems urgent. Therefore, this article makes a survey on the use of Yi language. The specific situation is shown in Table 2:

Table 2. The Use of Yi language in Cities of Yi Areas

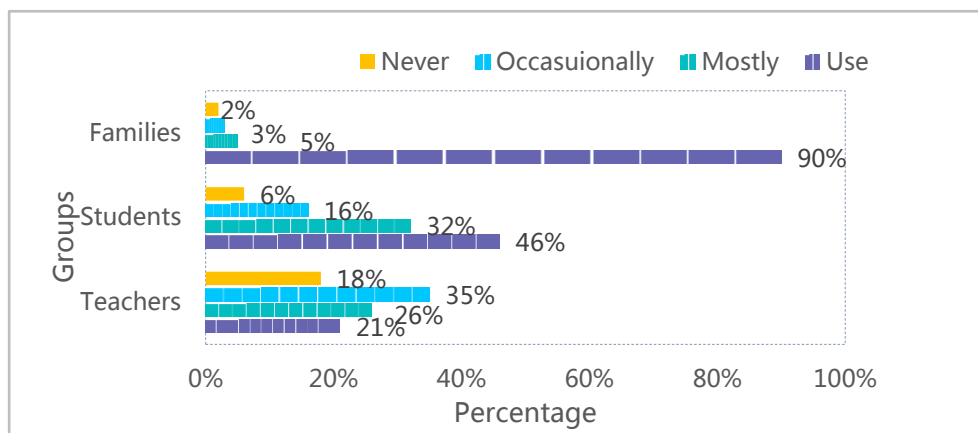|	Usage
Teachers	21% use Yi language, 26% mostly use Yi language, 35% use Yi occasionally, 18% never use Yi language
Students	46% use Yi language, 32% mostly use Yi language, 16% occasionally use Yi language, 6% never use Yi language
Families	90% use Yi language, 5% use Yi language mostly, 3% use Yi occasionally, 2% never use Yi language

Figure 3. The Use of Yi language in Liangshan of Yi Areas

We can know from Figure 3 that the frequency of using the Yi language among family members in the Yi area is relatively high. However, with the popularization of Putonghua and the reform of education, the teaching and learning language of students and young people in the classroom has gradually changed to Putonghua. Therefore, the teachers in Liangshan School generally teach in Putonghua, and the teachers for the Yi language are not enough and less use of Yi language for teaching. Affected by the school atmosphere, students also increasingly seldom use Yi language. In this regard, we must take certain measures to improve this situation.

Starting from the teacher, we must fully improve the teacher's Yi language level and improve the Yi language teaching methods; starting from the students, we must stimulate students' interest in learning Yi and use multiple methods to learn Yi; starting from the school, we must reduce the difficulty of learning Yi language. , To adopt incentive measures to encourage teachers and students to learn and teach Yi language. In general, the development of Yi language in Liangshan Yizhou requires subject leaders, that is, teachers and experts to train reserve talents (students). Therefore, Yi language teaching is a very important language protection measure.

5. Conclusion

There are 6 dialects of modern Yi language. Although there are large gaps between them, they all share a common historical origin. In historical records, Yi language appeared long ago. There are currently more than 10,000 forms of Yi language, but only more than 1,000 are frequently used. Our country began to standardize Yi language as early as 1975, and until this year, it still did not forget to study the standardized methods of Yi language beyond dialect. According to the survey in this article, the standardization of modern Yi language can start from the consistency of characters, phonetics, and text. The standardization of modern Yi language can not only promote the

communication among ethnic minorities, but also preserve their ethnic culture.

Acknowledgements

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