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The Semantic Loanwords and Phonemic Loanwords in Chinese Language

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The development of language is slow. In accordance with the historical development of the society of China, we divide the history of Chinese language into three periods:

- Ancient Chinese [18 century B.C. 3 century → A.D. (Shang, Zhou, Qin, Han)],
- Middle ancient Chinese [4 century A.D. → 12 century A.D. (six dynasties, Tang, Song)]
- Modern Chinese [13 century A.D. → 20 century A.D. (Yuan, Ming, Qing)].

In this paper, we discuss the semantic loanwords and phonemic loanwords in ancient Chinese, middle ancient Chinese and modern Chinese. When the original words in donor language were borrowed and they become the loanwords in recipient language (Chinese), these original words in the donor language have to be translated. The translation approaches can be divided to three types: phonemic translation, semantic translation, semi-phonemic & semi-semantic translation.

Because the writing system of Chinese language is Chinese character, and the Chinese character is not alphabetic writing system, so in the process of phonemic translation, only the transcription can be used, the transliteration which used for transfer for different alphabetic writing systems can not be used in Chinese loanwords, the transliteration is not impossible. Chinese characters are based on the syllables, one Chinese character is one syllable. In the process of the transcription, the consonant clusters in donor language may be broken up by the similar syllables of Chinese language. In some cases of transcription, the syllables in donor language may be omitted in Chinese language. This phenomenon shows that even in the phonemic translation, the words borrowed from donor language have to be localized (or nativized) in according to the phonemic structure of Chinese language.

In semantic translation, the words of donor language are translated with Chinese original words of morphemes semantically, They also have to be localized (or nativized) in according with the characteristics of Chinese language.

In semi-phonemic & semi-semantic translation, the words borrowed from donor language

have to be nativized not only in phonemic aspect, but also in semantic aspect. By this reason, we can say, all the loanwords which borrowed from donor language have to be nativized in according with the characteristics of Chinese language.

1. Loanword in ancient Chinese

An obvious feature of ancient Chinese language is the majority of Chinese words are monosyllable. The disyllable words have been harmonized in initial part or in final part of syllable. For example, “蜘蛛”/zhizhu/ (spider) is initial harmonized word (word with paired initials), “窈窕”/yaotiao/ (elegant, beautiful) is final harmonized word (word with repeated rhymes). The syllable reduplication words are harmonized in both initial part and final part of syllable. For example, “关关” /guanguan/ (the cry of ospreys).

In this period, the majority of the loanwords comes from Hun language and the western region languages. Because the most of Chinese words in ancient Chinese language is monosyllable, the phonemic structure of Chinese word is very simple, it is very difficult to transliterate the polysyllabic foreign words to the monosyllabic phonemic loanword in accordance with the pronunciation, so in this period, most of the loanwords is disyllabic phonemic loanword. A lot of disyllabic phonemic loanwords are initial harmonized words or final harmonized words. It is the early localization of loanwords in Chinese language.

1.1 Phonemic Loanwords from nationality Hun (匈奴 /xiongnu/)

骆驼 /luotuo/: camel: “十鼓只载数骆驼”[Ten drums are carried by several camels] (唐代 韩愈《石鼓歌》). It borrowed from “dada” of Hun language. The process of phonemic change is as follows: “dada” “dlada” “lada” 𠄎 “luotuo” (骆驼). It is a word with repeated rhymes.

猩猩 /xingxing/: ogangutan, gorilla: firstly it was written as “生生”/shengsheng/: “都郭生生”, comment:“都郭, 北狄。生生, 兽名”[gorilla /shengsheng/ is the a kind of animal in Hun nationality] (《逸周书》注)。In the dictionary 《尔雅》, it was written as “猩猩/xingxing/”：“猩猩小而好啼 [gorilla /xingxing/ is small and it likes to cry]”。猩猩 is a phonemic loanword from Hun language. It is a word with syllable duplication.

琵琶 /pipa/: a plucked string instrument with a fretted fingerboard: It was also written as“枇杷”/pipa/, “枇杷本作于胡中, 马上所鼓也。推于前曰枇, 引手曰杷, 因以为名也”[pipa/ is created in minority nationality regions, it is an instrument when the people rides on the back of horse to play] (《释名》)。It is a phonemic loanword from Hun language. Another explanation: “琵琶”originated from “barbat”(“比般喀”) of ancient Persian language. The pronunciation of /pipa/ is similar with /barbat/, so it is also the phonemic loanword. It is a word with paired initials.

“骆驼”is the final harmonized word, “琵琶” is the initial harmonized word, and “猩猩” is duplicated word, the duplication is a kind of phonemic harmonization.

胭脂/yanzhi/: rouge: It was also written as “焉支、燕支”: “出西方, 土人以染, 名为燕支, 中国人谓之红蓝 [yanzhi/ came from Western region. It is a kind of dye and is

named as /yanzhi/”（《古今注》），“匈奴失祁连、焉支二山，乃歌曰：亡我祁连山，使我六畜不繁息；失我焉支山，使我妇女无颜色”[Hun nationality lost the Yanzhi Mountain, so the women of Hun nationally can not be dressed up well, because they can not use the /yanzhi/ to dress up]（《史记》）。胭脂 is a phonemic loanword from Hun language, but it is not harmonized in pronunciation...

1.2 Phonemic Loanwords from Xiyu (Western Regions, written as 西域 /xiyu/)

The Xiyu is the place name for area west of Yumenguan (玉门关), including what in now Xinjiang and parts of Central Asia, for example, Persia, India, etc. A lot of loanword was borrowed from Xiyu. They are polysyllabic.

琉璃/liuli/: colored glaze:“而碧玉、珊瑚、琉璃，咸为国之宝. [Jade, coral, glaze are all the treasure of the country]”（《盐铁论》）。It was borrowed from Veluriya (Ve-luri-ya) of Prakrit language (a popular language of Sanskrit). The process of phonemic change is: Ve-luri-Ya → luri → liuli. 琉璃 is a phonemic loanword. It is a word with paired initial. 葡萄/putao/: grape: It was written as “蒲陶、蒲萄”。“樱桃蒲陶. [Cherry and grape]”（司马相如:《上林赋》），“九华蒲萄之锦衾, [The clothes with the decoration of grape picture]”（李白:《行路难》）。It was borrowed from “buduwa” of Persian language or “buda” (wine) of new Persian language. 葡萄 is a phonemic loanword. It is a word with repeated rhymes.

