

SUMMARY

Maria K. Amelina. The nominal declension system of the Western Tundra Nenets dialects in archimandrite Veniamin's (Smirnov's) "Samoyed Grammar" (1st half of the 19th century) in comparison with the modern data

The data on the nominal declension system in the Western dialects of Tundra Nenets, represented in "Samoyed Grammar" ("Samojedische Grammatik") by archimandrite Veniamin (Benjamin) Smirnov, are considered in the paper. "Samoyed Grammar" is a handwritten archival manuscript of the 1st half of the 19th century from the collections of the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg branch). The article consists of four sections. The first section provides general information about Tundra Nenets, its phonological system and dialects, special attention is paid to the distinctive features of the Western Nenets dialects. The second section provides general information about the "Samoyed Grammar" written by archimandrite Veniamin, the history of its creation during the "Samoyed mission" and its graphical system. The third section is devoted to the features of the nominal declension system of the Tundra Nenets literary language, types of nominal stems and grammatical nominal categories; there are tables with the case, number and possessive affixes in Tundra Nenets in this section. The fourth section is a significant part of the paper: it presents paradigmatic tables with nominal declension forms from the archimandrite Veniamin's "Samoyed Grammar", the author compares them with the modern data and highlights the features of the nominal declension system recorded by the missionary in the Western dialects of Tundra Nenets in the 1st half of the 19th century, 36 paradigms are considered.

Keywords: Tundra Nenets, Samoyed languages, archival data, dialectology, nominal morphology, category of case, category of number, noun, adjective, numeral

Marina V. Kutsaeva. Language biographies of the Maris of the Moscow region — the natives of the areas where the Meadow Mari language is spoken in the Republic of Mari El

The article deals with the results of one of the aspects of the sociolinguistic survey conducted by the author in the Mari diaspora of the Moscow region. The aim of the survey was to describe the functioning of an ethnic language in the internal diaspora. The actual use of the ethnic language in the conditions of diasporic residence is determined, among other things, by the previous language experience of the respondents in their small homeland.

The periods and the most common features of the respondents' language biographies to be highlighted include intra-family communication, preschool education, school education (the language of instruction and the subject of instruction), further education, channels for learning Mari and Russian, as well as possible difficulties in mastering these languages, interactions with neighbours in the small homeland.

The reconstruction of language biographies makes it possible to identify different ways of acquiring the ethnic language by the respondents. In addition, language biographies are not only a reflection, but also a consequence of the general trends of language policies implemented in the Soviet and post-Soviet period, in particular, on the territory of Mari ethnic group settlement.

Due to the strong diasporization of Mari people living both in the Republic of Mari El and in places of compact settlement within other territorial-administrative entities (for example, in the Republics of Bashkortostan and Tatarstan, Kirov and Sverdlovsk regions in the sampling), the general language situation with the Mari language in a certain period varies depending on the respondents' place of residence.

The present article is devoted to the analysis of the language biographies of respondents, natives of the areas where the Meadow Mari language is spoken in the Republic of Mari El.

Keywords: internal diaspora, Mari language, Mari-Russian bilingualism, language policy in education, family language policy

Natalia M. Stoynova. Grammatical system before and under language shift: future tense forms in Ulcha

In this paper, I discuss the system of future tense forms in Ulcha (Tungusic) in a language shift perspective. In Ulcha, the future semantic domain is covered by three main forms, i.e. two dedicated future tense forms and a present tense form. The first objective of the paper is to reconstruct the initial system of forms with reference to future (i. e. the system attested before the language shift). Based on data from early

texts, I describe their distribution and competition within the future semantic domain. Three main forms compete in this domain. These are present forms, which are actively used in Ulcha both with reference to present and with reference to future, and two dedicated future tense forms. Both forms have additional modal semantic nuances. What is especially important for this study is that these forms are chosen on different grounds, therefore the range of contexts in which both forms are acceptable is quite wide. The second objective is to analyze how the use of future tense forms changes in a situation of language shift. This part of the study is based on comparative textual data (those coming from early archive texts and those coming from our recent field recordings), as well as on elicited data received from contemporary speakers. As expected, the frequency of non-specialized (present) forms increases, while the frequency of dedicated future tense forms becomes lower. At the same time, contrary to expectations, no notable semantic changes take place. Dedicated future tense forms are used by contemporary speakers more rarely, but exactly in the same contexts as before the language shift. I also consider a related morphological topic, i.e. regularization of the person-number paradigm in one of the future forms. The morphological data show a similar picture: the regularization process is indeed attested in the modern Ulcha speech. However, this process appears to have started before the language shift.

Keywords: Tungusic languages, Ulcha, TAM categories, future tense, language shift, language attrition