

Contents

Preface	vii
Acknowledgements	ix
List of tables	xvi
Abbreviations and names of minorities in China	xx
Map 1 Distribution of minority nationalities and languages in China	xxiii
Map 2 China: Autonomous regions and prefectures	xxiv
Chapter 1 Minorities and minority languages in China	1
1.1. Historical developments of the Han and non-Han peoples.	2
1.2. Official classification of the non-Han peoples	8
1.3. Distribution of minority communities	15
1.4. The classification and distribution of minority languages.	21
1.5. Current status of minority languages	27
1.6. The organization of this book	33
Chapter 2 The politics of minority language policy, 1949–2002	36
2.1. Development of the CCP minorities policy before 1949	37
2.2. Theoretical foundation of the CCP minorities policy and later changes	40
2.3. The first pluralistic stage: 1949–1957	42
2.3.1. Legal protection for minority language use and development.	43
2.3.2. The CCP leadership's affirmative attitudes	45
2.3.3. Development of policy for minority language use	47
2.3.4. Development of infrastructure for minority language work.	51
2.3.5. Toward a change of pace in minority language work	55
2.4. The Chinese monopolistic stage: 1958–1977	60
2.4.1. The great leap toward national convergence	61
2.4.2. A unified language policy for both Chinese and minority languages	62

2.4.3.	A short relief from integrationism: 1962–1963	68
2.4.4.	The dominance of Chinese monopolistic language policy: 1964–1977	72
2.5.	The second pluralistic stage: 1978–2002	77
2.5.1.	The return of accommodationism	77
2.5.2.	Legislation of minority language rights	83
2.5.3.	Tactical retreat from the accommodationist policy	88
2.5.4.	New orientation since the early 1990s	93
Chapter 3	The politics of the status of writing systems: Official, experimental, or unofficial	99
3.1.	Status of writing systems: The first pluralistic stage (1949–1957).	101
3.1.1.	Recognition of five commonly used writing systems as official	101
3.1.2.	Prioritization of the creation and revision of writing systems.	105
3.2.	Status of writing systems: The Chinese monopolistic stage (1958–1977)	111
3.2.1.	The losing battle of official and experimental writing systems.	112
3.2.2.	The rise of “phonetic spelling” as candidate writing systems for languages with non-Roman systems	116
3.3.	Status of writing systems: The second pluralistic stage (1978–2002).	121
3.3.1.	Official recognition of the status of writing systems and bottom-up efforts	122
3.3.2.	The mushrooming of unofficial writing systems in the 1980s	126
3.3.3.	The lasting influence of Pinyin: Official writing systems vs. pronunciation assistance systems	136
3.3.4.	The politics of a new round of official recognition in the 1990s	141
3.3.5.	Information technology: A new battlefield for status recognition	148
3.4.	Issues in China’s minority language policy	151
Chapter 4	Choices of scripts and theories of writing systems: East vs. West	153
4.1.	Western linguistics and the initial writing reforms for minority languages in the PRC.	158

4.1.1.	The first linguistic guidelines for grammatogeny in minority languages	161
4.1.2.	Two kinds of reforms for “imperfect” writing systems	165
4.2.	Modeling after the Soviet Union	169
4.2.1.	The Soviet model of writing system development for minority languages	171
4.2.2.	Alliance of writing systems across Sino-Soviet borders	177
4.2.3.	Alliance of writing systems within language groups: An application of the Soviet model	187
4.3.	Roman, IPA, and Cyrillic scripts: Conflicts and compromises	196
4.3.1.	Hybrid alphabet of Roman, IPA, and Cyrillic scripts	198
4.3.2.	Triumph of the Roman alphabet	203
Chapter 5	The politics of vernacular writing systems	209
5.1.	The Soviet model and proliferation of vernacular writing systems	211
5.1.1.	The Hani writing systems: Vernacular and vernacular	214
5.1.2.	The Miao writing systems: Vernacular and vernacular	219
5.2.	Vernacular writing systems: Consolidation and withdrawal	229
5.2.1.	The consolidation of Hani systems: Standard vs. vernacular	231
5.2.2.	The Pinyin-oriented revision and withdrawal of the Miao systems	233
5.3.	Vernacular writing systems: Consolidation and proliferation	238
5.3.1.	Unification of the Mongolian writing systems: An administrative approach	238
5.3.2.	The attempt at unifying Yi writing: A supra-dialect approach	245
5.3.3.	The Zhuang writing systems: Standard vs. vernacular	251
5.3.4.	The Yao writing systems: International vs. local	258
5.3.5.	The Hani writing systems: Standard vs. supplementary	262
5.3.6.	The Va writing systems: Standard and supplementary	266

