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Review of: A Grammar of Kwaza

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Languages and prehistory of central Siberia. Ed. by EDWARD J. VAJDA. (Current issues in linguistic theory 262.) Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 2004. Pp. ix, 275. ISBN 1588116204. \$126 (Hb).

Volga German by birth and dialectologist by training, Andreas Dulson (1900–1973) first established his reputation as an expert on the German dialects spoken in Russia. Exiled to Siberia in 1941, he developed an interest in the origins and ancient migrations of the area's autochthonous inhabitants. In Tomsk he founded a vibrant school of Siberian studies that flourishes to this day. In deciphering aboriginal prehistory, Dulson considered a wide variety of data from historical documents, archeological digs, ethnography, substrate toponyms, and especially the local languages. This multidisciplinary approach to ethnogenesis is now widely followed.

Dulson's varied accomplishments find perfect resonance in this volume, edited by the well-known Siberianist Edward Vajda and dedicated to the centenary of the scholar's birth. The breadth of Dulson's interests is nicely complemented by sections on Yeniseic (Ket), Selkup, and South Siberian Turkic (mainly Khakas and Chulym), and finally by a section on archeological perspectives on the linguistic origins of these peoples. Most articles were written originally in Russian by Dulson's students and translated by the editor.

In the years before his death in 1973, Dulson studied archeology, history, toponymy, and especially Ket language structure. The editor's foreword briefly discusses the scholar's life and career (vii–viii), about which more can be found in Erica Becker's *Prof.-Dr. Andreas Dulson (1900–1973): Sein Leben und Werk in Erinnerungen seiner Schüler* (Hamburg: Ural-Altaic Society, 1999). A full annotated bibliography of his publications appeared in Vajda's *Yeniseian peoples and languages* (Surrey: Curzon Press, 2001).

Dulson's study of substrate river names led him to document the surviving dialects of Ket. He was the first scholar to grasp the key importance of Yeniseic languages in the overall picture of Siberian prehistory. Among the better-known families of Eurasia today, Ket is an isolated ethno-linguistic island. Unlocking the origins of the Yeniseic-speaking peoples holds special significance for Inner Asian prehistory and perhaps for world history more generally.

The sixteen contributing articles address synchronic and diachronic problems in Yeniseic, Samoyedic, and Turkic, including number systems, plural formation, noun incorporation, allomorphy, morphological reanalysis, loanwords, and spiritual terminology. Three discuss revelations from archeology about the linguistic identity of prehistoric Siberian peoples.

It is unfortunate that no article deals specifically with toponyms, though several do reference Dulson's findings on the Ket etymologies of river names.

The editor's interest in Dulson's life and work is not coincidental, since he himself has been studying many of the same problems intensively for several years (see Vajda's *Ket*, Munich: LINCOM Europa, 2004). Among the contributors, one should also mention GREGORY ANDERSON, whose masterful introduction (1–119) provides the first modern overview in English of genetic and areal linguistic interrelations in this part of the world. Also noteworthy are two articles by Gregory Anderson and DAVID HARRISON on Chulym Turkic, which Dulson first identified as a separate linguistic entity in the 1950s but which had hitherto been studied rather little.

This volume holds particular value for anyone interested in the aboriginal languages of central Siberia. For the history of linguistics as a discipline, it is significant for bringing international attention to the legacy of Andreas Dulson. [HEINRICH WERNER, *Bonn University*.]

A grammar of Kwaza. By HEIN VAN DER VOORT. (Mouton grammar library 29.) Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, 2004. Pp. xxxviii, 1,026. ISBN 3110178699. \$207 (Hb).

The 'Mouton grammar library' series has now grown to over thirty volumes, which together offer original descriptions of a diverse collection of languages, many previously lacking any similarly authoritative treatment. This fundamental account of Kwaza, an unclassified language spoken by twenty-five people in a remote area of Brazil's state of Rondônia, makes a superb addition in every way. Based primarily on the author's extensive fieldwork from 1995 to 2002, it contains a thorough analysis of all aspects of the phonology, morphology, and syntax. It also provides useful commentary on varied aspects of the speakers' culture and history, likewise hitherto barely remarked upon in any publication. Before the author's work, documentation of this critically endangered language was limited to three brief word lists compiled in 1938, 1943, and 1984—data the author carefully takes into account (28–44). Kwaza is the speakers' self-designation. In previous literature, the language was usually referred to as Koaia.

Elements of Kwaza linguistic structure of potential interest to general typologists or anyone hoping to clarify the history of areal contact and genetic affiliation among Amazonian languages are too numerous to cover here. One feature deserving of special mention is the elaborate system of classifiers (128–80) that figures importantly in deverbal nominalization, anaphoric reference, and argument incorporation.

