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The Independent Partitive as an Eastern Circum-Baltic isogloss

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Abstract

The paper claims that the independent partitive case in Finnic languages and the independent partitive genitive (henceforth: ip(g)) show considerable correlations that cannot be accounted for but by language contact. Gi

and East Slavic as well as the ip(g) in Finnic are inherited from the respective proto-languages, the paper also discusses how inherited categories may also be shown to be subject to language contact. A typologically rich and individualized on the basis of a list of properties. Thus, 13 semantic and 5 morphosyntactic properties have been identified. This reveals that in general the ip(g) is or was subject to intensive language contact, there is no common hotbed for different properties have different hotbeds and are distinct with respect to their geographical distribution across Russian and Finnic show the greatest degree of correspondence as, e.g., the aspectuality related functions of the distinction between the possession (sensu lato) and the partitive-related functions are concerned. Here, Finnic. However, other properties such as the semantic and syntactic merger of the acc and ip(g) marking must have developed, and, to some extent, Baltic. Similarly, the genitive/partitive-under-negation probably developed first in Baltic and into Finnic, since preconditions for this rule are already found in the ancient Indo-European languages. Finnic is the best.

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