5.3.7. The Bai writing system: One system and two orthographies	271
5.4. Relationship between standard and vernacular writing systems	274
Chapter 6 The politics of traditional and reformed writing systems	280
6.1. Between changing policies and written traditions: The Siniform script vs. the Roman alphabet	281
6.2. Between domestic and international politics: Reform of the Mongolian writing system	290
6.3. Between socialism and Islam: Reforms of the Uygur and Kazak writing systems	299
6.4. Between the state and Christian traditions: Reforms of missionary writing systems	310
6.4.1. The survival of a missionary writing system for Lisu	312
6.4.2. Three-way competition among Miao writing systems	316
6.4.3. The role of codification in writing reform: The cases of Lahu and Jingpo	323
6.5. Between the state and Buddhist traditions: Reforms of writing systems in Dai communities	330
6.5.1. The failure of the writing reform in Xishuangbanna	330
6.5.2. The success story of writing reforms in Dehong	335
6.6. Factors in the successes and failures of writing reforms	343
Chapter 7 Modernization: The politics and sociolinguistics of Chinese loanwords and minority language orthography	347
7.1. The early years of lexical modernization (1949–1955)	349
7.2. Central planning of lexical modernization before Pinyin	355
7.3. Lexical development for minority languages under the shadow of Pinyin	361
7.4. Pinyin as the model for modernization of orthography in minority languages	367
7.5. Diglossia of Chinese loanwords	373
7.6. The question of diversity in orthography and loanwords	378
7.7. Development of terminology regulations and bureaucracy	384
Chapter 8 Conclusion	389

8.1. The question of the interpretation of language legislation and the implementation of language policy	390
8.2. The question of equality for all (minority) languages	392
8.3. The question of the ideal script	395
8.4. The question of the model or models of writing system development	398
8.5. Concluding remarks	400
Notes	402
References	407
Subject index	447
Index of (officially recognized) minority nationalities and minority languages in China	454
Index of names of influential persons	457

List of tables

Table 1	Status of nationality recognition and populations	12-13
Table 2	Distribution of autonomous regions, prefectures, and counties in China	17-18
Table 3	Classification and distribution of minority languages	24-26
Table 4	Ethnolinguistic vitality of sixty minority languages in China.	30-31
Table 5	Romanized phonetic spelling of Ando Tibetan	117
Table 6	Transliteration system from Mongol to Roman letters . .	118
Table 7	Draft plan for romanized phonetic spelling of Mongol	119
Table 8	Romanized phonetic spelling for the standard Yi writing system	120
Table 9	Tu writing system in the Roman alphabet	124
Table 10	Daur writing system in the Roman alphabet	127
Table 11	Tujia writing system in the Roman alphabet	129
Table 12	Derung writing system in the Roman alphabet	132
Table 13	Samples of the traditional Shui script	133
Table 14	Shui writing system in the Roman alphabet	134-135
Table 15	A scheme of romanized phonetic spelling of Dehong Dai	140
Table 16	Independent Bouyei writing system (1985)	142
Table 17	Bai writing system in the Roman alphabet (1982)	146
Table 18	Qiang writing system in the Roman alphabet	147
Table 19	A summary of writing systems for minority languages in 1951	157
Table 20	Three recommended sample writing systems for minority languages	162-163
Table 21	The first romanized writing system for Zhuang (1952)	168
Table 22	The Cyrillic alphabet for Daur (1956)	180
Table 23	The Cyrillic alphabet for Uygur (1957)	183
Table 24	The Cyrillic alphabet for Kazak (1957)	184
Table 25	The Cyrillic alphabet for Kirgiz (1957)	185
Table 26	The Cyrillic alphabet for Tatar (1957)	185
Table 27	The Cyrillic alphabet for Uzbek (1957)	186
Table 28	The Cyrillic alphabet for Xibe (1957)	186
Table 29	Some phonological differences among the three Bouyei dialects	189
Table 30	Bouyei/Zhuang writing system in the hybrid alphabet (1957)	194-195
Table 31	The hybrid alphabet for Li (1957)	202

