

Introduction to the Special Issue:  
Papers from International Symposium “Immigrant and Host Languages  
in Asia, Pacific, and Europe: Facts behind Tidy Theoretical Constructs”  
/ the 20th Tokyo Academic Forum on Immigrant Languages

ADACHI, Mayumi  
National Institute for the Humanities

In the present day, migration among various populations is increasing on a global scale. This phenomenon is propelled by war refugees, immigrant workers, international marriage and other sociological and political factors. Consequently, from the linguistic perspective, language contact is increasingly common throughout the world. In these multilingual settings, we can see that various processes of language change are underway, including second language acquisition, the transformation of mother tongues, bilingualism, first language attrition, and language shift.

The Tokyo Academic Forum on Immigrant Languages (TAFIL), a place where both junior and senior sociolinguistic researchers can discuss such phenomena, was initiated, in 2010, by Tooru Hayasi (The Open University of Japan), Naoki Ogoshi (The University of Tokyo), Junko Hibiya (International Christian University), and John C. Maher (International Christian University). The 20th TAFIL symposium was an international gathering entitled “Immigrant and Host Languages in Asia, Pacific, and Europe: Facts behind Tidy Theoretical Constructs,” held at the Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS), from February 28 to March 1, 2019.

This special issue consists of 11 papers presented at the symposium. As the symposium title indicates, all of them address the complexity of language change resulting from migration and migration processes. Firstly, in the ‘Plenary Talk,’ John C. Maher presents the language situation in Ireland discussing the role of migration as a key term in the field of sociolinguistics.

In ‘Session 1’, immigrant and host languages in Asia are discussed. Haiyoung Lee and Sun Hee Park report on the results of a meta-analytical study dealing with research trends in Korean language education for multicultural-background learners. Yasuhiro Arai, Naoki

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Ogoshi, Lianhua Sun, and Dongzhe Li shed light on the diversity of the language use and awareness of Koreans in China based on the results of a questionnaire. Jae Ho Lee explores language use among Japanese-Korean bilingual students of a Korean School in Japan, and attempts to explain how their language use changes based on age.

‘Session 2’ section covers immigrant and host languages in Europe and the Pacific. Gürol Aktaş and Peter Hein provide information on opportunities, challenges, and the day-to-day experiences of teaching in integration courses in Germany. Tooru Hayasi examines the responses from surveys about language mixing in the Turkish community in Berlin. Kanae Iwasaki introduces the historical influence of immigrant languages, especially English, on Hawaiian.

In ‘Session 3’, we turn to the future of the Japanese language both as an immigrant and a host language. Rika Yamashita presents South Asian communities in Japan and calls for cross-community research across and beyond South Asians. Hoang Thanh Danh Nguyen and Thi Huyen Trang Le analyze Japanese words incorporated into the Vietnamese language by Vietnamese students and temporary workers. Valeriya Fajst and Kazuko Matsumoto investigate the incorporation and localization of Japanese and Korean loanwords into the Sakhalin variety of the Russian language. Kazuko Matsumoto and Akiko Okumura examine language ecology and identity in a diaspora Brazilian Portuguese speech community in Ibaraki Prefecture.

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