

SUMMARY

Baranova Vlada. On the origin of new negative forms in Kalmyk.

This paper addresses the issue of shortened form of negative markers in Kalmyk. Mongolic languages have a very elaborate system of negative markers, partly inherited from the Old / Middle Mongolian negation. The current study is based on the field data from the Ketchenerovsky region, Republic of Kalmykia, as well as on two corpora (Kalmyk National Corpus and the National Corpus of Kalmyk Language). It presents a study of negative markers *bišə* and *-šə* and *uga* and *go* respectively. The study shows that there is a distribution of full and constructed version of negative markers. Full forms occur with nouns and in nonverbal predication while affixes are used mainly in verbal sentences. The distribution is also tied to several pragmatic and modal factors, for example, the marker *bišə* is used with future participle ending on *-x* to express the emphatic form with modal meaning, while the contracted form *-šə* with this participle is the neutral way to express negation.

Keywords: Kalmyk, Mongolic languages, negation, negative affixes, frequency

Berezkin Yuri. Samoyed Cosmonymy in Siberian and North American Context.

Data on the cosmonymy of the peoples speaking (mostly Northern) Samoyedic languages are compared with the data on other Siberian and North American traditions. Statistical processing of the complete set of mythological motifs recorded in Siberia as well as tracing of the spread of particular interpretations related to stellar objects and spots on the Moon demonstrate that, for languages belonging to different branches of particular families, similarity between sets of motifs is not higher than that for totally unrelated languages. Such similarities mostly correlate with geographic nearness and shared sets of ethnographic traits. Most of Samoyedic and other Siberian cosmonyms find parallels in the North American North and West (but not further to the South). To be brought there, the corresponding motifs must have been known in Siberia at the time when the last groups of migrants began to move to the New World (terminal Pleistocene – early Holocene). The recognized linguistic reconstructions do not reach so deep. The absence of correlation with the linguistic data is explained by the very fact that sets of motifs contain information on very old and long lasting processes. Because the mythological motifs can be borrowed or lost separately and not as whole sets, it would be unwise to expect such sets to continue to be linked with their languages through the course of millennia. However, the areal sets of motifs preserve unique information on contacts that are remote both in time and in space.

Keywords: Ethnoastronomy, mythology of Siberian peoples, myth and language, settlement of America, statistical methods in humanitarian studies

Dambueva Polina, Normanskaya Yulia. Analysis of the vowels of the first syllable in two Cyrillic-script Buryat written monuments.

The article describes two literary monuments in the Buryat language, written using the Cyrillic alphabet in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It identifies dialect affiliation of the texts, describes short vowels in them in comparison with graphemes in the Proto-Mongolic forms, while using field data on the modern Tunkin dialect of Buryat.

Keywords: Buryat language, Tunkinsky dialect, short vowels, graphemes of the first syllable, reflexes of the Pramongol language, phonetic analysis

Makarov Semen. Yakut Epic Tales: Features of Pragmatics in Poetics.

This paper is dedicated to consideration of traditional functions of oral epic genre. The author analyses it as exemplified in Olonkho — Yakut epic tales. He considers the early records of Yakut epic tales which were made at the end of the XIX century. Their narrative structure, syntax and semantics of their plot provide an opportunity to clarify one of the most possible ways of epic text fulfilling its magical function — through the manifestation of significant case.

Keywords: epos, pragmatics of folklore, oral tradition, worldview, Olonkho (a Yakut epic tale), evidentiality

Muratova Rimma. The Color Term for ‘Yellow’ in the Bashkir Language: Genesis, Development and Lexical-semantic Characteristics.

The article discusses the color terms for yellow in the Bashkir language. The origin of the color's name is considered, its development is investigated against the Common Türkic background, the peculiarities of using color identification in the literary of language and dialects are revealed.

Keywords: color term for yellow, Bashkir language, lexico-semantic meaning of the word.