Reflexives in Khwarshi

The aim of this paper is to give an overview of the reflexive system in Khwarshi, a Dagestanian language. The main function of reflexives is to mark coreferentiality. The reflexive meaning can be expressed by several means.

The reflexive meaning can be expressed by a pronoun with an emphatic particle -č. This particle can be added not only to simple pronouns to form reflexives but also to compound forms (see below).

(1) Uža-l žu-č mat'u-lø-ak'-i boy/OBL-LAT he-EMPH mirror-INTER G1-see-PST:W 'The boy saw himself in the mirror.'

The second way to convey reflexive meaning is achieved by compounding, namely reduplication of the pronominal form. The reduplicated form consists of, in first position, the ordinary pronoun in the ergative case and, in second position, the ordinary pronoun in the case appropriate to the noun phrase's syntactic or semantic role in the clause (ex.2).

The emphatic particle is used obligatorily with the compound reflexive when it is in the absolutive case (ex.3).

- (2) Kul-un išet'i iłe iłe-s kad mayul throw-PST:UW mother/ERG she/ERG she/OBL-GEN1 girl outside 'The mother threw out her own daughter [...].' [orphan.022]
- (3) Aħmad-i ise žu-č ø-uwox-i
 Ahmed-ERG he/ERG he/ABS-EMPH G1-kill-PST:W
 'Ahmed killed himself.'

In this work I will study such issues as the distance between the antecedent and the reflexive and also the status of the antecedent.

Glossing:

ABS – Absolutive, EMPH – Emphatic, G – Gender, LAT – Lative, OBL – Oblique, POT – Potential, PST:UW – Past Unwitnessed

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