The Shidinn Language

Shidinn (Mandarin: 希顶语, full name: 希顶字母新华

语, lit. the New Chinese Language of the Shidinn Alphabet, Shidinn: xdiꙕ ʋho

ꓩꓩmꓯ) is a constructed language created by Zhihu (知乎) linguist crank (民间

科学家) Huang Quefei (黄雀飞, Zhihu acount: @黄雀飞).

There are two big types of Shidinn: Shidinn Mandarin (希顶汉语) and Shidinn

Chinese (希顶华语).

Phonology

(Translator's note: The following section is taken from Zhihu user

@UntPhesoca's post)

(Crossed out words have some problems and need to be fixed)

Consonants

There are 23 unlabialized consonants and 18 labialized consonants, for a

total of 41 consonants.

		labial	alveolar	alv. aff.	palatal	velar
nasal		m	l /n/	ꓧ /nz/	n /ɲ/	ꓣ /ŋ/
plosive	unasp.	b /p/	d /t/	z /ts/	j /tɕ/	g /k/
	asp.	p /pʰ/	t /tʰ/	ꝏ /tsʰ/	q /tɕʰ/	k /kʰ/
fricative		f		s	x /ɕ/	h /x/
approximant		w /ʋ/		r /ɹ/	y /j/	ꓥi /j̃/

All consonants except labials can be labialized, and it's marked by adding

<u> to the end of the consonant, but with exceptions:

- /tʷ/ is written <ꓤ>.

- /tʷʰ/ is written <ꓒ>.

- /nʷ/ is written <v>.

- /kʷ/ is written <ʙ>.

- /kʷʰ/ is written <C>.

- /ŋʷ/ is written <ꓨ>.

- The labialized version of y is pronounced /ɥ/.
- The labialized version of h is pronounced /ɧ/.
- The labialized version of ɟi is written <ɟu> and is pronounced /ÿ/.

Glides

There are 5 glides:

- /j/ - i except for any of the situations below.
- /ɥ/ - i after labialized consonants except for any of the situations below.
- /ÿ/ - i after unlabialized velar consonants. If there is a ɛ after an unlabialized velar consonant, then /ÿ/ is inserted between, like gɛ /kÿi/.
- /ÿ/ - i after labialized velar consonants. If there is a ɛ after a labialized velar consonant, then /ÿ/ is inserted between, like ʁɛ /kʷÿi/.
- /ɻ/ - i after w and f.

/ɻ/ is a consonant that can only be used for glides. It is a postalveolar approximant, having that little labialization as in /ʃ/, but it is in fact labiodentalized here, as below:

- wə /ʋæ̃/ 万
- fə /fæ̃/ 反
- wiə /ʋɻ̪æ̃/ 宛
- fiəj /fɻ̪æ̃tɕi/ 鬃

Syllabic consonants

There are 3 syllabic consonants: /ʋ̩/, /ɻ̩/ and /ɻ̪̩/.

ʌ is pronounced /ʋ̩/ after w and f:

- wʌ /ʋʋ̩/ 乌
- fʌ /fʋ̩/ 负

ɛ is pronounced /ɻ̩/ after z, ꝺ, ɭ, s and r:

- zɛ /tsɻ̩/ 只
- ꝺɛ /tsʰɻ̩/ 也
- ɭɛ /nzɻ̩/ 质
- sɛ /sɻ̩/ 是
- rɛ /ɻɻ̩/ 日

ıs is pronounced /ɻ̩/ after l, d and t.

iɅ is pronounced /ɹ̩/ after w and f, and is pronounced like the glide /ɹ/:

- wiɅ /ʊɹ̩/ 五
- fiɅ /fɹ̩/ 胡

There are also two syllabic consonants that are not commonly used:

- m /m̩/, used in Shiddin Mandarin mmɵ /m̩mẽ/ "mom, mother; the sound of a young cow calling its mother"
- ɟ /ŋ̍/, usedin Shiddin Shaoyang dialect to show negation, as in ɟda /ŋ̍ta/ "not big".

The two syllabic consonants above are not used in Standard Shiddin.

Vowels

There are 7 monophthongs.

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i	iɅ /y/, /ʉ/ ı /ɯ/, /ɨ/	u
Mid	e		o
Open	a		

There are 4 diphthongs, which are ɤ /æe/, ㄇ /ɐo/, ʎ /eɪ/ and ϭ /əʊ/.
There are 4 nasal vowels, which are ə /æ̃/, ɵ /ẽ/, ȣ /ẽɪ̃/ and ȝ /ɜ̃ʊ̃/.

