

A grammar of Khwarshi

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A Grammar of Khwarshi

van Zaira Khalilova

- 1) Presumably under Russian influence, Khwarshi has developed an additional strategy to encode the instrument argument using the Instrumental case with contact predicates.
- 2) Khwarshi is the only Tsezic language where Andic influence shows on both the lexical and morphological levels.
- 3) A Khwarshi noun can take up to four case suffixes in succession. Thus, Khwarshi has a kind of case compounding or case stacking.
- 4) The trigger for long-distance agreement is the fronted embedded argument.
- 5) Unlike Avar and Andic languages, Tsezic languages do not have demonstrative pronouns with the meaning 'that (one) up there' and 'that (one) down there', reflecting the original lowland homeland of the Tsezic people.
- 6) In Khwarshi, aspectual distinctions are only made by means of periphrastic tenses, whereas past simple tenses do not have such a distinction.
- 7) The ditransitive verb 'to give' in Khwarshi marks the Recipient argument either with the Lative denoting the permanent transfer of possession or with the Apudlative denoting the temporary transfer of possession.
- 8) Daghestan is the country of mountains and the mountain of languages.
- 9) In the Caucasus endogamy is a major factor in the preservation of linguistic diversity, whereas exogamy is a major factor in endangering linguistic diversity.
- 10) Some Daghestanian ethnic groups wish a newborn child not only a good life but also an immediate death.