

Interviewer (00:09:04): Hello. Thank you very much for taking the time to participate in this interview. I am Zhao Ruoshan, studying at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China and currently conducting a study on identity negotiation among the Zhuang people in Guangxi.

Interviewee 7(00:09:24): OK.

Interviewer (00:09:41): The purpose of this interview is to learn about your experience of using the Zhuang language, your attitude, and the role of the Zhuang language in your life. Your responses will help us better understand the current situation of the Zhuang language in Guangxi and its significance for language inheritance. The interview will last about 20 to 30 minutes. The questions will mainly revolve around your experience of using the language, your attitude towards the Zhuang language, and your cultural identity, etc. You are free to express your thoughts. All questions are open-ended and there is no right or wrong. If you feel uncomfortable with certain questions, you can choose to skip them. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential for research purposes only, and the interview will be recorded for subsequent analysis, but your personal information will not be made public. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to raise them.

Interviewer (00:10:33): Before we begin, would you like to participate in this interview?

Interviewee 7(00:10:35): I agree.

Interviewer (00:10:41): OK, if you agree, then we can start. First, could you give yourself a brief introduction? Such as age, gender, ethnicity, where you grew up in Guangxi, and where you live now?

Interviewee 7(00:10:56): I I am 83 years old, 42 years old, then gender is female, then is in. Do you need to be specific to the village in Xincheng County, Laibin City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region?

Interviewer (00:11:20): If. Yes, if possible.

Interviewee 7(00:11:24): New Town County, then born in New Town County, and has always grown up in New Town.

Interviewer (00:11:31): Then.

Interviewee 7(00:11:37): I attended school in Xincheng from primary school, junior high school, senior high school, and then university. I studied in

Nanning City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and now I work in Laibin City, and...

Interviewer (00:11:58): Yeah.

Interviewee 7(00:11:59): Usually lives in Laibin City.

Interviewer (00:12:02): Well. What's your occupation?

Interviewee 7(00:12:05): My occupation is in the power industry, and then I work in this human resources management. Work. It's the management worker of human resources management.

Interviewer (00:12:18): Well, did you grow up in an environment where the main language used was Zhuang?

Interviewee 7(00:12:25): Yes, that's right. Basically. From primary school to junior high school, there might be more Zhuang language spoken, then in high school, there might be more Liuzhou dialect, and in college, there might be more. There is a preference for Mandarin.

Interviewer (00:12:50): Wait a moment. That's it. Then you can describe in detail, like the period from primary school to junior high school that you mentioned. It's about learning and using the Zhuang language, whether at home or at school or in the community or in social Settings.

Interviewee 7(00:13:19): It's basically a daily communication in Zhuang.

Interviewer (00:13:25): Basically all of that. How about you and your classmates? Inside the school. And so too.

Interviewee 7(00:13:27): Yeah, yeah, except for the class, the rest of the communication was basically in Zhuang language.

Interviewer (00:13:38): So, you mainly spoke GUI Liu dialect when you were in high school, right?

Interviewee 7(00:13:48): Yes, yes.

Interviewer (00:13:49): So for Zhuang, could you share some impressive stories about how this dialect has helped you grow personally? Or something?

Interviewee 7(00:14:04): Actually, for me, for me, actually, this language is not a language I really like. As for me, to be honest, because the words of

this language have a significant impact on me, because that is to say, the person who speaks Zhuang.

Interviewer (00:14:15): It's okay.

Interviewee 7(00:14:26): I, I just forgot to say, I'm Zhuang, no, actually I don't really like this Zhuang language, this Zhuang language, because... This Zhuang language, because when you start speaking Zhuang language from childhood, until you start to university, when I use Mandarin, my Mandarin is very difficult to correct. It's just that my Mandarin is not standard. Because when it comes to this Zhuang language, it might be a bit stiff. Since our Zhuang language is not a particularly good language, it will be used from childhood to adulthood, that is, in junior high school, in senior high school and still in school, and maybe even on the way home, and occasionally some of the classmates around me will be the same.