Phonological rules and syllable structure

The syllable structures of Shidinn are is usually CGV(or a syllabic consonant) (more exactly: CV, CVC, CVV, CCV, CCVV and VCV. Vowels can be diphthongs), and multiple syllables form a word. Glides don't have to appear, and consonants and vowels don't have to appear (but at the same time), but it can't just be a glide and a vowel.

The following chart shows all syllables allowed. O and C means open and closed respectively, which represents whether or not the consonant is labialized (closed) or not (open). This is used in Chinese rime tables.

P means palatalized (referred to as 洪, equivalent to division I in rime tables), O means other (洪细, division III) and UP means unpalatalized (细, division IV).

		aoɤʊ6əθ83ʎ			ɛɪ			∀		
		P	O	UP	P	O	UP	P	O	UP
bpm	OC	bia pja		ba pa	bɛ pi		bɿ pɯ		bi∀ pʉ	b∀ pu
jqnxzɕʈʂsr	O	xa ɕa	sa sa		xɛ ɕi	sɛ sɹ̩				
	C	xua ɕʷa	sua sʷa					x∀ ɕy		s∀ su
ldt	O	dja tja	da ta		dɛ ti	dɿ tɨ				
Vꓶꓶ	C	ꓕia tʷɥa	ꓕa tʷa		ꓕɛ tʷi			di∀ ty		d∀ tu
ɾgk	O		gia k̈ja	ga ka		gɛ k̈ji	gɿ kɯ			
ꓶBC	C		βia kʷ̈ja	βa kʷa		βɛ kʷ̈ji			gi∀ kʉ	g∀ ku
h	O		hia ẍja	ha xa		hɛ ẍji	hɿ xɯ			
	C		hua ɦa			huɛ ɦi			hi∀ xʉ	h∀ xu
wf	OC		fia fɹ̠a	fa fa		fɛ fɹ̠i	fɿ fɯ		fi∀ fɹ̩	f∀ fʊ
yɥ	O	ya ja	ɥ̈ia j̈a	ɥa a	yɛ ji	ɥ̈ɛ j̈i	ɥɿ ɯ			
	C	yua ɥa	ɥua ɥ̈a			ɥuɛ ɥ̈i		y∀ ɥy	ɥi∀ ɥ̈ʉ	ɥ∀ u
no cons.	OC			a a	ɛ ji		ɿ ɯ	∀ ɥy		

Shidinn alphabetic languages have no tones. One of the important goals of Shidinn is to eliminate homophones, which is the reason there are no tones. Shidinn has stress, like when reading the names of the letters, the stress lands on the first syllable. A-da is pronounced /'a da/, and X-b is pronounced /'ɕi bo/. Apart from stress, Shidinn has Mandarin dialects (like Hunan dialect and Shaoyang dialect), so when reading, the intonations sound like tones. However, no matter what tones are used when reading the Shidinn, the meanings are always the same.

Features of Shidinn

Shidinn has a few unique features:

- It excludes the lateral /l/ in its set of alveolar consonants, and

emphasises the nasal /n/ and its variants. In Shidinn, <v> and <l> represents /n/ and <n> represents /ɲ/. There is also the letter <ɟ>, which is pronounced /ŋ/.

- There are no retroflex sounds.
- **Alveolar and velar nasals are combined into a nasalized vowel.** The pronunciations of Shidinn nasals are nasalized vowels. For example, the letter <ɵ> (corresponding to Mandarin "ang" with the velar nasal) is pronounced /ɑ̃/, as in French sans /sɑ̃/. The letter <ə> (corresponding to Mandarin "an" with the alveolar nasal) is pronounced /æ̃/.

Shidinn has a few more features compared to Pinyin:
- **Some letters from Pinyin are taken and modified.** For example: The <c> in Pinyin is moved to Shidinn as <ꞓ>, the phoneme is still kept (/tsʰ/), but the pronunciation rules are different.
- **Some glides such as -i- and -u- are removed in writing.** Consonants j, q and x can be directly combined with vowels, like when "国家" (Pinyin: guójiā) is written as <goja> in the Shidinn Mandarin, but the pronunciation still keeps the glide -i- (/go t͡ɕia/, the glide -u- is removed entirely).
- **Some phonemes and usages are added.** Examples of this include /nz/ (written as <ɭ>, and is sometimes pronounced as /ʐ/. This can be analyzed as a dialectal reading) and /ŋ/ (written as <ɟ>), which can be placed at the onset of a syllable.

