

Altaic elements in Yeniseian

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Abstract

The lecture presents a short version of the author's monograph published recently (Khabtagaeva 2019). It will discuss phonetic, morphological and semantic features of the Turkic, Mongolic and Tungusic elements in Yeniseian languages (Kott, Assan, Arin, Pumpokol, Yugh and Ket), a rather heterogeneous language family traditionally classified as one of the 'Paleo-Siberian' language groups, that are not related to each other or to any other languages on the face of the planet.

The presentation will consider the main outcomes of research as the establishing of the Yeniseian peculiar features in the Turkic loanwords. The phonetic criteria comprise the regular disappearance of vowel harmony, syncope, amalgamation, aphaeresis and metathesis. Besides, a separate group of lexemes represents hybrid words, i.e. the lexical elements where one element is Altaic and the other one is Yeniseian. Morphologically, the big number of loanwords adopted the Yeniseian plural, collective suffixes or nominalizer forms.

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