Kinship: Grandchildren by Children’s Sex

Terms referring to one’s grandchildren were investigated. One of the relevant features is that grandchildren are distinguished according to the anchor’s children’s biological sex. This is usually realized as a four-way differentiation of grandchildren, distinguishing lexically between a ‘son’s son’, a ‘son’s daughter’, a ‘daughter’s son’ as well as a ‘daughter’s daughter’. That is the case in Kashmiri of Pakistan, as shown in (1).

1. Kashmiri, Pakistan [kas(p)] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| a. | poːtor | ‘son’s son’ (KASp-Kin-KR:017) |
| b. | poːtɨr | ‘son’s daughter’ (KASp-Kin-KR:018) |
| c. | djuːtor | ‘daughter’s son’ (KASp-Kin-KR:019) |
| d. | djuːtɨr | ‘daughter’s daughter’ (KASp-Kin-KR:020) |

Differentiating grandchildren by one’s children’s sex is a minority pattern, but it is found in various parts of the region and in several of the phyla represented in the sample.

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| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 15 | 26 |
| Absent | 42 | 71 |
| Indeterminate | 2 | 3 |