Orthography

The Shidinn Alphabet

One of the most common forms of writing Shidinn is the Shidinn alphabet, which contains 45 letters. Some of the characters are taken from Latin, but some of them are created by Huang Quefei instead.

Shidinn character	Pronunciation in IPA	Romanization	Hanzi case	Name in Shidinn	Corresponding Hanzi radical meaning

ㄅ b	/po/	b(o)	夕	X-b	夕 is from nature (夕从自然) (radicals: 白日夕舛黑风光)
ㄆ p	/pʰo/	p(o)	尸	S-p	尸 is from construction (尸从筑着) (radicals: 户尸巾屮聿)
M m	/mo/	m(o)	巾	Jɞ-m	巾 is from borders (巾从边界) (radicals: 门口冂匚夂)
W w	/ʋo/ (/wo/)	v / w	山	Sə-w	山 is from terrain (山从地形) (radical: 山)
J j	/t͡ɕi/	j(i)	丁	Diɞ-j	丁 is from skin and fur (丁从皮毛) (radicals: 皮毛骨血齿)
ㆴ q	/t͡ɕʰi/	ch / q	中	Zɜ-q	中 is from transportation (中从交通) (radicals: 车舟爿片爻鬲)
X x	/ɕi/	sh / x	乂	Yɛ-x	乂 is from living essence (乂从阳气) (radicals: 火贝革灬)
Y y	/ji:/ (/ʋæe/)	y(i)	丫	Y-ya	丫 is from grass and flowers (丫从花草) (radical: 艹)
Γ n	/ɲi/	ny / nh	儿	Ji-n	几 is from flight (几从飞行) (radicals: 飞羽鸟)
Z z	/t͡sɹ̩/	z(w)	之	Z₁-z	之 is from movement (之从动建) (radicals: 辶廴)
ㄅ ㄘ	/tsʰɹ̩/	ts(w)	才	ㄘɤ-ㄘ	才 is from body movements (才从身动) (radicals: 身艮走足疋)
S s	/sɹ̩/	s(w)	乡	Xɵ-s	乡 is from minerald (乡从矿物) (radical: 石)
R r	/ɹɹ̩/	r(w)	尺	ㄘ-r	尺 is from literature and art (尺从文艺) (radicals: 夂页)
ㅏ ㅓ	/nzɹ̩/ (/nl/)	nz / nd	卜	ㄅo-ㅏ	卜 is from characters with no radicals (卜从无部首字)
ㅓ ㅓ	/ŋe/	ng(e)	兀	ㅓ-wu	兀 is from metal (兀从金属) (radicals: 金钅)
L l	/ne/	n / l	乙	Ee-l	乙 is from force (乙从猛力) (radicals: 力刀刂匕弓)
D d	/te/	d(e)	刀	ɑ⊓-d	刀 is from land (刀从土地) (radicals: 土)

T t	/tʰe/	t(e)	七	Qi-t	七 is from diseases, death, ghosts and gods （七从病死鬼神） (radicals: 疒歹辛鬼礻)
G g	/ke/	g(e)	马	Ma-g	马 is from livestock （马从禽畜） (radicals: 马牛羊犬豕)
K k	/kʰe/	k(e)	反	Fə-k	反 is from insects （反从昆虫） (radical: 虫)
H h	/xe/	h(e)	九	Jɞ-h	九 is from crops （九从农作） (radicals: 禾米谷韭非)
Ꮞ Ꮞ	/e/ (/ʔe/)	'(e)	千	ɑiə-Ꮞ	千 is from enclosing things （千从围物） (radicals: 罒覀网田)
Ꮷ Ꮷ	/ŋu/	ngu	上	Sə-Ꮷ	上 is from covers （上从遮蔽） (radicals: 广厂)
V v	/nu/	nn(u)	丩	Jɞ-v	丩 is from animals （丩从动物） (radicals: 犭豸)
Ⅎ Ⅎ	/tu/	du	子	Ⅎ-z	子 is from feelings （子从感情） (radicals: 心血)
ꓶ ꓶ	/tʰu/	tu	亻	dərɞ-ꓶ	亻 is from tools （亻从工具） (radicals: 耒殳戈)
B в	/ku/	gu / в	白	Ꙅɤ-в	白 is from aquatic products （白从水产） (radicals: 鱼)
C c	/kʰu/	k(u) / c	亡	Wθ-c	亡 is from trees （亡从树木） (radicals: 木)
F f	/fʉ/	f(w)	下	Xa-f	下 is from covers （下从罩盖） (radicals: 宀冖)
U u	/ʊʉ/	vw(u)	午	U-u	午 is from clothing （午从衣物） (radical: 礻)
A a	/a/	a	大	A-da	大 is from textiles （大从纺织） (radicals: 纟彡)
O o	/o/	o	口	O-kɞ	口 is from mouth sounds （口从口声） (radical: 口)
ɘ e	/e/	e	巳	Ɛ-sɿ	巳 is from bodies （巳从肉体） (radicals: 肉月)
Ɛ ɛ	/ji/	yi	幺	E-yԀ	幺 is from water and ice （幺从水冰） (radicals: 氵冫水)

