

Definitely?

On the function of the North Khanty word *in*

The paper aims to point out the importance of an element of the North Khanty language, namely that of *in* (1. 'now', 2. 'this') expressing definiteness. Its role has been recognized in the literature but, on the basis of earlier texts, it has not been considered too significant.

This marker of definiteness is analysed in the text of a Kazym Khanty folk tale. This genre offers the possibility of comparing various ways of expressing the very same content, and it is generally rich in anaphoric relations as well.

In the North Khanty language, there are several markers of definiteness. The word *in* is examined in relation to other such markers. In terms of numbers, its importance can be measured in terms of the use of possessive suffixes, which have undoubtedly been the most important markers of definiteness in Khanty. However, concerning the rules for marking or not marking definiteness, they cannot be deduced from this text.

As this folktale as a corpus allows only a limited study of the issue, I plan to return to this research topic in further texts.

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MÁRIA SIPOS