A SEMANTIC STUDY OF THE VERBS OF DOING AND MAKING IN THE INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES. A DISSERTATION

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A semantic study of the verbs of doing and making in the Indo-European languages. A dissertation by $\,$ Ghen-ichiro Yoshioka

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GHEN-ICHIRO YOSHIOKA

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The University of Chicago

POUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

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A DISSERTATION

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND LITERATURE IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

(DEPARTMENT OF SANSKRIT AND INDO-EUROPEAN COMPARATIVE PHILOLOGY)

GEN-ICHIRO YOSHIOKA

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INTRODUCTION.

That such a vague, general notion as that of 'do' or 'make' is secondary and rests upon some more specific force, is an assumption demanded by all psychological probability and fully confirmed by linguistic evidence. The purpose of this dissertation is to show what are the various specific forces from which come the verbs of doing and making in the Indo-European languages. Attention is given primarily to the commonest words of this kind in the several languages,-those which are the usual equivalents of English do or make; and it is hoped that none of these has been overlooked. But words in which such a general meaning is only occasional, the more specific sense being commonly preserved, as well as words which, though not verbs of doing and making in the strictest sense, come very near to this meaning, are equally instructive as showing the possibilities of development in this direction; and many of these have been considered. In this regard, however, it is obviously impossible to aim at completeness, which could be attained only in a study devoted to a single language.

Verbs of doing and making are treated together for the simple reason that it is impossible to keep them apart. It is true that the distinction which exists in English, where do refers to an action per se, while make contains the notion of result, is common to many languages; but the line of demarcation is a vague one, and never quite the same even in languages which have precisely the same pair of words as German and English. Compare Was macht er? = What is he doing?

In gathering the material, I have used in the first instance the grammars and lexicons which are accessible to me. But