Ɐ ɐ	/ɥy/	ue	女	Ɐ-nɐ	女 is from mother and daughter (女从母女) (radicals: 母女)
ᎠᎶ	/æe/	ai	廿	ᎠᎶ-niə	廿 is from mentality (廿从心理) (radicals: 忄 心)
Ɒ ɒ	/ɐo/	ao	入	Ɒ-ru	入 is from drinks and food (入从饮食) (radicals: 饣 食)
Ƅ ƅ	/əʊ/	eu	厶	Ƽ-ƅ	厶 is from gasses (厶从气体) (radical: 气)
ᘔ ə	/ æ̃/	an	又	ᘔ-yƅ	又 is from bamboo-made things (又从竹制) (radicals: ⺮竹)
Ɵ ɵ	/ẽ/	ann	日	Ɵ-r	日 is from the facial features (日从五官) (radicals: 日耳鼻牙)
Ȣ ȣ	/ẽɪ̃/	ein / in	月	Ȣ-yue	月 is from manual actions (月从手动) (radicals: 扌 手)
Ǝ ɛ	/ə̃ʊ̃/	eun	了	Ǝ-l	了 is from jade and stone (了从玉石) (radicals: 王玉)
Ʌ ʎ	/eɪ/	ei	人	ʎ-rȣ	人 is from humans (人从人类) (radicals: 亻 人)
ꓱ ꓲ	/ɯ/ (/ʔɨ/)	ew	一	ꓱ-yi	一 is from ports and cities (一丛埠邑) (radicals: 阝 卩)
Ⅰ ⅰ	/ji/ (/ʔəi/)	i	工	Gɜ-i	工 is from speech (工从言语) (radicals: 讠 言)

The letters of the Shidinn alphabet is the pronunciation of the letter plus the pronunciation of its Hanzi, called its Hanzi case (汉写体), in Shidinn Mandarin. For example, the Hanzi case of the letter A is 大, which is pronounced "da" in Shidinn Mandarin. Therefore, the name of the letter A is "A-da". The hyphen is here to differentiate it from "Ada", which is a word, instead of a letter.

The shapes of the Shidinn letters are similar to those of Cherokee, a writing system invented by native Cherokee linguist Sequoyah in the early 19th century. However, Shidinn and Cherokee are fundamentally different.

Cherokee is a syllabary, and apart from a single letter forming a syllable, Shidinn also references Hanyu Pinyin and some abugidas by using multiple letters to form a syllable.

Shidinn Hanzi

Another method of writing Shidinn is Shidinn Hanzi (希顶汉字) and the Shidinn Phonetic Hanzi (希顶表音方块字), such as the photo below.

(Image courtesy of @Raymond in Zhihu)

The characters 希顶字母, can be written in the Shidinn alphabet as Xdiꙅ Aho FʃᴨmⱯ (the line of blue text at the top), but can also be written in Shidinn Hanzi as 灯⼞纟 火字母 (the black text at the middle), and can also be written in the Shidinn Phonetic Hanzi as ⼞火冃刀工月 ⼞纟 日九口 日日宀下尺 日巾女 (the orange text at the bottom).

The design of Shidinn Hanzi is similar to Chu Nom, a Vietnamese writing system that uses Chinese characters that has gotten out of use. Characters created in Chu Nom follow the phonosemantic compounding rule, for example, the word for "mother" in Vietnamese sounds like 美 (mẹ), and adding the 女 radical from Chinese, we get {女美}. Shidinn Hanzi uses a method similar to Chu Nom. However, the radicals in Shidinn Hanzis are pronounced too. Imagine if Mandarin have {女美} from Chu Nom, but it isn't pronounced měi, but rather as nǚ měi. (Shidinn reconstruction: Ɐmeʎ, in which Ɐ is the radical which is related to females).

