Coding of evidentiality in the Permic languages

from a historical and typological point of view

The source of information can be expressed in every language in a given way, thus two main types of evidentiality can be distinguished, lexical and grammatical. Evidentiality can be a grammatical category in a language only if that language expresses the source of the information by grammatical markers, for example affixes, auxiliary verbs or particles (Havas 2015).

We can say that in Udmurt, Komi-Zyryan and Komi-Permyak evidentiality is a grammatical category, because a grammaticalized form exists to express evidentials. The evidential markers are included in the tense system, the languages use the 2nd past for the expression of the source of information. However grammatical evidentiality in Uralic languages has not been an inherited feature from Proto-Uralic or Proto-Finno-Ugric, these languages share their properties in the case of the evidentiality system, not only in the types of coding but its evidential values as well. (Skribnik – Kehayov 2018).

It is a question still today that evidentiality to these languages from where and in what way has appeared. According to some linguists evidentiality in the Permic languages is due to the neighborhood of the Turkic languages, as well as in Mari (Aikhenvald 2005; Bereczki 2003).

This has not been accepted by all researchers. Serebrennikov suggests that evidential values are language-internal innovations in the Permic languages, and the neighboring of the Turkic languages was only a support to its stability (Serebrennikov 1963).

The present paper aims at expressing the similarities and differences in the phenomenon of evidentiality in the Permic languages, while trying to set their coding of evidentiality against the one can be observed in Turkic languages. The presentation will discuss also the results of my survey about the mentioned problem of the historical part of evidentiality will be carried out during spring of 2020.

Aikhenvald, Alexandra Y. 2005. Evidentiality. Oxford University Press, USA.

Bereczki Gábor 1998. *A Volga-Káma-vidék nyelveinek areális kapcsolatai*. In: Urálisztikai Tanulmányok 8. Ünnepi könyv Bereczki Gábor 70. születésnapjának tiszteletére. Budapest. Havas Ferenc (ed.) 2015. *Evidencialitás*. In Havas Ferenc – Csepregi Márta – F. Gulyás Nikolett – Németh Szilvia, Az ugor nyelvek tipológiai adatbázisa. Budapest, ELTE Finnugor Tanszék (utdb.elte.hu).

Serebrennikov, В. А. (Серебренников, Б. А.) 1963. *Историческая морфология пермских языков*. Издательство академии наук СССР, Москва.

Skribnik, Elena – Kehayov, Petar 2018. *Evidentials in the Uralic languages*. In: Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald (ed.) Oxford Handbook of Evidentiality. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2018.