Table 32	The plan for the phonetic spelling of Chinese or Pinyin (1957)	204
Table 33	The Pinyin-oriented Dong writing system (1958)	206–207
Table 34	Lexical and phonetic differences between Haya and Bika	215
Table 35	Lexical and phonetic similarities between Haya and Haobai	216
Table 36	Lexical and phonetic differences between Haobai and Bika	216
Table 37	Scheme of the Hani writing system for the Haya dialect (1957)	217
Table 38	Scheme of the Hani writing system for the Bika dialect (1957)	218
Table 39	Draft scheme of a romanized Miao writing system (1951)	220
Table 40	Phonetic differences and similarities among three major Miao dialects	222
Table 41	Revised draft scheme of the Eastern Miao writing system (1957)	224
Table 42	Revised draft scheme of the Central Miao writing system (1957)	226
Table 43	Revised draft scheme of the Western Miao writing system (1957)	228
Table 44	The Pinyin-oriented scheme of the Hani writing system for the Haya dialect (1958)	232
Table 45	The Pinyin-oriented Eastern Miao writing system (1958)	234
Table 46	Changes of graphs in the Pinyin-oriented Eastern Miao writing system	235
Table 47	The Pinyin-oriented Central Miao writing system (1958)	235
Table 48	Changes of graphs in the Pinyin-oriented Central Miao writing system	236
Table 49	Changes of graphs in the Pinyin-oriented Western Miao writing system	236
Table 50	The Pinyin-oriented Western Miao writing system (1958)	237
Table 51	The standard (Hudum) Mongolian writing system	239
Table 52	The Clear (Todü) Mongolian writing system	240
Table 53	Sichuan standard Yi writing system (1980)	246
Table 54	Scheme of the Pinyin-oriented standard Zhuang writing system (1982)	253–254

Table 55	Scheme of the Zhuang writing system for the Wenshan dialect (1984)	254–255
Table 56	Scheme of the Zhuang writing system for the Qiubei dialect (1985)	256–257
Table 57	Scheme of the International Yao (Mien) writing system (1984)	259–260
Table 58	Scheme of the Local Yao (Kim-Mun) writing system (1983)	261
Table 59	Revised scheme of the Hani writing system for the Haya dialect (1983)	263
Table 60	Scheme of the Hani writing system for the Yani dialect (1995)	265
Table 61	Phonetic differences among cognates of Va dialects	266
Table 62	Scheme of the revised Va writing system (1989)	267–268
Table 63	Scheme of the Va writing system for the Awa dialect (1995)	269
Table 64	The revised scheme of Bai writing system (1993)	272
Table 65	Proportion of Hans and minorities in political and economic centers (*1990 Census)	277
Table 66	The first officially-romanized Yi writing system (1951)	283
Table 67	The hybrid Yi writing system (1956)	285
Table 68	The Pinyin-oriented Yi writing system (1958)	286
Table 69	The Cyrillic writing system for Mongol (1956)	296
Table 70	The romanized writing system for Uygur (1959)	303
Table 71	The romanized writing system for Kazak (1959)	304
Table 72	The Old Lisu writing system (1908–1914)	312
Table 73	The new romanized Lisu writing system (1964)	313
Table 74	The original Pollard writing system for the Northern Miao dialect	316
Table 75	Draft scheme of the reformed “Pollard” writing system for the Northern Miao dialect (1957)	318
Table 76	The Pinyin-oriented reformed “Pollard” writing system for the Northern Miao dialect (1958)	319
Table 77	Changes between the 1957 version and the 1958 Pinyin-oriented version	320
Table 78	The Yunnan standard Pollard writing system for the Northern Miao dialect (1998)	321
Table 79	Missionary and reformed (1989) Lahu writing systems in comparison	324
Table 80	Changes of old graphs into new graphs in Lahu	325

Table 81	Missionary and reformed (1965) Jingpo writing systems in comparison	327
Table 82	The traditional Tailue writing system in Xishuangbanna	331
Table 83	The reformed Tailue writing systems in Xishuangbanna	332
Table 84	The traditional Tainüa writing system in Dehong	336
Table 85	The first reformed Tainüa writing system in Dehong (1954)	337
Table 86	Changes to the Dehong writing system (1956)	339
Table 87	The second reformed Tainüa writing system in Dehong (1956)	340
Table 88	The third reformed Tainüa writing system in Dehong (1963/4)	341
Table 89	Introduction of [f] from Chinese into Derung	370
Table 90	Introduction of [ou] and [ua] from Chinese into Bouyei	370
Table 91	Pinyin-induced phonological innovations	371
Table 92	Pinyin-induced multiple graphs for a single phoneme in Uygur	371
Table 93	Pinyin-induced multiple graphs for a single phoneme in Hani	372
Table 94	A summary of current minority writing systems of official and experimental status in China	401