From the above text, we know that a Shidinn Hanzi (or a syllable of a Shidinn alphabetic language) consists of a semantic radical (部首) and a phonetic

radical (声部, referred to as 形部, "form radical" in Shidinn Chinese). For example, the character 思 is pronounced as siꓕ in Shidinn Mandarin (si is from Standard Chinese sī, and the radical ꓕ represents inner feelings), and in Shidinn Chinese, it is seen as a form radical and is pronounced as nua. In Shidinn Chinese, the glyph shapes of Shidinn characters no longer have a relation to the pronunciation in Standard Chinese, and its pronunciation follows a comparison table of (allegedly) 1400+ characters devised by Huang Quefei. From this, we can make new Shidinn characters, like 偲, which is ɻnua (the radical of people-related things "人" and the form radical 思, which is pronounced nua). Also, in the table, there exists cases of loaning (假借), for example, 友 is loaned from 发 as the same form radical. This makes it harder to find patterns between Pinyin and form radicals, but this is just a feature of Shidinn itself.

There are two methods to convert between Shidinn Hanzi and the Shidinn alphabet: phonosemantic compounding and pictographic. Phonosemantic compounding, as explained before, is putting the radical letter and the phonetic radical (or form radical) together.
- 房 = 户 – buildings and clothes (p) + 方 (fθ) = pfθ
- 玲 = 王 – jade and stone (ɜ) + 令 (liꞮ) = ɜliꞮ
- 晨 = 日 – natural phenomena (b) + 辰 (ꞵiꞮ) = bꞵiꞮ

(Note: the radicals in Shidinn actually refers to the Shidinn letter used for radicals, which doesn't have any connection to Chinese radicals. For example, the radical for natural phenomena is <b>, and no matter if the Hanzi is written as 日, 白, 风 or 光, it's still the same radical)

In phonosemantic compounding, if the radical is at the front, then it is connected to the phonetic radical (or form radical). If it is at the back, then the phonetic radical (or form radical) represents the entire pronunciation, as shown below:
- 瓦 = wa
- 呱 = owa (口 + 瓦)
- 哇 = wao ("哇" + 口)

This "encoding" method makes Shidinn have a "Hanzi input method" feeling to it. However, apart from making it "flexible", it also creates a blending situation. In the above example, the rarely used character 呱 and commonly used characters 瓦 and 哇 have similar forms and pronunciations, but this is just a feature of Shidinn itself.

Even worse, there exists a Simplified and Traditional problem. Because if a Chinese character has different forms when written in Simplified or Traditional, each of their form has their own "encoding". For example:
● 爱 (ㄠㄚㄱ) ⟷ 愛 (ㄠㄚㄐㄴ)
● 杀 (sa) ⟷ 殺 (ㄱsa)

Shidinn also has a pictographic (and pictophonetic) "encoding system" for "irregular pictograms and special onomatopoeia" (as per Huang Quefei). Huang Quefei himself lists two examples, which are:
● 香 = h (禾 radical) + ɵ (Hanzi case is 日, because of its shape) = hɵ. This is the pictographic system.
● 乒乓 = Pinyin pīngpāng = piɞpɵ → adding the "onomatopoiea radical" (口 radical, o) → OpiɞOpɵ. According to Huang Quefei, this "O" is middlecase. In addition from uppercase, lowercase and Hanzi case, there is also middlecase, but it is rarely used. @Raymond thinks that, if one cannot use middlecase, then they can use the hyphen "-" to write it as o-piɞpɵ.

Shidinn alphabetic languages' writing uses morphemes to separate words (in Chinese, that would be "以 语素 为 单位 的 分词 方式"), and they are sometimes pronounced wrongly. For example, "ㄣ�ㄐyuə" (心愿, wish) consists of "ㄣ�" (心) 和 "ㄐyuə" (愿). If one were to split it as "ㄣ�" and "yuə", then there would be words that don't exist. Huang Quefei calls this phenomenon "fake words". @Raymond thinks that, to prevent fake words, one should put hyphens to separate word, such as "ㄣ�-ㄐyuə". Writers can use hyphens to prevent this depending on the situation.

