

Preface

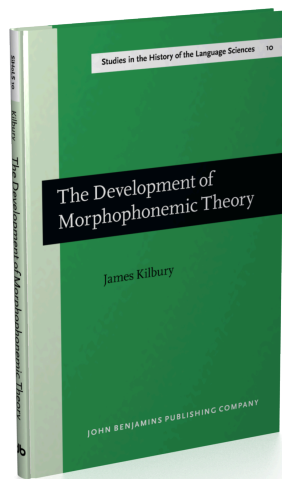
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Pages v–vi of
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James Kilbury
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PREFACE

This book is a revised version of my doctoral dissertation submitted to Cornell University in 1974. I am indebted to F. C. van Coetsem and L. R. Waugh for their detailed comments on the dissertation, but above all I wish to acknowledge the help I received from C. F. Hockett, who directed my graduate studies. Further thanks go to E. F. K. Koerner, the editor of this series, for bringing the book to publication. The sole responsibility for the contents is mine, however; this is especially important in regard to Hockett, since a considerable number of the opinions expressed here differ from his own.

Morphophonemics clearly is a highly controversial area of linguistics, and I have tried to be fair in presenting opposing viewpoints. To a great extent I have avoided the overt expression of my own judgements but have attempted to show them through the arrangement and selection of material. Most of all I hope that readers will find this to be a *useful* book.

My article in *Lingua* 33.235-52 (1974) is entirely superseded by this work.

Graz, 11 July 1976

J. K.

Grammarians are infatuated with the desire to multiply rationalizations. If they were to establish grammatical rules based on accurate data, instead of rationalizations, it would be much more profitable and worthwhile. But for the most part what have we read? Rationalizations of individual rules, contradictions, disputes, mutual refutations, unilateral revisions of definitions . . .—all this occasions in us disgust inasmuch as nothing of scientific value comes to hand.

Abū Ḥayyān (1256-1344)

(quoted in Glazer 1942:108)