Ugrische Präverbien am Beispiel obugrischer Fortbewegungsverben sowie einiger Nicht-Fortbewegungsverben

Ugric Preverbs Using the Example of Ob-Ugrian Verbs of Motion as well as some Non-Motion Verbs

Marianne Zehetmaier, March 2010

The master's thesis deals with the semantics of Ob-Ugric preverbs. The Ob-Ugric languages Kazym Khanty and Northern Mansi are spoken in Western Siberia. Together with Hungarian they form the Ugric branch of the Uralic language family.

The paper discusses the question whether or not there are any differences between Hungarian on the one hand and the Ob-Ugric languages on the other hand as regards preverbs. It is assumed that there has been a certain semantic development with regard to preverbs within the Ugric languages and that this development is most advanced in Hungarian. Additionally, it is assumed that the original meaning of preverbs was a local one. In order to be able to deal with these questions the altered meaning of Khanty and Mansi verbs of movement in connection with preverbs is demonstrated (e.g. Kazym Khanty *wŭti-kĭAti* 'climb the shore' < kĭAti 'stand up, rise'). For this purpose Steinitz's *Dialektologisches etymologisches Wörterbuch der ostjakischen Sprache* (DEWOS, 1966-1970), Munkácsi's *Wogulisches Wörterbuch* (1986), Zsirai's *Az obi-ugor igekötők* (1933) as well as Rédei's *Nordostjakische Texte (Kazymer Dialekt) mit Skizze der Grammatik* (1968) were worked through or consulted for example sentences.

In the process of writing the paper it turns out that the function of preverbs now surpasses the role of a mere directional element in all of the three languages discussed. The analysis shows that verbal prefixation can change the aktionsart of a verb or can act as a perfectivizer in the Ugric languages. Thus, preverbs not only attach to verbs of movement, e.g. Northern Mansi *topsi* 'dry, decrease' versus χot -topsi 'dry out, become dry', Kazym Khanty $j \delta \chi \partial - \Lambda eti$ 'eat up' < Λeti 'eat'. Documented examples for this conclusion are analyzed in the paper.

It can also be noted that Kazym Khanty has the lowest number of preverbs of the Ugric languages. Moreover, even in connection with other verbs than verbs of movement they mostly retain their directional meaning. Nevertheless, perfectivization or the alternation of the meaning of a verb by means of preverbs (e.g. Kazym Khanty $\breve{a}\Lambda$ -pariti 'break' < pariti 'fly around') can also be found. The hypothesis can be confirmed that Hungarian features a more advanced stage of development with its variety of very productive preverbs whose originally local meaning is often already obscured. Apart from number and function of the preverbs there are differences between Ob-ugric languages regarding the much freer positioning of Mansi preverbs in a sentence.

The paper concludes with overview tables with Kazym Khanty, Northern Mansi and Hungarian verbs of movement as well as their possible combinations with preverbs which are documented in dictionaries and texts.