Created characters of Shidinn Hanzi

Shidinn Hanzi is the Chinese character writing system of Shidinn, which contains many characters Huang Quefei made (exact number unknown). The {纟火} shown before (aho in the Shidinn alphabet) is one example. This is comparable to Kokujis. However, creating characters in Shidinn is more flexible. In general, any character that consists of a radical and a Hanzi component can be turned into Shidinn, creating a new character. The example below shows this.

(Image courtesy of @Raymond in Zhihu)

This is just taking "热烈欢迎新同学！" and changing some components to form new characters. Some of the characters don't exist, but Shidinn writings and readings of these can still be reconstructed (reconstructed by @Raymond).

- 日囗丸斤灬: hjɐx (pictograph "丸", "九"→ h; "斤" as sound → jɐ; radical "灬" → x)
- 日囗子刂灬: ɟlix (pictograph "子"→ ɟ; radical "刂"→ l, filler vowel i; radical "灬" → x)
- 扲: ɐqə (radical "扌"→ ɐ; "欠" as sound → qə)
- 囗辶歹: zdɤ (radical "辶"→ z; "歹" as sound → dɤ)
- 囗亲又: qɐəɭ ("亲" as sound → qɐ; pictograph "又"→ə; radical-less filler letter: ɭ)
- 日日丷冖印: ɜfɵɭ (pictograph "丷"→"三"→ ɜ; radical "冖"→ f; "印" as sound → ɵ; radical-less filler letter: ɭ)

Similar to the Wubi input method, Shidinn can basically "encode" all new Chinese characters using at most 4 letters. Based on this thinking, Huang Quefei came up with the idea of replacing English letters with Shidinn letters for the base alphabet of computer programming, this became an important part of "Shidinnology" (希顶学). Something worth mentioning is that most of

these new Chinese characters don't have meanings yet, so if Huang Quefei were to give all of these meanings in later developmenet, then the semantic range of Shidinn may expand greatly.

Differences between Shidinn Chinese and Shidinn Mandarin

"Shidinn" usually refers to the "new Chinese language of the Shidinn alphabet", but it is not just the "new Chinese language of the Shidinn alphabet" ("Shidinn Chinese" (希顶华语) also refers to "Shidinn") that uses the Shidinn language ("Shidinn alphabetic language"), because there is also the "old Mandarin of the Shidinn alphabet" (希顶字母旧汉语) (or just "Shidinn Mandarin" (希顶汉语). @Kosmas calls this "Shidenn" (希灯语). This name is more accurate, so it is used in Shidinnology).

Shidinn Mandarin is just taking the Pinyin of the words in Standard Chinese and removing the tones of them, changing them into transcriptions that fit the rules of the Shidinn alphabet, and adding the "radical letters" (the Shidinn letter that a Hanzi randical corresponds to) after each word. For example:
(Standard Chinese) 萤火虫
→ (Standard Pinyin) yíng huǒ chóng
→ (removing the tones) ying huo chong
→ (converting into the Shidinn alphabet) yꙏ ho ꚉ3 (alternatively ci3, Shidinn Mandarin keeps some Pinyin letters)
→ (the radical of 萤 is 虫, corresponding to the letter <k>) yꙏk ho ꚉ3 (yꙏk ho ci3).

Shidinn Mandarin (Shidenn) serves as the transition langauge between Standard Chinese and Standard Shidinn (Shidinn Chinese). It does not have its own set of unique grammar and semantics, so rather than calling Shidinn Mandarin (Shidenn) a language, it's better to call it a code or a dialect.

However, forming syllables in Shidinn Chinese is different from Mandarin, and some of its characters are loaned, created or is a proper noun ("纟 火" in the name of Shidinn, meaning "burning fire of a lantern" is an example of this). Shidinn has its own set of unique grammar, for example:

- Negation of adjectives can be marked by putting a <ɟ> in front: 大 (big) is da and 不大 (not big) is ɟda.
- Any nouns can be used as adjectives, such as 火亮火亮的 → ho-viθʟ ho-viθʟ de (this word can be translated to Standard Chinese as 叫得山响 (to shout deafeningly). In Shidinn, that would be ꓱiϭo ꓱeʌ sə-opiθ).

However, Huang Quefei has never described more about this systematically, so the conclusion and introduction stops here. @Raymong thinks that, if Huang Quefei were to expand more on the grammar and make it more systematic, and can flexibly use created characters, Shidinn has the possibility of becoming a full-fledged conlang.