苜蓿/muxu/: lucerne, alfalfa: “马嗜苜蓿. [The horse likes to eat alfalfa /muxu/]”（《史记》）。It was borrowed from “bक्सuk” or “bक्सux” of ancient Persian language. Another explanation: It was borrowed from “bक्सuk”, “bक्सux”, “bक्सuk” of Dawan(大宛) language. 苜蓿 is a phonemic loanword. It is a word with repeated rhymes. “琉璃”is initial harmonized word, “葡萄” and “苜蓿”are final harmonized words. The harmonization is a phonemic characteristic of Chinese language in this period.

狮子/shizi/: lion: firstly it was written as “狻猊”/suanni/: “狻猊，即师子也，出西域. [suanni is lion /shizi/, it is a kind of animal from Xiyu.]”（《尔雅》，郭璞注），/Shizi/ was borrowed from “simha” of Sanskrit（《倭名类聚钞》，日本古书）。Another explanation: /shizi/ comes from “se”, “sary” of Persian language, or from “ser, shir” of ancient Persian language. 狮子 is the phonemic loanword, but it is not harmonized in pronunciation.

1.3 Semi-phonemic and semi-semantic loanword from Xiyu

膜拜/mobai/: Prostrate oneself before an idol or person:“膜拜面受 [prostrate oneself]”（《穆天子传》）。“膜”means“南膜”or“南无”，it was borrowed from “namas” of Sanskrit, original meaning is religious ceremony. 拜 is a Chinese monosyllabic word, it means “to make a courtesy call”. So膜拜 is the semi-phonemic and semi-semantic loanword.

酋长/qiuzhang/: chief of a tribe:“羌胡名大帅为酋. [The chief of tribe is called as ‘Qiu’]”（《汉书》注）。It borrowed from the language of Chiang nationality. And “长” is a

Chinese word which means 'chief'. So 酋长 is semi-phonetic and semi-semantic loanword.

石榴/shiliu/: pomegranate:“张骞使西域，得安石榴种以归，故名安石榴。[Zhang Qian went to Xiyu, he got the seeds of pomegranate /shiliu/ and took them to return to China.]”（《博物志》）。“安石”was borrowed from “arsack” (place name of ancient Persian) , “榴”(pomegranate) is Chinese word. Then “安石榴”was change to “石榴”。So石榴 is a semi-phonemic and semi-semantic loanword.

But in the same time, pomegranate also has a phonemic loanword “涂林”/tulin/. 涂林 is the phonemic loanword which corresponding to 石榴.“张骞为使外国十八年，得涂林，安石榴也。[Zhang Qian stayed in abroad for eighteen years, he got ‘tulin’, it is the pomegranate.]”（《陆机与陆云书》）。“涂林”borrowed from “darim” of Sanskrit. It is a phonemic loanword.

It is clear that even there a few loan words are semi-phonemic and semi-semantic loanwords. But Most of the loanwords in this period are phonemic loanwords. And some semi-phonemic and semi-semantic loanwords as石榴, it still has the corresponding phonemic loanword "涂林".

1.4 The semantic loanwords with character “胡”

“胡” Is a morpheme in Chinese language, it means the non-Han nationalities in the north and western regions of China. Some loanwords were combined with this Chinese morpheme to form the semantic loanwords. In fact, “胡”is a prefix, it is combined with a monosyllabic Chinese morpheme to form a semantic loanword.

胡饼/hubing/=烧饼/shaobing/=麻饼/mabing/: sesame seed cake:“作之大漫沔也，亦言以胡麻著上也。[Cakes made with sesame seed]”（《释名》）。“烧，麻” are also Chinese morphemes, “饼”means cake, so 烧饼(burned cake) and 麻饼(sesame cake) are also the semantic loanwords.

胡床/huchuang/: a kind of folding chair:“灵帝好胡服、胡帐、胡床、胡饭、胡空篋、胡笛、胡舞，京都贵族皆竞为之。[The emperor Ling likes western cloth, western chair, etc, the aristocrats in capital all like this kind of thing as the Emperor Ling.]”（《后汉书》）”床” means the chairs, so “胡床” is a semantic loanword.

胡鼓/hugu/=腰鼓/yaogu/: waist drum:“腰鼓，本胡鼓也。[Waist drum is originated from Western drum.]”（《旧唐书》）“鼓” means drum, so “胡鼓” is a semantic loanword.

胡瓜/hugua/=黄瓜/huanggua/: cucumber:“胡瓜宜竖柴木令其蔓延之。[To cultivate the cucumber, we can erect some woods in the field to support it.]”（《齐民要术》）”瓜” means melon, so “胡瓜，黄瓜” are the semantic loanwords.

胡姬/huji/: The girl who born in Western Regions:“胡姬年十五，春日独当垆。[The girl from Western Regions is very young, she serves at a store in the spring.]”（《羽林郎》）”姬” means the girl, so “胡姬” is a semantic loanword.

胡笳/hujia/: reed instrument used in the northern tribe:“胡笳动兮边马鸣，孤雁归兮声嚶嚶，[When the reed instrument is played, the horse and the wild goose shall sing.]”

(《胡茄十八拍》)“箛” mean the reed instrument, so “胡箛” is a semantic loanword.
 胡椒/hujiao/: pepper:“胡椒，出摩伽陀国。[The pepper is originated from the country Mocatou.]”(《酉阳杂俎》)。“椒” means the pepper, so “胡椒” is a semantic loanword.
 胡麻/huma/=芝麻/zhima/: sesame:“张骞始自大宛得油麻之种，亦谓之麻，故以胡麻别之，谓汉麻为大麻也。[Mr Zhang Qian got the seed of sesame, and he called it as ‘Huma’, in order to distinguished it from the sesame in Han nationality.]”(《梦溪笔谈》)。“麻” means sesame, so “胡麻” is a semantic loanword.
 胡琴/hiqin/: the general name for all instrument used in western tribes“马尾胡琴随汉军，曲声犹自怨单于。[The instrument in Western tribe was used in the army of Han nationality, the melody expressed the Western feeling.]”(《梦溪笔谈》)“琴” means the instrument, so “胡琴” is a semantic loanword.

1.5 Summary

- In the ancient Chinese, the most of loanword are phonemic loanwords.
- In the ancient Chinese, there are a few of semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanwords. Some semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanwords exist with the phonemic loanwords in the same times. The usage of semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanword is not so popular.
- In ancient Chinese, there are some semantic loanwords with morpheme “胡”. We can regard “胡” as a prefix. This prefix is combined with a monosyllabic Chinese morpheme to form a semantic loanword. This kind of loanwords is the earliest semantic loanword in Chinese language. In this period, the word formation of semantic loanword is relatively simple: using prefix.
- A lot of disyllabic phonemic loanwords are phonemically harmonized words. It is a phenomenon of localization (or nativization) of loanwords in ancient Chinese. It means that in ancient Chinese, the localization (or nativization) process of loanwords already begins.

