

A photograph of two women sitting at a wooden desk in a library or study area. They are looking at a laptop. The woman on the left is wearing a red patterned shawl, and the woman on the right is wearing a dark blue jacket and glasses. In the background, there are bookshelves filled with books and a large window. A green plant is visible on the right side of the frame.

Wikipedia in Mansi?

Internet in the Service of Endangered Languages

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Content

1. Overview
2. Demographics
3. Mansi before 1991
4. Mansi after 1991
5. Languages on Internet
 - #1 Yupik
 - #2 Udmurt
 - #3 Mansi
6. With a native's eyes
7. With a linguist's eyes
8. Conclusion



Overview

Key question: How do new technologies, above all the Internet, affect the efficiency of language revitalisation attempts?

Double point of view: benefits for speakers' communities and linguistic researchers

Material collected during

- fieldwork (2006-2009)
participating observation, interviews
- online observation (2007 -)



Demographics

	Population	Number of speakers
1989	8474	3135
2002	11 432	2746
2010	12 269	938

Domains of language use:

- legislation, public service
- media, education
- family, private sphere
- (- religion?)

Urbanisation

	Population (%)
1989	45,6
2002	51,8%
2010	57,3

- change in lifestyle
- multicultural society
multiethnic families



Mansi before 1991

- alphabet (1936)
written standard
- textbooks for primary school
submersion programs, boarding schools
- higher education (in Leningrad)
- neologisms
- supporting ethnic celebrities
- Russification

Mansi after 1991

- newspaper
- higher education (in Khanty-Mansiysk)
- civil activity: ethnic organisations
- political activity: ethnic MPs in local Duma
- international attention
- language revitalisation:
 - educational institutes, language nest
 - online activity





Internet and endangered languages

Percentage of online content in English:

1997	82%
2001	45%
2010	39%

In 2006 about 1 billion people had regular internet access

In 2006 about 1500 languages were used to create online content

„The Internet may as yet have had only a limited role in fostering language change, but it has already played a major role in fostering language presence.”

(Crystal 2011)

Languages on Internet #1 (Yupik)

"Yupiit Nation" Movement

- 1983: Akiachak, Akiak, Tuluksak villages
- 1988: 19 more villages joined
- Declaration of autonomy, political activity
- Main goal: to gain more control over education
- 1998: the movement was "banned"



Yupiit School District + Oral History Program
Yupiit School District Project Jukebox
3 schools with appr. 450 students

Languages on Internet #2 (Udmurt)

- Modern, popular online content
 - comics, blogs, videos, films
 - memes, posters
- Community sites
 - forming communities
 - creating interface
- Online encyclopaedia
 - 3080 articles, 7275 projects



Languages on Internet #3 (Mansi)

Web2.0: new, free
linguistic domain

Following the example of
other minority nations
of the Russian
Federation

- forming ethnical
representative groups
(e.g. rock bands, theatre)
- private and micro-communal
use of community sites



With a native's eyes

The presence of Mansi language on Internet

- attracts the youngest generation
- proves that Mansi language is suitable to fulfil the linguistic needs of a 21st-century speaker
- makes Mansi more popular

thus

- raises the number of youngsters of Mansi heritage who are willing to learn and use Mansi language in everyday life



With a linguist's eyes

The presence of the Mansi language on Internet creates

- new language variety
- utterances completely different from the formerly known folkloric or literary corpora

thus opens new fields for

- previously unavailable methods (e.g. DA)
- sociolinguistic research (e.g. mapping social networks)





Conclusion

The research of Mansi variety and activity on the Internet

- is a totally new and unmapped field of research
- requires interaction and cooperation between researchers and the speakers' community
- provides the capability of interaction between speakers' communities
- provides new linguistic and sociolinguistic material
- provides a broader perspective of research

Finno-Ugric languages in RF

Arctic indigenous languages

Wikipedia – in Mansi?



Main page
List of wikis
Community portal
All recent changes
Help
Manual
Donate

Language select

English

Select

Navigation

Main page
Recent changes
Random page

Toolbox

In other languages

Azerbaycanca
Авар
Башҡортса
Буряад
Нохчийн
Qırımtatarca
Словѣньскъ /
Словѣньскъ /

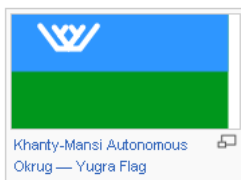
Page Discussion

Read Edit View h

You can now link to your test wiki using the normal URL: xyz.wikipedia.org -> incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wx/xyz (if the language is [listed here](#))

Wp/mns/Main Page

< Wp | mns



Добро пожаловать в мансийскую (Mansi language) Википедию!

Эта серия страниц для тестирования Википедии на мансийском языке. Ваш вклад в создание мансийской Википедии будет высоко оценен. Просьба о создании мансийской Википедии будет утверждена, когда будет достаточно содержательных статей. Когда она будет одобрена, всё здесь содержание будет перенесено в фактическую Википедию. [Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug — Yugra](#)

Поскольку это тест-википедия, все статьи здесь необходимо начать с формата **Wp/mns/Название статьи**. Например, статья о Маньси/Моаньсь — «Мансийский язык» — должна называться здесь как **Wp/mns/Маньси/Моаньсь**. (Конечно, в фактической Википедии, статья будет с названием, как **Маньси/Моаньсь**.) [Mansi people](#)

Участникам, владеющим мансийском языком, предлагается создать столько высшего качества статей, насколько это возможно.

Это главная страница мансийской тестовой Википедии.

2 Mansi articles.

[All pages of Mansi Wikipedia](#)

[All categories of Mansi Wikipedia](#)

[Все страницы Википедии в Мансийском](#)

Создать новую страницу:

Wp/mns/

Create page



Thank you for your attention!

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Data of Russian Federal Census 2010

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http://www.perepis-2010.ru/results_of_the_census/tab5.xls
- Городское и сельское население по субъектам Российской Федерации (Distribution of rural and urban population according to administrative subjects of RF) http://www.perepis-2010.ru/results_of_the_census/tab1.xls
- Население Российской Федерации по владению языками (Distribution of population of RF according to language use)
http://www.perepis-2010.ru/results_of_the_census/tab6.xls