These morphemes are also pivotal to understanding how demonstratives and numerals are used, and therefore are discussed first. In general, the author's sequential presentation of topics thoughtfully reflects the language's own system-internal logic instead of following a stereotyped ordering.

The sections on subordination and coordination techniques are particularly detailed (605–714). The chapter on verb phrase structure (243–484) contains a wealth of examples providing a clear picture of the complex system of tense-mood-aspect marking, person cross-reference, and valence-changing derivation. The general thoroughness of this grammar is also attested by the presence of separate sections on such topics as intonation (74–75), color terms (716–18), ideophones (734–38), kinship terms and brother-sister terminology (720–24), children's language (715), and even vocabulary used for naming dogs (732–33). To produce over a thousand pages of meticulous description of a previously undocumented language isolate that was listed as 'possibly extinct' as recently as 1997 (Lyle Campbell, *American Indian languages*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, p. 198) is an impressive achievement. This volume poignantly attests to the fine work that can and should be done in recording the world's disappearing languages.

In addition to its masterful description of the grammar, this book contains an important collection of lexical and folkloric data. There is an extensive Kwaza/English dictionary (815–967) explaining numerous unique terms for local plants, animals, and cultural realia. Many entries offer possible etymologies for select morphemes. A briefer English/Kwaza word list follows (968–96). There is also a large collection of original native texts and traditional songs (739–816). Five tales and six songs are recorded on a CD affixed to the inside back cover. The inclusion of audio recordings is a highly welcome feature, and one that perhaps should become standard for all volumes of this series. [EDWARD J. VAJDA, *Western Washington University/Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology*.]

Syntactic variation in English quantified noun phrases with *all*, *whole*, *both* and *half*. By MARIA ESTLING VAN-NESTÅL. Växjö, Sweden: Växjö University Press, 2004. Pp. 234. ISBN 9176364062.

Much work has been done on the syntax and semantics of quantifiers in English. In contrast, we know relatively little about how English quantifiers are used, in particular, what influences the variation between quantified NPs that have basically the same

meaning. This book, which is the author's dissertation from Växjö University, is a corpus study of variation of quantified NPs that contain one of the four quantifiers: *all*, *whole*, *both*, and *half*. Four variation patterns are investigated: (i) presence or absence of *of*, for example, *all the children* vs. *all of the children*; (ii) presence or absence of *the*, for example, *both books* vs. *both (of) the books*; (iii) position of the quantifier, for example, *half an hour* vs. *a half hour*; and (iv) alternative lexical items, for example, *all the book* vs. *the whole book*.

After the introduction (Ch. 1), Ch. 2 reviews the study of syntactic variation in English, which serves as a frame for the present study. Ch. 3 gives an overview of English NPs, in particular, the four quantifiers that are the focus of the study. Both syntactic and semantic properties are described. Ch. 4 introduces the corpus material used in the study. The spoken data comes from two sources—the Longman Spoken American Corpus and the British National Corpus; the written data comes from three newspaper corpora—*The New York Times* (American English), *The Independent* (British English), and *The Sydney Morning Herald* (Australian English).

Chs. 5 to 7 present the results of the study. Ch. 5 reports the overall frequency distribution of variants. In most cases one variant is predominant. For example, among NPs with *all/whole*, a determiner, and a mass N, 93% of the tokens are in the form *all* + det + mass N, for example, *all the action*, and only 5% have the form *all of* + det + mass N, for example, *all of this stuff*.

Ch. 6 considers two nonlinguistic factors that affect the variation: region and medium. The former is found to play a significant role in the variation, but not the latter. Thus the presence of *of* is more frequent in American English than in British English. Further, Australian English is positioned between the other two varieties.

Ch. 7 examines linguistic factors that affect the variation. Several factors are involved, including type of determiner, properties of the NP head, presence of certain elements (e.g. modifiers and focus markers) in the NP, and syntactic function of the NP. Many correlations are presented. For instance, when an NP includes a singular count N and a definite article, *whole* is used overwhelmingly (e.g. *the whole question*), as opposed to *all*, *all of*, and *whole of*.

Ch. 8 concludes the study by looking at each variable and ranking all of the factors that are significant in the choice of variant. The choice between *all* (92%) and *all of* (8%), for example, in NPs with *all*, determiner, and plural N, is influenced by five factors: an adjacent *of*, syntactic function of the NP, region, presence of a modifier, and presence of a focus marker.

The book is clearly written. It should be useful to anyone interested in the use of quantifiers, syntactic