2. Loanword in middle ancient Chinese

An important feature of middle ancient Chinese is: the polysyllable words increased. It provides the possibility to create the loanwords with original Chinese words or morphemes to combine them to form the polysyllabic semantic words. The semantic loanwords became more and more.

In this period, Buddhism was imported to China. The original Buddhism Classic documents were written in Sanskrit, so the translation of Buddhism Classic document is very important. In the translation of Buddhism document, a lot of loanwords is created, the most of loanwords in this period came from Buddhism Classic documents.

2.1 Loanwords on Buddhism

2.1.1 Phonemic loanword

In the early step, some Buddhism loanwords are phonemic. For example,

-- Monosyllabic phonemic loanwords:

佛/fo/=浮屠/futu/: Buddha, Buddhist monk:“浮屠者，佛也 [The ‘futu’ is the Buddha]” (《后汉记》);“西方有神，名曰佛 There is a god which name is ‘fo’” (《后汉书》)。It was borrowed from “buddha” of Sanskrit.

塔/ta/=浮屠/futu/=浮图/futu/=佛图/futu/=数斗波/shudoupo/=兜婆/doupo/: Buddhist tower:“塔，佛堂也 [The ‘ta’ is Buddhist tower]” (《字苑》)，“作九层浮图 To build the Buddhist tower with nine levels” (《水经注》)，“塔亦胡言，犹宗庙也. [‘ta’ comes from languages of Hu nationalities, it means tower.]” (《魏书》)。It was borrowed from “buddhastupa” of Sanskrit. The process of pronunciation change is as follows:

Buddhastupa stupa tupa t’ap

劫/jie/=劫波/jiebo/: catastrophe, a cycle period from start to end of world: “一成一败，谓之一劫. [a cycle of success and fail can be called as one ‘jie’]” (《隋书》) It was borrowed from “kalpa” (劫波/jiebo/) of Sanskrit.

魔/mo/=魔障/mozhang/: the original meaning is magic power, then it is changed to meaning ‘devil’. “唯有诗魔降不得.[We can not defeat the poem devil.]” (白居易诗)，it was borrowed from “mara” (魔罗) of Sanskrit: “梵言魔罗，此翻名障，能为修道者作障碍故 [‘mara’ in Sanskrit means devil.]” (《一切经音义》)

钵/bo/: alms bowl of Buddhist monk: “俄而龙下钵中，天辄大雨. [The dragon falls into the alms bowl of Buddhist monk, then it rains.]” (《晋书》)。It was borrowed from “patra” (钵多罗/boduoluo/) of Sanskrit.

僧/seng/: Buddhist (male): “远僧有来，近众无阙. [The Buddhist comes from far away.]” (谢灵运《山居赋》) It was borrowed from “samgha” (僧伽/sengjia/).

禅/chan/: prolong and intense contemplation, deep mediation, dhyana: “醉中往往爱逃禅 [When the people drunk, they can not do the deep mediation]” (杜甫《饮中八仙歌》)。It was borrowed from “dhyana” of Sanskrit.

-- Disyllabic phonemic loanwords:

南无/namo/: respectfully:“口唱南无，合掌连日 [The monk says ‘namo’ in continuous days.]” (《洛阳伽蓝记》)。It was borrowed from “namas” of Sanskrit.

阎罗/yanluo/=阎魔/yanmo/: Yama, King of hell. It borrowed from “yama” (阎魔/yanmo/) of Sanskrit.

夜叉/yecha/=药叉/yaocha/: yaksha, a malevolent spirit:“药叉，旧讹作夜叉，能飞腾空中. [‘yaocha’ was wrongly called as ‘yecha’, it is the malevolent which can fly in the sky.]” (《西域记》) It was borrowed from “yaksa” of Sanskrit.

袈裟/jiasha//: kasaya, a patchwork outer vestment worn by a Buddhist monk: “雨止，佛在石下，东面而坐，晒袈裟. [When the rain is over, the Buddhist shines upon the ‘jiasha’]” (《洛阳伽蓝记》) It was borrowed from “kasaya” of Sanskrit.

伽蓝/jialan/: temple, monastery:“伽蓝之内，花果蔚茂，芳草蔓合. [In the temple, the flower and the grass all blossom.]” (《洛阳伽蓝记》)。It was borrowed from “saing harama” (僧伽罗魔/sengjiamoluo/) of Sanskrit: “僧伽罗魔/saing harama/”→“僧伽蓝/saing halan/”→“伽蓝/jialan/”。

和尚/heshang/=和上/heshang/: Buddhist monk:“和尚胡名施黎密. [The name of this Buddhist monk is called as Shilimi.]”(《高座别传》)。It was borrowed from “upadhiaya” (乌波底夜耶) of Sanskrit: “乌波底夜耶/upadhayai/”→“乌社/udu/”→“和社/khosha/”(“khosha” in Indian language)→“和尚/heshang/”。

罗汉/luohan/: arhat, Buddhist sage (wise men): “至罗汉者，则出生入死，来去隐显，而不为累. [The arhat can go through fire and water, it never feels tire.]”(《隋书》)。It was borrowed from “arhan, arhat” (阿罗汉/arhan/ 罗汉/luohan/) of Sanskrit.

菩萨/pusa/: Buddhisattva, Buddhist whose position is higher than arhat: “菩萨转论，生生世界. [Buddhisattva can have the metempsychosis.]”(庾信《五张寺藏经碑》)。It was borrowed from “Buddhisattva” (菩提萨陲) of Sanskrit.

三昧/sanmei/: samadhi, carefully consideration, this original meaning then developed to the meaning ‘secret, knack, know-how’: “夫三昧者何？专思细想之谓也？[What is ‘sanmei’? It means carefully consideration.]”(《念佛三昧诗集序》)。It was borrowed from “samadhi” of Sanskrit.

刹那/chana/: instant: “时极短者，为刹那也. [‘chana’ means a very short time]”(《大唐西域记》)。It borrowed from “ksana” of Sanskrit.

涅槃/niepan/: nirvana, died and enter to a free situation: “凤凰涅槃 [The phoenix died and enter to a free situation]”(郭沫若诗歌名)。It borrowed was from “nirvana” of Sanskrit.

Polysyllabic phonemic loanwords:

阿弥陀/emituo/: The highest Buddhist in heaven world: “佛子在时白忧绕，临行一念何由了，口诵南无阿弥陀，如日出地万国绕 [When the monks say ‘emituo’, the sun rises up and around the many countries]”(苏东坡《阿弥陀佛赞》) It was borrowed from “Amita” of Sanskrit.