Interviewer (00:14:57): Yes.

Interviewee 7(00:15:17): Speak Zhuang, and then say that because you're in high school, how old are you already, about 18,18 years old, you, your language is something you can't correct.

Interviewer (00:15:18): Yes. Yes, yes.

Interviewee 7(00:15:27): When you speak in Mandarin, it's very difficult for you to correct the fluency of this Mandarin speech, that is, you will clip, that is, you you you you you might hear those people who speak Zhuang, when you hear them speak, you might.

Interviewer (00:15:36): Yes, yes.

Interviewee 7(00:15:44): I could tell he was speaking Zhuang language. It's very hard for you to change and correct it because nowadays, we mostly use Mandarin at work. That is, if you speak Mandarin well, it might make a person seem very confident, right? Then if you interweave your own dialect and speak it in a very clingy way. It feels like you, you speak Mandarin, if it's a bit pretentious, it's just not very pleasant to hear. It feels a bit awkward, so actually for me, I don't really, I don't really like the Zhuang language. This dialect, so the situation is that, including now when I actually went to college, when I was in college, I took that Mandarin course. What's the name of this course? Oh, oh, oh, isn't he the main subject? He's called self-choice? So that's it.

Interviewer (00:16:54): Elective course.

Interviewee 7(00:16:55): I chose the elective course of the elective course. I chose this Mandarin. I have been trying very hard to correct my Mandarin, but now my Mandarin is still not very standard or?

Interviewer (00:16:56): Yes.

Interviewee 7(00:17:07): There will still be some of this kind of conversion. You may have some of this kind of situation when speaking Mandarin, not very standard, there will still be some of the situation of inclusion.

Interviewer (00:17:22): It's dialects. It's true that you can get used to speaking dialects. When you grow up, study or look for a job.

Interviewee 7(00:17:25): Yes, yes, yes.

Interviewer (00:17:31): One of his requirements for Mandarin is that when facing this requirement, he will encounter some difficulties and obstacles.

Interviewee 7(00:17:38): Yes, yes. Me.

Interviewer (00:17:39): So, what role do you think that Zhuang language plays in your daily life?

Interviewee 7(00:17:49): What does it play? Actually, the dialect of Zhuang actually has a wide coverage. In our Guangxi, there are still many places talking about this situation. The same goes for me in Laibin City. When you go out, you'll find that many people are still speaking this Zhuang dialect. The ethnic characteristics of this dialect are quite strong. And when it comes to the Zhuang people, in our Guangxi, they are still a relatively large group.

Interviewer (00:18:33): Yes, yes, yes, one of the main dialects used.

Interviewee 7(00:18:34): It's larger. So maybe it's speaking Zhuang language. How do you say Zhuang language? So why does that Zhuang language of that junior high school student get extra points now, right? It still belongs to?

Interviewer (00:18:48): High school, high school, college entrance examination.

Interviewee 7(00:18:52): The high school entrance examination can also add points. For the high school entrance examination, then my daughter for my

daughter is Zhuang, that is, she is Zhuang following me, she is Dad is Han, she my daughter is Han Zhuang, she can add five points following me.

Interviewee (00:18:53): Really. I knew for the first time that there were extra points for the high school entrance examination. So that's it.

Interviewee 7(00:19:18): Yes, he is still a relatively large group in Guangxi. As for the Zhuang ethnic group. So, in terms of this bonus point, it should be said that the Zhuang people are still part of the group that the country's various policies are inclined towards. So from this perspective, I think the Zhuang people should be a kind of comparison, still a kind of comparison, comparison, comparison. A group that needs to progress, or rather a group that is relatively backward. I think that's the case, or else the state won't introduce policies to give this group a policy to one policy to another.

Interviewee 7(00:19:09): The high school entrance examination can also be added, so that is to say Zhuang ethnic group, he is still considered a minority ethnic group,

Interviewer (00:19:17): Yes.

Interviewer (00:19:58): Provide protection. So what do you think of this policy tilt and the tendency of these protection measures, what do you think? Is there any connection between this language and the development of this language and its current state of development? Or the current usage of the language.

