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Pars II

Summaria acroasium in sectionibus et symposiis factarum

Redegit

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3. The fate of the variants will be followed through the history of written Estonian and standardization, in the course of which only longer one (*-nud*) became sanctioned.

4. In speech the alternation has survived until the present moment. I will point out the causes of the variation that proved to be statistically significant (stress conditions, parameters of the speech situation, social background of the speaker, etc.); the results were arrived at the basis of my own recordings of everyday speech.

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THE TERMINOLOGY OF WEAVING AS A SOURCE OF STUDYING THE MORDOVIANS

Studying of the weaving terminology (like of another terminology, for instance, fishing or bee-keeping) is an important source of studying the Mordovian nation. Thus, in the Mordovian terminology of weaving there are terms going back to the Ural parent language and being the most ancient. They are: mord. *ponams* 'to lay rope, to weave, to spin' compare: finn. *puno-*, est. *pumi-* 'to twist thread', lapp. *bådne-*, *ponna-*, tscher. *pñe-*, *pune-*, wotj. *pun-*, syrj. *pjn-*, ostj. *ponäl-*, wog. *pon*, 'to twine, to twist'; ung. *fon-*, sam.: jur. *pañkāl-*. Some terms of weaving are characteristic only for the Finno-Ugric period, for instance: mord. *lijems: kotf* 'to put the warp for fabric', compare: finn. *luo-* 'create, make', est. *loo-* 'to produce, to create', lapp. *lagñi-* 'to raise', tscher. *lonya-*, 'to winnow', syrj. *lęd-* 'to throw out, to turn smb. out of doors', *lud-* 'to pour in', ung. *lóg-* 'to dangle'. In the Mordovian languages there is a terminology layer which is derived from Finno-Volgaic period, for instance: M. *šovar*, E. *čovar* 'a mortar for processing fibre, flax, hemp', compare: finn. *huhmar*, kar. *huumar*, est. *uhmer*, tscher. *šuer*, *šiar*.

The following terms go back to the period

of independent development of the common language for both Moksha and Erza: M. *kajama*, E. *kajamo* 'shuttle'; M. *vel'amat*, E. *vel'amot*. The youngest layer of weaving terminology had been set in the period of independent separate development of the Moksha and Erza.

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SUBJECTIVE ESTIMATION AND POSSESSIVITY IN UDMURT NOUNS

1. Though there is a certain list of subjective estimation, it is difficult to judge about a special "category of subjective estimation" of the nouns so as: a) each of the suffixes can be characterized by only a little bit regularity, and b) lexico-semantic circle of the nouns which can combine with those suffixes is very limited.

2) There are also some limitations in the meaning sphere of these suffixes: as a rule they express endearment (*njl-i* 'little daughter', *anĭ-kaj* 'mammy' etc.); some other meanings are not highly developed, for example: a) the diminutive meaning manifests itself only in a certain situation or context; b) pejorative suffixes are of the late origin and they are not very productive; c) an augmentative meaning of the nouns is not expressed by means of suffixes. And it seems it is not very possible to use terms *diminutive-affectionate* or *diminutive* as they are used in grammarbooks.

3. These formal and semantic peculiarities of the subjective estimation suffixes are to some extent conditioned by their diachronic development. The matter is in the following factor: the formation of "the category of subjective estimation" in Udmurt took and takes place not on the basis of diminution as it was in Russian, but on the basis of possessivity - belongness to the first person singular: expressing endearment that is what 'belongs me' (what is "mine" that is "dear" to me). And it is not by accident that in modern Udmurt subjective estimation in the field of nouns is closely connected with possession:

suffix, expressing the 1. person singular in the meaning of endearment is very productive, as for the rest of the suffixes expressing endearment of another origin strengthen their meaning in combination with possessive suffixes of the 1. person singular. And it also could be one of the explanations of the absence of ancient augmentative and pejorative suffixes.

4. The same intimate connection of the "category of subjective estimation" with possessivity is well seen to some extent in other Finno-Ugric languages.

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THE SYNTAX OF INFINITE FORMS

My main theme is the infinite forms in northern Saami language based on the syntactical and functional criteria. This is described in such a way since other criteria such as morphological ones do not provide a worthwhile progression. Indeterminacy is a characteristic of infinite forms, from the point of view of semantical as well as syntactical function. The indeterminacy arises from the compactness of infinite clauses, i.e. the lack of specification of tense and modality, the frequent absence of a subject. Therefore infinite clauses are reminiscent of the passive in several respects. Like the passive they are characterized by implicitness, impersonality and therefore characteristic of writing rather than speech. Infinite constructions without overt subordinating elements rely on the receiver's ability to infer logical relations. In spontaneous conversation there is a stronger tendency to signal the logical relation explicitly.

Infinite forms are deverbal forms, and therefore the central question in this investigation is: to what extent do they bear verbal properties.

As a theoretical basis is chosen the theory of the dependency grammar, which is a verb-centric grammar. Here the verbs are semantically and syntactically fully specified. This means that the number of arguments and their syntactic and semantic properties can be

predicted from the verb as the head of a sentence. For example, subjects are dependent of verbs, because verbs govern them.

In infinite forms the general rule is that the subject are removed as in the following sentence:

Mon lean vuordán

NOM I, PRES have, PERF wait

'I have waited'

But we do have example where the controlling verbs also called the matrix verbs can have the agent for infinite forms in accusative:

Mon oidnen su boahhtán

NOM I, PRES see, ACC he, PERF come

'I saw that he has arrived'

Another example is this sentence where the infinite form is subject and still it bears the verbal properties as here the object:

Dalle nogai su heastavuodjin boastta

Then, PAST end, GEN his, NOM horse, GER drive, ACC post

'Then his driving of post with the horse ended'

In addition, I have taken on the task of finding solutions to analytical problems.

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEFINITE CONJUGATION IN MORDVIN

In my paper on the definite conjugation in Mordvin I would first like to give a brief typological survey, then I discuss different views concerning the development of the definite conjugation in Mordvin. I will not mention the syntax of the definite conjugation here.

Mordvin is the language that has the most complicated and complete definite conjugational system of the Uralic languages. Both the number and the person of the definite object can be expressed. So we can find verb forms referring to him, them, you, You, me and us. Definite forms entered the paradigm of the negative auxiliary. 3rd person objects