2.1.2 Semantic loanword

In this period, a lot of bi-syllabic semantic loanwords were created. All of these semantic loanwords used Chinese words or morphemes to expressed the meaning of words in donor language..

现在/xianzai/、过去/guoqu/、将来/jianglai/: present, past, future: “三世，所谓过去、未来、现在. [Three periods are present, past and future]”(《宝积经》)。They were borrowed from “atita, anagatakala, pratyutpanna” of Sanskrit and were translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

方便/fangbian/: convenient:“方便示迷津 [please show the way for convenient]”(孟浩然《还山赠禅师》)。It was borrowed from “aupayika” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word..

平等/pingdeng/: The original meaning is ‘without different’, then it changes to mean ‘equality’:“是法平等，无有高下. [This law is equal for all people.]”(《金刚经》)。It borrowed from “upeksa” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word..

圆满/yuanman/: The original meaning is Buddhist ceremony completely finished, then it changes to represent the meaning ‘satisfactory’:“功德圆满 [merits and virtues are

satisfactory]”（《敦煌变文集》）。It was borrowed from “boli” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

烦恼/fannaof/: be worry: “烦恼者，能令人心烦，能作恼，故名烦恼.[to be perturbed, be worry.]”（《智度论》）。It was borrowed from “klesd” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

世界/shijie/: world: “东西南北上下为界，过去、未来、现在为世. [East, west, south and north are called ‘jie’, past, present and future are called ‘shi’]”（《楞严经》）。It was borrowed from “lokodhatu” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

转变/zhuanbian/: change, transform: “何名转变？谓相续中前后异性. [The change means the transform from past to present in the continuum.]”（《俱舍论》）。It was borrowed from “parinama” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

因果/yinguo/: reason and result, cause and effect: “因果报应[comeuppance and retribution]”。It was borrowed from “hetavaphalani” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

因缘/yinyuan/: principal and subsidiary causes. This original meaning was changed to the meaning of predestined relationship:“如今只恨因缘浅[Now I worry about that our predestined relationship is too shallow]”（辛弃疾《恋绣衾》）。It was borrowed from “hetupratyaya” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

庄严/zhuangyan/: decorate. This original meaning was changed to express ‘solemn, dignified’: “庄严佛寺，悉用金玉. [solemn temple is made of the gold and jade]”（《洛阳伽蓝记》）。It was borrowed from “sarita” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

慈悲/cibei/: mercy & pity. This original meaning was changed to express the mercy, benevolence, pity:“大慈与一切众生乐，大悲与一切众生苦. [‘ci’ means to share the happiness with common people, ‘bei’ means the share the sadness]”（《智度论》）。It was borrowed from “karuna” of Sanskrit and was translated with two Chinese monosyllabic morphemes.

金刚/jingang/: diamond. This original meaning was changed to express ‘hard and sharp’, then this meaning was further changed to express ‘Buddha’s warrior attendant’: “金刚者，即侍从力士，手执金刚杵[chu]，因以为名. [Buddha’s warrior attendant because he hold a weapon made of diamond.]”（《行宗记》）。It was borrowed from “vajra” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

地狱/diyu/: hell, inferno: “冥冥地狱苦，难见出头日. [In the hell it is very sad, no future.]”（王梵志《沉沦三恶道》）It was borrowed from “naraka”（音译为“泥梨”）of Sanskrit.

天堂/tiantang/: paradise, heaven: “无键地狱，有顶天堂. [in addition of hell, there is the heaven in the sky]”（《华严经》）。It was borrowed from “devasabha” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

毕竟/bijing/: outcome, what actually happened: “毕竟空无所有，则是性空. [in the outcome, there is nothing, it is a natural empty]”（《智度论》）。It was borrowed from “atyanta” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

究竟/jiujing/: after all, at all, in the final analysis: “究竟犹至极之义[‘jiujing’ means the final analysis]” (《三藏法数》)。It was borrowed from “uttara” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

轮回/lunhui/: transmigration, samsara, fatalism: “或居地狱，或在天堂，或为畜生，或为饿鬼，六道轮回，无有休期。[either in hell, or in heaven, or to become to animal, or to be come to ghost, this transmigration is endless.]” (《敦煌变文集》)。It was borrowed from “samsara” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

法门/famen/: the gate to go to Buddhism: “如来开法门，闻者得篤信。[The Buddhist opens the gate to all believer.]” (《僧一阿含经》)。It was borrowed from “dharma-paryaya” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

法宝/fabao/: a magic weapon: “集众法宝 [to collect all the magic weapons]” (《维摩经佛国品》)。It was borrowed from “dharma-mani” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

法螺/faluo/: conch, blow one’s own trumpet: “扣法鼓，吹法螺。[to play the drum and the conch.]” (《无量寿经》)。It was borrowed from “sankha” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

信心/xinxin/: confidence, faith: “信心铭[faith inscription]”(《传灯录》)。It was borrowed from “citta-mati” of Sanskrit, and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

真谛/zhendi/: true meaning, true essence: “真谛实义，沿文可见矣。[The true meaning can be found in the text.]” (元稹《大云寺》)。It was borrowed from “paramartha” (波罗末陀) of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word..

导师/daoshi/: teacher, supervisor: “夫大导师者，导以正路，示涅槃径，使得无为，常得安乐。[The supervisor guides with correct way, teaches with nirvana, then the people can have the happy life.]” (《佛报恩经》)。It was borrowed from “mayaka” of Sanskrit and was translated with Chinese polysyllabic word.

2.1.3 Semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanword:

Some semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanwords are created in this period. For example,

彼岸/bi’an/: the other shore, fatamita: It was borrowed from “para” of Sanskrit. 波罗彼/bi/(phonemic component) + 岸/an/(shore, semantic component).

尼姑/nigu/: Buddhist nun: “尼者，天竺女人通名也。[‘ni’ is the general name of women in India.]”。It was borrowed from “Bhikhsuni” (比丘尼)。尼尼/ni/(phonemic component) + 姑/gu/ (female, semantic component).

忏悔/chanhui/: repent, confess one’s sins: “自今以后，依方等忏悔。(from now on let us confess our sins.)” (《高僧传》)。It was borrowed from “ksamayati” of Sanskrit. Ksama 忏摩 忏 忏/chan/(phonemic component) + 悔/hui/ (repent, semantic component)

In the translation of Buddhism Classic documents, the semantic translation became the naim trend step by step.

2.2 other loanwords in this period

There are some loanwords were borrowed from other field.