Loanwords

Shidinn alphabetic languages use transliterate or direct transcription for loanwords. Such words can be surrounded with angle brackets "<>" so as not to confuse them with non-loanwords. For example: Lhasa is 拉萨 in Standard Chinese, in which 拉 and 萨 is <laʁ> and <saɪʁ> respectively in Shidinn Chinese, but because this is a loanword in Shidinn, it just needs to transliterate it to "<Lasa>", no radicals need. It can also directly transcribe the Latin letters into "<Lhasa>". Using the same method, Singapore can be "<X8gapiod>" or "<Singapore>". For country names, one can take the original English name's first three letters (with the first letter capitalized) and add "go". With this method, one doesn't have to add angle brackets. An example of this is 新加坡 (Singapore) → "Singo".

Numerals

The Arabic numerals 1-8 have letters of similar shapes in the Shidinn alphabet, so when writing numbers in the Shidinn alphabet, one can just

write the corresponding lowercase letters, and one pronounces them as if they're letters. The Arabic numeral 9 is q in Shidinn, and 0 is ө. To differentiate numbers with non-numbers, a horizontal line is written below the numbers. For example, 十八 (18) is 1̲8̲ (/ɯẽĭː/), 三百 (300) is 3̲ө̲ө̲ (/ʔə̃ʊ̃ ʔə̃ ʔə̃/) and so on. Decimal points are represented by the letter <n>. For example, 四点九五 (4.95) is 4̲nq� (/ʔeɲitɕʰiŋu/). Writing out the [Heavenly Stems](#) and the [Earthly Branches](#) also require writing a line below it, writing out Heavenly Stems requires putting <ʮ> in the front, while writing out Earthly Branches requires putting <ʮ> in the back. For example, ʮ1̲-ʮ8̲, ʮq, ʮθ represent the Heavenly Stems from Jia (甲) to Gui (癸), and 1ʮ - 8ʮ, qʮ, θʮ, nʮ (representing the 11ᵗʰ branch Xu (戌)) and vʮ (the 12ᵗʰ branch Hai (亥)) represent the Earthly Branches from Zi (子) to Hai (亥). 甲午 (Jiawu) is ʮ1̲7ʮ (/nzɹɯtʰunzɹ/) and 戊戌 (Wuxu) is ʮ5̲nʮ (/nzɹŋuɲinzɹ/) and so on.

Shidinn Phonetic Hanzi and Shidinn Alphabetic Expression Hanzi

Shidinn Phonetic Hanzi (希顶形音汉字) takes the Shidinn alphabet writing system and stylizes it to a form similar to Chinese characters. It is another way of writing Shidinn. (like taking Hanzi case and writing it into blocks) Huang Quefei calls this "the Han-ification of the western alphabet".

In the picture below, we can see that we can use the Shidinn Phonetic Hanzi to write "di8 ʌho ʮʮɔmʌ" (希顶字母) and other text.

(Image courtesy of @Raymond in Zhihu)

The Shidinn Alphabetic Expression Hanzi (希顶字母表形字) uses Shidinn letters (uppercase, lowercase, Hanzi case or its corresponding radical/form radical) to form Hanzi glyphs, and it's similar to [the Biaoxingma input method](#) invented by French-Chinese scholar Chen Aiwen in the 1980s. For example, 命 is Aop, because the three "components" of 命 looks like the

Shidinn letters A, o and p), while 希 and 顶 is XAM and Jr respectively. The reason why the 页 radical uses <r>, is because <r> when used as a radical can represent 夂 and 页.

Resources and materials

Shidinn is a personal work of Huang Quefei. The number of speakers of Shidinn is unknown at this moment, but there are many resources and materials about Shidinn on the Internet.

Februrary 2020, after the publishing of *Revealing the Secret of the Shidinn Language* (《揭秘希顶语》), due to its unique idea of eliminating homophones in Standard Chinese, or possibly the charm of its "so chaotic it's cute" system, it attracted the attention of @UntPhesoca, @ICARUS and many more linguists, and also the attention of linguistics lovers like @東宵來影. And thus people began "developing" and "building" Shidinn.

September 2020, @然後 and @Nyoeghau created the Zhihu "Shidinn" topic. In the same moth, Huang Quefei created his Bilibili account, with the accounts "黄雀飞" and "雨心浪子".