Interviewee 7(00:20:27): In fact, this language means that although there are many groups, the language is gradually and gradually being used more and more, I think it is getting less and less. Even now, when I go home, I'm in the village. In fact, most of the children nowadays use Mandarin. This language may gradually be learned, that is, the number of people who can use it will gradually decrease.

Interviewee 7(00:20:58): It should be like this, I, I, I understand that.

Interviewer (00:20:59): So, do you still use this language now?

Interviewee 7(00:21:07): You still use it when communicating with people in your family. You still use it when communicating with the elders. You still use it when communicating with a certain generation. But, for example, among siblings, you probably don't use it anymore.

Interviewer (00:21:11): The older generation. And yours.

Interviewee 7(00:21:23): Maybe it's right. I think the influence of this language on us, on the next generation, is probably on the next generation. After the new generation, these and these. They will probably be used less and less.

Interviewer (00:21:53): Yes, then how do you balance in your life? The dialect you can speak is Zhuang. Then how do you balance the Guiliu dialect and Mandarin that you can speak? Their usage.

Interviewee 7(00:22:05): Actually, I speak the Guiliu dialect occasionally, but the Zhuang dialect is spoken to the older generation. That is, actually I'm quite good now, just try to avoid using Zhuang dialect as much as possible.

Interviewer (00:22:16): Really. Well, that's it.

Interviewee 7(00:22:24): Yes. That is, for instance, coming out of the village together, that is, using this situation less and less because Mandarin is now very popular. So people might be more inclined to use Mandarin.

Interviewer (00:22:42): What do you think is behind this? What's the reason behind it? It might cause this. One factor contributing to the current situation is why there are fewer and fewer. Next generation. A human being. They can't speak that dialect.

Interviewee 7(00:23:06): One is that what was said just now is right, but for our place, say it. This is our next generation, that is, there is still some influence on coming out to work and get employed, so now. Now we basically... It's our new generation of kids, and basically the old people will follow them too. It's just Mandarin. I just say at home that their Mandarin is not standard, but they say their grandchildren. Grandsons and granddaughters basically communicate with them in Mandarin as well. So it is possible that this dialect of the Zhuang language will gradually be used by fewer and fewer people.

Interviewer (00:24:12): So that's it.

Interviewee 7(00:24:12): But she can speak like my daughter, she can understand. But she doesn't speak, she doesn't speak.

Interviewer (00:24:15): I can understand a little, but I just can't speak.

Interviewee 7(00:24:20): He can understand, but he doesn't speak.

Interviewer (00:24:23): He can't use it, he can't use the language.

Interviewee 7(00:24:26): He can understand, and then including my sister's son, although he also lives with me and my parents at home, my parents can also communicate with them in Mandarin.

Interviewer (00:24:39): That's the way.

Interviewee 7(00:24:41): Yes, that is, we talk less and less, but when the old people in the village are together, they basically communicate in plain Zhuang language, and then we also communicate with the old people in Zhuang language.

Interviewer (00:24:54): Then you think that the Zhuang dialect is an identity of the Chong dialect for you. What impact does it have? If you need an explanation, I can also explain this concept to you.

Interviewee 7(00:25:14): Then you explain.

Interviewer (00:25:18): Identity is my sense of identity towards this language. One is your recognition, for instance, whether you recognize this language as something you own. One of the languages you use, and to what extent, that is, how often you use it and when you use it, and that you think you master one of the languages. Whether the level of ability is important to you, yes, and also it is a ethnic, it is a minority, mainly used for transportation. A language for communication, that is, do you think this language shapes, do you think you are this minority identity? One of them.

Interviewee 7(00:26:09): Sort of.

Interviewer (00:26:09): The bond is about similar, similar, similar, that's the concept, and then you can follow that concept to answer.

