

Some problems of Spanish diachronic phonology

by Makoto HARA

This article is a review of Professor Taigo Itō's two articles, i. e., Del lambdacismo hispánico OSAKA GAIKOKUGO DAIGAKU GAKUHO 29.35-44 (1973a) and Apuntaciones Críticas sobre los Orígenes de unas Consonantes Palatales ESTUDIOS HISPANICOS 3.74-97(1973b).

1) It seems to me that Prof. Itō has not read some very important works of Spanish diachronic phonology, for example, Alarcos' Fonología española and D. Alonso's Fragmentación fonética peninsular. This mistake of his demonstrates us that he has not yet thought so much about structuralism in linguistics, although the latter is antistructuralistic. A phonemic change must be explained in terms of other phonemes of one and the same linguistic system.

2) There are many references to works which are related to his principal themes, but I found innumerable mistakes in his manner of citing them, especially the authors' names, e. g., M. Pidal, M. S. Guarner, E. B. Tovar (they must be written R. Menéndez Pidal, M. Sanchís Guarner, E. Bustos T.). He does not clarify origins of some works cited by him also, it being so inconvenient for his readers. In addition, there are too many miswritings (or misprints?) of Chinese characters and misunderstandings of linguistic terms.

3) It is better to read an article at some meeting or congress before writing it, because only in this manner the writer can get rid of his possible arbitrary decisions.

4) I am sometimes against Prof. Itō's Spanish phonemic interpretations.

5) Prof. Itō always treats Spanish sound changes from a viewpoint of Romance linguistics. I agree to his attitude.

In sum, in spite of some demerits indicated by me in 1), 2), 3) and 4), I am sure that he is one of the most promising Hispanic linguists in Japan.

The "Peregrinação"(Peregrination) of Fernão Mendes Pinto

by Takiko OKAMURA

The "Peregrinação"(Peregrination) of Fernão Mendes Pinto is represented as an autobiography of the author's life, since he left his father's home, till his returning to Portugal after many travels in the East. But, if we read the book well, we note that it is a wonderful reportage of the East of the XVIth. century, rather than an autobiography. The book contains extensive descriptions of the countries, cities, civilizations, religious ceremonies of the East, tempests on the oriental seas, shipwrecks, wars, privateerings, and expeditions to the unknown countries by the adventurous Portugueses. In this complicated work, we can distinguish four important themes: the experiences of the author himself, adventurous life of the Portuguese merchant adventures, descriptions of the oriental world (geographical descriptions, chronicles of the peoples and kings), and the report of the missionary activities of the Jesuits, especially those of Francisco Xavier in Japan.