-- Phonemic loanwords:

Disyllabic phonemic loanwords:

玻璃/boli/: glass. It was borrowed from “sphatika” of Sanskrit. 赛颇胝迦/sphatika/颇胝/phati/颇黎//phali玻璃/boli/. It is a phonemic loanword.

茉莉/moli/=没利/moli/=末利/moli/: jasmine: “末利花，皆胡人自西国移植于南海，南人怜其芳香，竞植之。 [Jasmine was imported from Western states into South sea. The South people likes it, and cultivates it.]”（《南方草木状》）。 It was borrowed from “mallika” of Sanskrit or “molo” of Syrian language. It is a phonemic loanword.

八哥/bage/: parrot. It was borrowed from “babbagha” of Arabic language. It is a phonemic loanword.

Polysyllabic phonemic loanwords:

木乃伊/munaiyi/: mummy: “木乃伊[mummy]”（见陶宗仪《辍[chuo]耕录》）。It borrowed from “mumiya” of Arabic language. It is a phonemic loanword.

祖母绿/zumulv/: beryl. It was borrowed from “zumunrud” of Arabic language. It is a phonemic loanword.

-- Semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanwords:

苹果/pingguo/: apple. It borrowed from “bimbara” of Sanskrit. 频婆罗/bimbara/频婆/bimba/频/ping/ (phonemic component)+ 果/guo/(fruit, semantic component) 蘋果/pingguo/ 苹果/pingguo/.

菠菜/pocai/: spinach:“太宗时尼婆罗国献波菱菜 [In Taizong emperor epoch, the country Nepal offers spinach to Tang dynasty.]”（《唐会要》）It borrowed from “palinga” of Nepal language. 波菱/palinga/ → 菠/bo/ (phonemic component) + 菜/cai/ (vegetable, semantic component).

2.3 From phonemic loanword to semantic loanword

Many loanwords were phonemic loanwords, but then they are replaced by corresponding semantic loanwords.

Sanskrit	phonemic loanword	semantic loanword
Acarya	阿者黎/azheni/	高僧/gaoseng/(dignitary monk)
Brahma-mani	梵摹尼/fanmoni/	如意宝珠/ruyi baozhu/(pearl)
Buddhaksetra	佛陀差怛罗/fotuo Chadabnuo/	佛国/foguo/(Buddhist country)
Chandas	阙陀/juetuo/	韵律学/yunlvxue/(phonology)
Duta	杜底/dudi/	信使/xinshi/(mailman)
Mayura	摩裕罗/moyuluo/	孔雀/kongque/(peacock)
Pani	波罗/boluo/	手掌/shouzhang/(palm)
Paramartha	波罗末陀/boluomotuo/	真谛/zhendi/(truth)
Para	波罗/boluo/	彼岸/bi'an/(Faramita)
Paryayatana	波演那/boyanna/	庭院/tingyuan/(yard)
Ratna	刹那/lana/	宝物/baowu/(treasure)
Vande	缦提/manti/	礼拜/libai/(worship)

The change from phonemic loanwords to semantic loanwords is another phenomenon of localization (or nativization) of loanwords. Then this kind of localization (or nativization) became to the main tendency of localization (or nativization) of loanwords.

2.4 Summary

- In middle ancient Chinese, the semantic loanwords became more and more. The semantic loanwords were created with original Chinese words or Chinese morphemes. They are easy to learn and to remember. By this reason, Chinese likes to accept this kind of loanwords. In the same time, a lot of semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanwords are created. By this kind of means, the loanwords are easily localized and easily accepted by Chinese people.
- The phonemic loanwords are difficult to learn and to remember, the transliteration of phonemic loanwords can not keep the semantic meaning of Chinese characters. By this reason, Chinese prefer to use the semantic loanwords and semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loanwords. Some original phonemic loanwords were replaced by the semantic loanwords. It is the reflection of localization of loanwords in Chinese language.

3. Loanwords in Modern Chinese

3.1 Phonemic Loanwords from Mongolian language

In Yuan dynasty (1279-1368) China was dominated by the Mongolian nationality, so some loanwords came from Mongolian language. Most of them are phonemic loanwords.

站/zhan/=站赤/zhanchi/: station: “元制站赤者，驿传之译名也。……凡站，陆则以马以牛，或以驴，或以车，而水则以舟[In according to the regulation of Yuan dynasty, ‘zhanchi’ is the translated name for station. The station in land uses horse, ass or vehicle, the station in river uses the boat.]”（《元史》）。It was borrowed from “iam” (road, way) of Mongolian language, then the meaning of “iam” was derived to “station”.

把式/bashi/: skill: “是个把式？还是个雏儿？[Is he a skill technician, or only a beginner like as a young bird?]”（《西游记》），“学会木工的全套把式(to learn all skill of woodworkers)”。It was borrowed from “pakci” of Mongolian language. But “pakci” was borrowed from “博士”/boshi/ of Chinese. It is a loanword firstly exported from Chinese to Mongolian language then imported into Chinese from Mongolian language.

歹/dai/: bad, evil: “地也，你不分好歹何为地！[Ah, the earth, why you can not distinguish the good and bad?]”（《窦娥冤》）。It was borrowed from “tai” of Mongolian Language.

蘑菇/mogu/=蘑菰/mogu/: mushroom: “蘑菰出山东、淮北诸处[The mushrooms from Shandong or Huaibei]”（《本草纲目》）。It was borrowed from “moku” of Mongolian language.

戈壁/gebi/: Gobi Desert. It was borrowed from “gobi” of Mongolian language.
 胡同/hutong/: lane, alley. It was borrowed from “gudum” of Mongolian language.
 浩特/haote/: city, village. It was borrowed from “xota” of Mongolian language.
 喇叭/laba/: woodwind instrument. It was borrowed from “labai” of Mongolian language.

3.2 Loanwords from Manchu language

In Qing Dynasty (1644-1912) China was dominated by the Manchu nationality, so some loanwords came from Manchu language. Most of them are phonemic loanwords.

格格/gege/: young lady coming from the noble family: “还珠格格[Huanzhu gege]”。 It borrowed from “gege” of Manchu language.
 阿哥/age/: son:“阿哥，你在那里弄得许多银子？ [Age, where you can collect so much silvers?]”（《儿女英雄传》）。 It was borrowed from “age” of Manchu language.
 阿马/ama/: father:“这书房存得阿马，会得宾客[This study room is suitable for father to meet with guests.]”（《儿女英雄传》）。 It was borrowed from “ama” of Nuchen language (女真语). Nuzhen language is the original Manchu language.
 额娘/e’niang/: mother. It was borrowed from “eniye” of Manchu language.
 蝼蛄/lougu/: mole cricket (Maulwurfsgrippe). It was borrowed from “lagu” of Manchu language.
 萨其玛/saqima/: a kind of candied fritter (special sweet cake of Manchu Nationality). It was borrowed from “cacima” of Manchu language.