Interviewee 7(00:26:17): Actually, I think the first thing I mentioned was the Zhuang ethnic group, so your situation should be a representative of my minority identity. And then what? By the way, although I seldom use it now, I seldom use it, but this language is for me. To put it another way, what I just said is basically about the influence on me. I don't really like this language, but from another perspective, in fact, it has been helpful to me. Just because of the work, because I, after all, work here in Laibin City, so like before, just like your mom, I'm doing this customer service job, right, that customer service job. So you are among the majority of the people we

serve, and most of them belong to the Zhuang language, that is, a part of the Zhuang people. That is to say, there is still a large number of customers who belong to the Zhuang ethnic group, and if I have this language, it is in the process of my work and customer service. That brings us closer because I can speak Zhuang, they can speak Zhuang, and we communicate in the same language, which promotes us even more. Maybe the feeling is a little more intimate, so from an Angle, it is still helpful, that is, from this aspect, it is still helpful for me to carry out the work.

Interviewer (00:28:02): That is, it will also become you. A small part of your strengths at work.

Interviewee 7(00:28:07): Yes, yes, yes, yes, just say there are pros and cons!

Interviewer (00:28:12): What do you think is your understanding and use of this Zhuang language? How do you shape your understanding of the culture of this nation?

Interviewee 7(00:28:31): How do you put that? Actually I just said this, it's the Zhuang ethnic group, it's still me, because we are called Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, yes, at least it can speak this language from this perspective.

Interviewer (00:28:41): Guangxi Zhuang, yes!

Interviewee 7(00:28:49): It means to say that it's an identity of the Guangxi Zhuang people, then I was born in this Guangxi Zhuang. So I belong to this Zhuang ethnic group. That Zhuang dialect also represents one of my identities, doesn't it? Probably. Well, I guess.

Interviewer (00:29:12): There, there, there, in your growing-up experience. For example, you met people from different regions or cultural backgrounds when you were in college. When it comes to friends, you would take the initiative to mention, for example, which ethnic minority I'm from, and then which school would I mention? Languages you don't know? Yes. Will you use it? Will you use it to label yourself?

Interviewee 7(00:29:45): Yes. Sometimes I do. Sometimes.

Interviewer (00:29:52): Sometimes. And probably when?

Interviewee 7(00:29:54): Yes. Well, for instance, I'm so proud when it comes to getting extra points for this exam.



Interviewer (00:30:05): The policy of the country for exam bonus points still indicates that it is somewhat useful.

Interviewee 7(00:30:15): Yes, just like my daughter, this is like me, I can also get extra points when I take the college entrance examination, of course it can get ten points. It can add ten points, that sometimes think about taking the college entrance examination seems to add ten points, ten points, yes, that will go out and talk, that when taking the college entrance examination that sometimes will talk, that I am Zhuang, I can add points, I sometimes will. And still and still. I feel rather proud that I'm Zhuang.

Interviewer (00:30:40): Then you can, then you will take the initiative to teach people who can't speak Zhuang language to speak some Zhuang language, such as chatting. It's just a joke. Anyway, it's a very relaxed daily social moment. Would you take the initiative to teach them? Or tell them how the word is said in the noise.

Interviewee 7(00:31:02): Exactly. It's the time when someone mentions how to use that zhuang language, or mentions that that. That is, when it comes to this topic, maybe I will bring it up myself, I also use foul language. I will, I will, I will voluntarily admit that I am Zhuang, I will, I will swear, that is, talk about this situation and this topic, that may be different scenarios or listen. When chatting, say someone says, alas so-and-so so-and-so speaks Zhuang language, don't understand this and that, later I will also say, I can also speak Zhuang language, I do this and that, and then sometimes. And would talk about what to say about eating, alas, how to say about drinking, especially about drinking, when people talk about drinking, sometimes.

Interviewee 7(00:32:11): Chatting in or in the past work time, then going out to eat, chatting some people would joke about drinking, drinking, then the big talk is Gwn laeuj, and then like this this this is actually sometimes like that. You put it in a different way, and it might be more fun, that is, big talk, some think it would be more pleasant to listen to people speak big talk, maybe it would be more fun, sometimes would, I would also take the initiative to speak, well, I just can speak big talk.

