

Re: Related languages (Re: A China–Sumer connection)

Source: <http://sci.tech–archive.net/Archive/sci.anthropology/2005–03/1490.html>

From: Richard Herring (*junk_at_[127.0.0.1]*)

Date: 03/24/05

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In message <rMx0e.3278\$H06.2989@newsread3.news.pas.earthlink.net>, Comm
<no@spam.com> writes

>

><phippmartin@hotmail.com> wrote in message

>news:1111640265.515654.194990@l41g2000cwc.googlegroups.com...

>>

>> *Yes, BUT when I was studying Mandarin Chinese the teacher made the*

>> *comment that if you trace back the pronunciation of words in Chinese*

>> *(presumably if you found ancient rhyming dictionaries?) then you will*

>> *find that words used in Vietnamese to mean the same thing are, in fact,*

>> *the same word. He went so far as to speculate that Vietnamese sounds*

>> *more like ancient Chinese than modern Chinese does*

>

>*I'd believe a Chinese language instructor over a western linguist.*

>

Why? Competence in teaching Mandarin doesn't mean he knows the first
thing about Vietnamese, or about comparative linguistics.

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Richard Herring