3.3 Semantic loanwords translated from Occidental languages through Japanese

In this period, Japanese used Chinese character to create the loanwords from English or other occidental languages, most of these loanwords are semantic loanwords. Chinese directly accepted these Japanese semantic loanwords, the only difference is the pronunciation. These loanwords are called as loanwords through Japanese translation (日译外来词). This kind of loanwords is pronounced in according with the Chinese pronunciation. The majority of these semantic loanwords are nouns in different subject fields. Some of them are verb or adjective.

3.3.1 Semantic loanwords on natural science and technology

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
地质学/dizhixue/	chishitsugaku	geology
电报/dianbao/	denpoo	telegram
电车/dianche/	densha	tram, trolley
电话/dianhua/	denwa	telephone
电子/dianzi/	denshi	electron
动力学/donglixue/	dooritsugaku	dynamics
工业/gongye/	koogyoo	industry
航空母舰/hangkongmujian/	kookuubokan	aircraft carrier

科学/kexue/	kagaku	science
机关炮/jiguanpao/	kikanhoo	machine gun
汽船/qichuan/	kisen	steamship
轻工业/qinggongye/	keikoogyoo	light industry
驱逐舰/quzhujian/	kuchikukan	destroyer
生理学/shenglixue/	seirigaku	physiology
生态学/shengtaixue/	seitaigaku	ecology
手工业/shougongye/	shukoogyoo	manual industry
心理学/xinlixue/	shinrigaku	psychology
因子/yinzi/	inshi	factor
优生学/youshengxue/	yuuseigaku	eugenics
元素/yuansu/	genso	element
原子/yuanzi/	genshi	atom
重工业/zhonggongye/	juukoogyoo	heavy industry

3.3.2 Semantic loanwords on politics and economics

Loan words	Japanese pronunciation	English
霸权/baquan/	haken	hegemony
不动产/budingchan/	fudoosan	immovables
财团/caituan/	zaidan	syndicate
动产/dongchan/	doosan	movables
独裁/ducai/	dokusai	dictatorship
高利贷/gaolidai/	koorigashi	usury
公报/gongbao/	koohoo	official report
公债/gongzhai/	koosai	public bonds
国际/guoji/	kokusai	international
国库/guoku/	kokko	national treasury
集团/jituan/	shuudan	group
金融/jinrong/	kin'yu	finance
领海/linghai/	ryookai	territorial water
领空/lingkong/	ryookuu	territorial sky
领土/lingtu/	ryoodo	territory
企业/qiye/	kigyoo	enterprise
情报/qingbao/	joofoo	information
人权/renquan/	jinken	human right
商业/shangye/	shoogyoo	commerce
社团/shetuan/	shadan	corporation
实业/shiye/	jitsugyoo	industry and business
市场/shichang/	ichiba	market
所有权/suoyouquan/	shoyuiken	ownership
特权/tequan/	tokken	privilege

协会/xiehui/	kyookai	association
议会/yihui/	gikai	parliament
债权/zhaiquan/	saiken	creditor's right
债务/zhaiwu/	saimu	debt
政策/zhengce/	seisaku	policy
政党/zhengdang/	seitoo	political party
证券/zhengquan/	shooken	negotiable securities

3.3.3 Semantic loanwords on culture and arts

Loan words	Japanese pronunciation	English
悲剧/beiju/	higeki	tragedy
出版物/chubanwu/	shuppanbutsu	publication
处女作/chunvzuo/	shojosaku	maiden work
幻灯/huangdeng/	gentoo	magic lantern
漫画/manhua/	manga	caricature
美术/meishu/	bijutsu	art
交响乐/jiaoxiangyue/	kookyogaku	symphony
教科书/jiaokeshu/	kyookasho	textbook
脚本/jiaoben/	kyakuhon	script, scenario
体育/tiyu/	taiiku	sport
图书馆/tushuguan/	toshokan	library
文库/wenku/	bunko	library
舞台/wutai/	butai	stage
喜剧/xiju/	kigeki	comedy
宗教/zongjiao/	shuukyoo	religion

3.3.4 Semantic loanwords on general things

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
单元/danyuan/	tangen	unit
方式/fangshi/	hooshiki	way, method
方案/fang'an/	hoo'an	plan
金刚石/jingangshi/	kongooseki	diamond
空间/kongjian/	kuukan	space
类型/leixing/	ruikei	type
理想/lixiang/	risoo	ideal
蜜月/miyue/	mitsugetsu	honeymoon
目标/mubiao/	mokubyoo	target
目的/mudi/	mokuteki	aim, goal
内容/neirong/	naiyoo	content
情操/qingcao/	joosoo	sentiment
权威/quanwei/	ken'i	authority

时间/shijian/	jikan	time
事态/shitai/	jitai	situation
现象/xianxiang/	genshoo	phenomenon
义务/yiwu/	gimu	duty, obligation
原则/yuanze/	gensoku	principle
资料/ziliao/	shiryoo	material, data
烟草/yancao/	tabakoo	tabaco

烟草 in Japanese is pronounced as /tabakoo/ which is very similar as English pronunciation. This kind of loanwords is special, it is called as “熟字训”(idiomatic pronunciation).

3.3.5 Semantic loanwords on appellation (title) of human

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
乘客/chengke/	jookyaku	passenger
低能儿/dineng'e/	teinooji	imbecile
法人/faren/	hoojin	legal person
公民/gongmin/	koomin	citizen
公仆/gongpu/	kooboku	public servant
讲师/jiangshi/	kooshi	lecturer
警察/jingcha/	keisatsu	police
警官/jingguan/	keikan	police officer
旗手/qishou/	kishu	standard-bearer
随员/suiyuan/	zui'in	attendant
无产者/wuchanzhe/	musansha	proletarian
议员/yiyuan/	gi'in	member of parliament
总理/zongli/	soori	prime minister
总领事/zonglingshi/	sooryooji	consul general
仲裁人/zhongcairen/	chuusainin	arbitrator

3.3.6 Semantic borrowed verbs

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
暗示/anshi/	anji	hint, suggest
表决/biaojue/	hyooketsu	decide, vote
出庭/chuting/	shutte	appear in court
抵抗/dikang/	teikoo	resist
动员/dongyuan/	dooin	mobilize
反应/fanying/	han'noo	react, response
否定/fouding/	hitei	deny, negate
否决/foujue/	hiketsu	reject
否认/fouren/	hinin	deny