Interviewee 7(00:32:44): I would talk to people about it, and then they might say something, oh, what what is used, how this is said, and then I would also take the initiative to talk to them about how this is said.

Interviewer (00:32:54): So if no, no, it's not in such a situation, it's not in everyone? That is, if there is an initiative to ask about the ethnic Zhuang language, or if there is no, there will be no, that is, if someone else can speak Zhuang language, would you bring up your identity and the dialect you can speak?

Interviewee 7(00:33:24): If there is nothing, that is, nothing in the process of communication, and there is no premise when you communicate, you definitely won't talk about this topic by yourself. Maybe or, alas, when it comes to language, you will only take the initiative to talk about it, that is, maybe you talk to your friend, alas. It's possible that you might have some preconditions, and when you talk about your hometown, you might talk about these. It's about where I'm from, and I'm a grand talker who would say this.

Interviewer (00:34:05): That's good, then, then do you think the current Zhuang language is really in one? What do you think should be done to protect and pass it on? It is gradually being lost, that is, fewer and fewer people speak it.

Interviewee 7(00:34:28): Actually, the country still has some measures in this regard, because, for example, when I'm driving. When I listen to that radio, there is a radio station that teaches people to swear, but when I go to the radio station, I'm driving, so I actually think this is also a way. That is, through propaganda, all kinds of propaganda, and then let more people know about this language. Let everyone get to know this language, and then get to know this language, that is, that is, that you listen to it so much that you should also know a little. So maybe this is also a way, radio radio now the country is through this radio station, there is a radio station that is dedicated to teaching people to speak the Zhuang language. And now there is also a news channel, which is also a certain form, called a certain radio station, it seems to be localized, and it also has a radio station that broadcasts in the Zhuang language. It's all about Zhuang language.

Interviewer (00:35:56): Yes, yes, yes.

Interviewee 7(00:35:59): Yes, this this is also a way, isn't it?

Interviewer (00:36:03): Then what do you want your offspring to be like? How can you interact with the Zhuang language, or how do you interact with them? Yes. It's about learning Zhuang. What do you expect from other languages?

Interviewee 7(00:36:21): I still hope they can understand. Just say I want them to understand, but I don't want them to say they can take Zhuang as their second language, that is, now basically the first language is Mandarin.

Interviewer (00:36:37): Yes, yes.

Interviewee 7(00:36:39): That is, I don't want Zhuang language, like me, Zhuang language is mine. First, the first language, then Mandarin is my second language because I, my native language is Zhuang. So I want my daughter to be good at speaking Mandarin first, and then you still need to look into it, that is, you still need to understand the situation. After all, we are the place where we grew up, and we are from this group of Zhuang people, many of our relatives and friends are Zhuang people, and there are still many people who speak Zhuang, so I hope they can understand, that is, when we go back, or when others speak, because if you are in Guangxi, There are still many people speaking the Zhuang language. For instance, say you run into someone. Can you understand the person who says this? It might be of some help to you.

Interviewer (00:37:36): Yes, yes, so I have already asked all the questions I need to ask. Do you have any more questions about your situation? The story. Stories in Zhuang or do you have any ideas you'd like to share?

Interviewee 7(00:37:55): There's no such thing as a story, but there are some rather rather rather bad memories! For example, during my college defense, my Mandarin was really bad at that time, and the teacher might have a hard time listening because your Mandarin wasn't very good. Then, when defending, you might feel like you're just reading, that, that your language is really not smooth, very not fluent. So I still feel a bit inferior because of this problem.

Interviewer (00:38:45): Is there anything else?

Interviewee 7(00:38:48): Yeah. No temporary

Interviewer (00:38:52): Well, thank you very much for sharing your experiences and thoughts. Your answers have been very helpful for us to understand the use and cultural significance of Zhuang language in Guangxi. If you have any further additions or thoughts, please feel free to contact me at any time, and my contact information has been attached to the informed consent form. If you are interested in the study results, we can also share them with you after the study is completed.

Interviewee 7(00:38:57): Thank you again for your participation and wish you all the best!