A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF NEWLY REVISED CHINESE LANGUAGE SYLLABUS AND TEXTBOOKS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION FOR SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS (REPORT 1)

Chinese language education research in Singapore: Making a case for alternative research orientation

Liu Yongbing and Goh Hock Huan

Abstract
In this report, we review critically the research that has been done on Chinese Language education in Singapore context since the early 1990s. We divide the report into three sections. Firstly, we provide a synthesis of the research literature on Chinese language education where relevant studies are classified into three broad areas: language policy studies, sociolinguistic surveys, and pedagogical studies. In each of these areas, important findings/arguments/positions are identified and discussed with a general critique. Secondly, we comment on this body of research literature, pointing out salient problems and deficit in relation to the current official pedagogic discourse. In conclusion, we provide recommendations for future research. We argue for an alternative research, from the survey-based and literary oriented research to empirical research on Chinese language curriculum and pedagogical practices.

Acknowledgement
This paper makes use of data from the research project “A Critical Examination of Newly Revised Chinese Language Syllabus & Textbooks and Their Implementation for Singapore Primary School Pupils” (CRP 41/03 SG), funded by the Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice, National Institute of Education, Singapore. The views expressed in this paper are the author’s and do not necessarily represent the views of the Centre or the Institute.

The full version of this report is not available due to the confidential nature of the data.
About the authors

**Liu Yongbing** was Associate Professor at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He is currently a consultant with the Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice.

**Goh Hock Huan** is a Research Associate with the Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Contact us

For further information, please email: reports@nie.edu.sg