概括/gaikuo/	gaikatsu	summarize
公诉/gongsu/	kooso	prosecute
归纳/guina/	kinoo	induction
解放/jiefang/	kaihoo	liberate
进化/jinhua/	shinka	evolution
进展/jinzhan/	shinten	develop
讲演/yanjiang/	kooen	lecture
论战/lunzhan/	ronsen	controversy
派遣/paiquan/	haken	dispatch
陪审/peishen/	baishin	serve on a jury
批评/piping/	hihyoo	criticize
强制/qiangzhi/	kyoosei	compel
清算/qingsuan/	seisan	liquidate
审判/shenpan/	shinpan	judge, adjudge
施工/shigong/	shekoo	construct
输出/shuchu/	yushutsu	export
速记/suji/	sokki	shorthand
探险/tanxian/	tanken	explore
退化/tuihua/	taika	degenerate
指导/zhidao/	shidoo	guide
制裁/zhicai/	seisai	punish, sanction
制约/zhiyue/	seiyaku	restrict
综合/zonghe/	soogoo	synthesis

3.3.7 Semantic borrowed adjective

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
必要/biyao/	hitsuyoo	necessary
抽象/chouxiang/	chuushoo	abstract
活跃/huoyue/	katsuyaku	active
积极/jiji/	sekkyoku	active, positive
间接/jianjie/	kansetsu	indirect
绝对/juedui/	zettai	absolute
客观/keguan/	kyakkan	objective
敏感/mingan/	binkan	sensitive
消极/xiaoji/	shookyoku	passive
直接/zhijie/	chokusetsu	direct
主观/zhuguan/	shukan	subjective

3.3.8 Loanwords from other occidental languages through Japanese

-- From German

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	German
感性/ganxing/	kansei	Sinnlichkeit

剩余价值/juedui jiazhi/ 世界观/shijieguan/	jooyokachi seikaikan	Mehrwert Weltanschauung
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-- From French

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	French
干部/ganbu/	kanbu	cardre
素描/sumiao/	sobyoo	dessin
无产阶级/wuchan jieji/	musankaikyuu	proletariat

-- From Italian

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	Italian
二重奏/erchongzou/	nijuusoo	duetto
歌剧/geju/	kageki	opera
幻想曲/huangxiangqu/	gensookyoku	fantasia

-- From Niederland language (Dutch)

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	Niederland language
咖啡/kafei/	kohii	Koffie
加农炮/jianongbao/	kanoohoo	kanon

3.4 Loanwords translated from ancient Chinese by Japanese

Japanese used the words in ancient Chinese to translate the new words in Occidental languages. Then Chinese accepted them as semantic loanwords.

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
博物/bowu/	hakubutsu	natural science

The original meaning in ancient Chinese of “博物” is erudite, it comes from “博物君子也 [He is a erudite scholar]” (《左传》) .

法律/falv/	hooritsu	law
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The original meaning in ancient Chinese of “法律” is law, it comes from “法者，所以兴功惧暴也，律者，所以定分止争也”法律政令者，吏民规矩绳墨也 [The law is the principles which the people and officers have to follow]” (《管子》) .

干事/ganshi/	kanji	manage
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The original meaning in ancient Chinese of “干事” is "do some thing", it comes from “贞信足以干事 [It is enough to do some thing]” (《易经》) , “为往来干事休息之处 [It is the place for work and rest]” (朱熹 《合黄子耕书》) .

Other loanwords of this kind are as follows:

Loanwords	Japanese pronunciation	English
革命/geming/	kakumei	revolution

机关/jiguan/	kikan	organ
阶级/jieji/	kaikyuu	class
精神/jingshen/	seishin	mind, spirit
理事/lishi/	riji	director
内阁/neige/	naikaku	cabinet
社会/shehui/	shakai	society
条件/tiaojian/	jooken	condition
文化/wenhua/	bunka	culture
文学/wenxue/	bungaku	literature
宪法/xianfa/	kenpoo	constitution
元帅/yuanshuai/	gensui	marshal
主义/zhuyi/	shugi	principle
资本/ziben/	shihon	capital
发明/faming/	hatsumei	invention
反对/fandui/	hantai	opposition
分析/fenxi/	bunseki	analysis
拘留/juliu/	kooryuu	detention
抗议/kangyi/	koogi	protect
劳动/laodong/	roodoo	labor
判决/panjue/	hanketsu	judgment
侵略/qinlue/	shinryaku	aggression
审问/shenwen/	shinmon	interrogate
生产/shengchan/	seisan	production
输入/shuru/	yunyuu	import
同情/tongqing/	doojoo	sympathy
投机/touji/	tookii	speculation
宣传/xuanchuan/	senden	propaganda
选举/xuanju/	senkyo	election
遗传/yichuan/	iden	heredity
运动/yundong/	undoo	movement, sport
景气/jingqi/	keiki	prosperity
具体/juti/	gutai	concrete
文明/wenming/	bunmei	civilization
相对/xiangdui/	sootai	relativity

3.5 Loanwords from Original Japanese language (日语借词)

This kind of loanwords is directly borrowed from original Japanese language, but the pronunciation of Chinese characters is according to Chinese pronunciation.

Loan words	Japanese pronunciation	English meaning
财阀/caifa/	zaibatsu	plutocrat, financial magnate
茶道/chadao/	shadoo	approach to drinking tea

场合/changhe/	baai	situation
成员/chengyuan/	sein	member
出口/chukou/	deguchi	exit
入口/rukou/	iriguchi	entry
大局/daju/	taikyoko	overall situation
读本/duben/	dokuhon	textbook
读物/duwu/	yomimono	reading book
方针/fangzhen/	hooshin	orientation
歌舞伎/gewuji/	kabuki	a kind of Japanese drama
广场/guangchang/	hiroba	public square
尖兵/jianbing/	senpei	pioneer
巨匠/jujiang/	kyoshoo	great master
立场/lichang/	tachiba	standpoint
流感/liugan/	ryuukan	flu
内幕/enimu/	naimaku	lowdown
内勤/neiqin/	naikin	inside job
平假名/pingjiaming/	hiragana	hirogana
权限/quanxian/	kengen	popedom, purview
人选/renxuan/	jinsen	person selected
日程/richeng/	nittei	schedule
手续/shouxu/	tetsudzuki	formality
学会/xuehui/	gakkai	association
学历/xueli/	gakureki	educational level
训令/xunling/	kunrei	ordinance
阵容/zhenrong/	jin'yoo	lineup
重点/zhongdian/	juuten	keystone
参观/canguan/	sankan	visit
参照/canzhao/	sanshoo	refer to
登载/dengzhai/	toosai	publish
服务/fuwu/	fukumu	serve
集结/jijie/	shuuketsu	concentrate
集中/jizhong/	shuuchuu	centralize
见习/jianxi/	minarai	noviciate
就任/jiuren/	shuunin	accede
临床/linchang/	rinshoo	clinic
落选/luoxuan/	rakusen	lose an election
取缔/quid/	torishimari	ban
取消/quxiao/	torikeshi	cancel
失效/shixiao/	shikoo	invalidation
训话/xunhua/	kunwa	talk to subordinates
制版/zhiban/	seihan	plate making

