

The structure of declension in Finnish psalm translations from the 16th and 17th centuries I.

The current research focuses on the system of locative cases in Finnish psalm translations from the 16th and 17th centuries. The corpus consists of four works: the *Davidin Psaltarit* by Mikael Agricola; Jaakko Finno's *Yksi wähä rucous kiria*; Hemminki Maskulainen's *Yxi Wähä Suomenkielinen Wirsikirja* and the *Biblia, Se on: Coco Pyhä Raamattu Suomexi* by the Bible translation committee headed by Eskil Petraeus. For ease of comparison, only the psalms included in each of the four translations have been used. These are Psalms 1, 2, 15, 20, 23, 46, 51, 67, 82, 103, 110, 120, 124, 127, 128, 130 and 147.

There are six locative cases in Finnish: elative, inessive, illative, ablative, adessive, allative. The study has found that the main differences from the present system are orthographic (e.g. *lt* > *ld*) and grammatical (Fi. *loppuheitto*). In addition, the archaic forms *-llen/-len* have been found in all four translations of the allative. However, their proportion had decreased towards the 1642 Bible.

The system of each author has been arranged in charts for ease of reference. The study concludes with a summary chart showing the entire locative case system.

Keywords: Bible translation, Mikael Agricola, Jaakko Finno, Hemminki Maskulainen, Eskil Petraeus, elative, inessive, illative, ablative, adessive, allative

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