October 2020, Zhihu users such as @Ching-hung Ng asked questions about "compilations of Shidinn-related findings", so using this opportunity, the "Shidinn" topic became a page for compiling Shidinn-related findings. In the same month, @仇子康 和 @Raymond discussed about creating a fictional timeline about the "Shidinnians" (希顶人) and the "Shidinn culture" (希顶文化) setting:

The traditional forces of the Hanzi-using Shidinnians and the Latin letter-using Shidinnian Catholics had a civil war. Because of the division between the traditional forces and the Catholic forces, many differences appear in usages in Shidinn in that timeline, in sound, text and loanwords. (@仇子康)

The Shidinnians who used Latin letters can speak one Shidinn dialect, the Shidinnians who used Chinese characters used Chinese characters and later "Shinom" (希喃) (hypothesis), and now it's Hanzi case Shidinn.

Shidinn languages using Chinese characters have always used the phonology of the Shaoyang dialect as the learning target, and the Catholic Shidinn language have always used the phonology of Latin (or even Hebrew?), but no one knew, that "Proto-Shidinn" (原始希顶语) had

The state of development of Shidinn and Shidinn culture: Right now, Shidinn isn't just a fantasy of just Huang Quefei himself. To make a crank's language systematic and standardized, we had to form a "Shidinn group" of many people (originally five), or in fancy words, a "Shidinn team". The crew includes:

- @Nyoeghau – font, translator, input method, related readings and culture promotion
- @仇子康 – programming tutorials, creation of Shidinn culture
- @窨井 – the Shidinn Tibetan writing system
- @Kosmas – the Shidinn Arabic writing system and management of detail problems
- @Raymond – organizing documents, reading samples and the Shidinn Kana writing system

Below is a list of related findings and resources (below links are in Zhihu and are in Chinese):

@Nyoeghau: Chinese character to Shidinn translator

@UntPhesoca: The phonology of the Shidinn language

@Raymond: The Shidinn Kana writing system

@窨井: The Shidinn Tibetan writing system

@Kosmas: The Shidinn Arabic writing system

@Nyoeghau: The input method of the Shidinn Kana writing system

@Nyoeghau: Multiway Shidinn translator

The "Shidinn" topic

(below links are not in Zhihu and are not in Chinese)

Reddit: r/shidinn

Discord: https://discord.gg/dDbvxRYSYg

In addition, there are many documents written in Shidinn, including articles, poeams and songs, mainly written by Huang Quefei. Articles usually talk about the view and the process of creating Shidinn, and poems are songs are mainly about expressing emotions. Below is a Shidinn poem *Firefly* (《萤火虫》) and its written form in Standard Mandarin:

ɣɣ8xɭokⱮ3ɭ (ɣ8kɭociɜ)

萤火虫

Firefly

ɣy8xhokⱮ3ɭ, tɛ8(t3ƺ)* gzoɵ xdƺ,
萤火虫，提着灯*，
A firefly, holding a lamp,

zɣ yuehseɭ lɛ qqƺiqqƺi de nfʌ ʌwup gzoɵ,
在月色里轻轻的飞舞着，
in the moonlight it slowly dances,

eqɛpəɵ gzoɵ Ɱɣɟrƺɭ, zuʌz3xuƺƺ yi1 ʌfƺ Ɱɣɟɣqƺ.
期盼着爱人，追寻一份爱情。
desiring for a lover, seeking for a love.

ɣy8xhokⱮ3ɭ, tɛ8 gzoɵ xdƺ,
萤火虫，提着灯，
A firefly, holding a lamp.

zɣ yuehseɭ lɛ qqƺiqqƺi de ɵzza gzoɵ ɵⱮyəɵjƺe,
在月色里轻轻的眨着眼睛，
in the moonlight it slowly blinks,

zɣ hʌye lɛ. ədƺƺʌdɣƺ, ɜxuƺƺƺzⱴl yi1ʌfƺ ʙɵmiƺe.
在黑夜里等待，寻找一份光明。
waiting in the darkness, finding for a light.

*The character 提 in the poem can be pronounced as tɛ8 or t3ƺ in Shidinn (the original character is 搪). Shidinn can make its own reduplication words, like 提提搪搪, which means holding and swaying around something.

Poem link

There is also the representative work of Huang Quefei, the song *Waiting*

Foolishly (《痴心等》) amongst many others.

More Shidinn material can be found at these:
Huang Quefei's Zhihu: @黄雀飞
Huang Quefei's Douyin (TikTok): 雨心浪子 (1689457107)
Huang Quefei's Bilibili: 黄雀飞 (679278752)