座谈/zuotan/	zadan	informal discussion
不景气/bujingqi/	fukeiki	depression
单纯/danchun/	tanjun	simplicity
等外/dengwai/	toogai	off-grade
公立/gpngli/	kooritsu	public
国立/guoli/	kokuritsu	state-run, national
简单/jiandan/	kantan	briefness
明确/mingque/	meikaku	definitude
私立/sili/	shiritsu	private
小型/xiaoxing/	kogata	mini-type

3.6 Loanwords directly borrowed from Occidental languages

In this period Chinese also borrowed a lot of loanwords directly from occidental languages.

3.6.1 Phonemic loanwords

loanword	English
阿德门/ademen/	atman
阿门/amen/	amen
哀的美敦书/aidemeidunshu/	ultimatum
阿斯匹林/asipilin/	Aspirin
白兰地/bailandi/	brandy
镑/bang/	pound
便士/bianshi/	penny
打/da/	dozen
丹宁/danning/	tannin acid
德律风/delvfeng/	telephone
德谟克拉西/demokelaxi/	democracy
阀/fa/	valve
葛郎玛/gelanma/	grammar
罗曼蒂克/loumantike/	romantic
马达/mada/	motor
麦克风/meikefeng/	microphone
密斯/misi/	miss
密斯脱/misituo/	mister
摩登/modeng/	modern
尼古丁/niguding/	nicotine
盘尼西林/pannixilin/	penicillin
赛因斯/saiyinsi/	science
司的克/sidike/	stick
鸦片/yapian/	opium

伊甸园/yidianyuan/

Eden

3.6.2 Phonemic & semantic amalgamation loanwords

This kind of loanwords basically belongs to the phonemic loanword. But Chinese characters expressing its pronunciation have some semantic meaning that can be related with the meaning of the loanwords. The Chinese character is ideogram, every Chinese character has both pronunciation and meaning, if the pronunciation of Chinese character can be associated with the correspondent meaning, the loanword will very easy to learn and to memorize. The effect will be very good. We call this kind of loanwords as Phonemic & semantic amalgamation loanwords (音义融合的外来词).

loanwords	English
绷带/pengdai/	bandage
法老/falao/	pharaoh
苦力/kuli/	coolie
模特儿/mote'er/	model
台风/taifeng/	typhoon
图腾/tuteng/	totem
乌托邦/wutuobang/	Utopia
引擎/yinqing/	engine
俱乐部/julebu/	club

3.6.3 semi-phonemic & semi-semantic loan words

3.6.3.1 Both phonemic part and semantic part are translated from English.

loanwords	phonemic part	semantic part	English
白令海/bailinghai/	白令	海(sea)	Behring Sea
冰激凌/bingjilin/	激凌	冰(ice)	ice-cream
长吨/changdun/	吨	长(long)	long ton (= 2240 pound)
道林纸/daolingzhi/	道林	纸(paper)	Dowling paper
东亚/dongya/	亚	东(East)	East Asia

3.6.3.2 The phonemic part is translated from English, and then a Chinese morpheme is added to represent the semantic meaning.

loanwords	phonemic part	new Chinese morpheme	English
浪漫主义/langmanzhuyi/	浪漫	主义(principle)	romanticism
摩托艇/motuoting/	摩托	艇(boat)	motor boat
贝雷帽/beileimao/	贝雷	帽(cap)	beret
驳船/bochuan/	驳	船(boat)	barge
大丽花/dalihua/	大丽	花(flower)	dalia
可兰经/kelanjing/	可兰	经(classic)	Koran
来复枪/lai fuqiang/	来复	枪(gun)	rifle
毛瑟枪/maoseqiang/	毛瑟	枪(gun)	mauser

香槟酒/xiangbinjiu/	香槟	酒(wine)	Champagne
百倍虫/baibeichong/	百倍	虫(insect)	babesia
大笨钟/dabenzhong/	笨	大(big)-钟(clock)	Big Ben

3.6.4 Self-created new semantic loanwords by Chinese loanwords

English	
报纸/baozhi/	newspaper
财政/caizheng/	public finance
化学/huaxue/	chemistry

This kind of loanwords is totally localized. It is very difficult to recognized whether or not they are borrowed from donor language. But if we find the documents that can show the translation process of this kind of words from the donor language, we have to confirm that they are really loanwords.

3.6.5 New loanwords using ancient Chinese words

Loan words	English
大使/dashi/	ambassador

The original meaning of “大使”is diplomatic envoy. It comes from“毋以割地，行大使 [Don't cede territory, please envoy the ambassador]”（《礼记》）.

法官/faguan/	judge
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The original meaning of “法官”is judge. It comes from“吏民欲知法令者，皆问法官[If the officer and people want to know the law, they ask the judge.]”（《尚君书》）.

公园/gongyuan/	park
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The original meaning of “公园” is official garden,. It comes from “减公园之地以给无业贫口[to give the land of park to the poor people.]”（《魏书》）.

3.7 Summary

- In modern Chinese, there are few phonemic loanwords (most of them are from Mongol and Manchu languages). The semantic loanwords became the main trend for translation of loanwords.
- The semantic loanwords are easy to learn and to memorize, so they can accept by Chinese people and be popularized in the Chinese people. The semantic loanwords are very good approach for localization of loanwords.
- A lot of semantic loanwords in this period were imported to China through Japanese translation. Because the Chinese characters of these semantic loanwords are same between Japanese and Chinese. So these semantic loanwords are very easy to be accepted by Chinese. Therefore Japanese helped Chinese to accelerate the localization of loanwords.
- In this period, some phonemic & semantic amalgamation loanwords appeared, this kind of loanword basically is phonemic loanword, but it is very easy to be associated with the correspondent meaning. It shows that even the phonemic loanwords also try to express the meaning.

- The phonemic loanword is suitable for globalization, and the semantic loanword is suitable for localization. This conclusion will be useful for the government to decide the principle of standardization of loanword in the language.

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