教育研究創発国際研修における学術活動報告書

令和 4 年 1 月 4 日

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1. 研究課題 The Huotang-Centered Caregiving System: Allomothering among the Matrilineal Moguo of Southwest China

2. 計画する学術活動の実施期間 令和 3 年 7 月 20 日

3. 日本学術振興会特別研究員（DC）の現在の採用状況 □ DC1 □ DC2 □ 採用無し

4. 計画する学術活動の財源

□ 研究科教員の研究プロジェクト
□ 研究科・附属センタープログラムによる
□ 日本学術振興会特別研究員（DC）
□ 研究科外の奨学金または自費
□ その他

5. 学術活動

□ 国外 □ 国内
□ ① 英語論文公表
□ ② 研究科教員の研究プロジェクト参加
□ ③ フィールドワーク
□ ④ 国際会議（□研究発表 □ 運営補助 □ 出席のみ）
□ ⑤ 研究会（□ 研究発表 □ 運営補助 □ 出席のみ）
□ ⑥ 研究指導委託
□ ⑦ 留学
□ ⑧ 国際研修
□ ⑨ 国際インターンシップ
□ ⑩ その他（具体的に：）
Using a psychological perspective, this research examined the active allomother and those specified division, involvement activities, self-reported evaluations of each family role's function in childcare, effect, and interconnection in 36 (including 14 pairs of parent-child) adults and children from Mosuo families in Yongning. Additionally, the power image, link, and psychological distance between family members will be assessed using a qualitative technique called the Family Image Technique.

Contrary to certain studies' assertions, the results indicate that 1) Men as assistants are really active in childcare, but with a clear maternal limit. The maternal figure paints the overall picture and makes decisions, whereas the father only provides emotional support for the kid. Almost all direct-involvement works are shared by the maternal sisters. 2) The family relationship system entails a sophisticated dual cognitive system. As a youngster, they frequently support the strength of the members of the "nuclear family" and have a more intimate relational cognition. As adults, they tend to prioritize the matrilineal family and dislike the husband's role and importance. 3) The most unique observed allomothering habit is constructive dialogue over Huotang (hearth) every night. Children observe interactions and listen to dialogues to ascertain the behavior standards they should follow and their feelings about the relationships between adults. In other words, appropriate peripheral engagement is viewed as a necessary component of Mosuo's message transmission to the subsequent generation.
6. 学術活動による成果
※報告する学術活動について、教育分野における国際的リーダーー人材の育成とその研究成果を海外に発信することを目的とした教育研究国際研
発国際研学会の誘誰に照らし、その成果を具体的に記載してください。学術活動により得られた自身の研究課題につながる成果についても
わかりやすく記載してください。
※本文欄に書ききれない場合、ページを追加しても差し支えありません。

### Background and Significance

The Mousan are a matrilineal group of approximately 50,000 people living in northeastern China. The Mousan follow the maternal society’s general rules, with the matrilineal lineage system as the center of family property distribution and inheritance (Norton, 2010). The Mousan marriage system is unique in that it employs the dual residence systems of Gisu marriage (“walking marriage”), ethnically select spouses, and the man and woman live separately, and the man co-resides to visit the woman’s house to spend the night and then returns to his household the following day. The children belong to the woman’s matrilineal family, and the man’s responsibility as an uncle is given priority over his role as a father (Thomas et al., 2013; Yan et al., 2000; Zhang et al., 2019).

The matrilineal family structure of the Mousan is distinctive because of the shifting-based caregiving system, regardless of gender or reproductive stage, as family members are often separated from their natal family. Former studies, the vast majority of which come from the field of anthropology, have revealed the basic elements and potential benefits of the care system that will effectively exist among the Mousan family (Matirak, 2016; Mariano et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2013).

Previous cultural anthropological researches have established the general perceptions under cultural definitions of Mousan caregiving. However, psychological research on Mousan child-rearing activities has not fully explored the caregiving system. Furthermore, even if generalized parenting is recognized as the norm among the Mousan, it is still unclear what Mousan parents value in terms of their child-rearing activities and what they expect of their children in terms of the outcomes of their caregiving strategies.

This study focused on the maternal line system in the maternal Mousan household. A grounded-theory method was utilized to provide rich and detailed illustrations of Mousan child-rearing and develop a theory of how the maternal line system works.

### Method & Analysis

Through two-month fieldwork, based on the Grounded Theory Approach, the research based on a psychological perspective analyzed the active allocators and those specific divisions, involvements, activities, self-oriented reflection of each family role’s function in childrearing, effect, and interconnections in 36 (including 14 pair of parent-child, M=27, SD=14, Male=25) adults and children of Mousan families in Hulinning.

### Results

**General Principles of Mousan Allomothering**

- **Multi-generational co-parenting**
  - Daily care by grandparents
  - Uncle grandparent the household
  - Cooperating parenting within a woman
  - Sisters’ share child duties
  - Women discipline children more
  - Discuss childcare issues together
  - Parenting with the partner
  - Voluntary financial support
  - High social and policy impact
  - Routine’s position without discipline
  - Women’s views on need for discipline
  - Children’s views on need for discipline
  - Less sharing of childcare stress

**Emphasis on the early time role of the mother**

- Infants are primarily cared for by their mothers
- Wise woman rule the household
- Girls’ Reproduction
  - Select wise women to manage the family
- Family Community
  - Family members offer personal
  - Excessive personal desires can lead to conflicts
- Maintain a balance to keep the relationship

**Emotional Equivalences**

- Equity in resource allocation
- Share of family responsibilities

In the multi-generational model of allomothering, Mousan emphasizes the importance of the mother during the infancy of the child. However, when the mother needs to work outside the home during this period or has difficulty focusing on parenting due to other reasons, the mother’s status can easily take their place. The grandmother will always be there to help or even be the primary caregiver, whether it is the mother or the aunt caring for the baby. (Omitting the specific roles of each caregiver and the socialization strategies of Mousan children)

### Discussion

The Modern Mousan emphasize children’s schooling and academic performance, have more specific requirements for learning, and consider their lower education level to be a significant problem. Men’s parenting involvement as fathers is more focused on economic matters, while maternal nurses put emphasis on moral discipline and supervision in raising their nephews’ nieces and nieces. Close cooperation among female members in caring for children’s daily lives, complementarity between mothers and aunts, and the support of grandmothers are essential components of the allomothering of Mousan.

There is no double matrilineal families build trustworthy backup resources. However, it appears that it is not the practical one that raises parenting more informally, but rather the source that once has a backup providing a certain level of support. It seems that grandmothers are more directly involved in the upbringing than parents. Young mothers and stillbirth are more responsive for the family’s economic expenditure and property management of households. Mothers tend to strictly discipline their children, yet they seem to show more softness as adults.

Besides, this study found that there appears to be a tendency to underestimate the Mousan father’s role when examining the father-child relationship. The fathers perceive that fathers spend limited time with their children and have a limited role in parenting. However, for children, they are more dependent on fathers, but there is a decreasing trend for reliance on fathers as they get older. At the same time, however, children are more inclined to explore times of playing with fathers regardless of age. These interview results suggest that Mousan fathers must have some unperceived functioning model for their children.

### Limitations & Future

Interpreting the interview data from different perspectives generates various meanings and implications that need to be considered. Mousan parents, new research, and yet to be done in examining specific caregiving memories in the Huiling allomothering systems, i.e., exploring what kind of socio-cultural parenting influenced which aspects of children’s development in particular ways. In the future, the division of caregiving and evaluation of Mousan caregivers, the specific content and role of parenting interventions, and the impact on children’s socialization and development are noteworthy to be explored.