Prepositional Coding of Source

The strategy for marking a noun phrase as a source or an origin was investigated. The positive value of this feature reflects the presence of a marker preceding the noun phrase, whether clitical or adpositional. In Sanglechi this semantic role is coded by a preposition, as shown in (1).

1. Sanglechi [sgy] (Iranian)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | xətsaːk | wok | safad | **tsə** | kitaːv | bidʒaːʁast |
|  | girl | a | page | [from | book] | tear.pst |
|  | ‘The girl tore a page from the book.’ (SGY-Val-GM:032) | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| b. | meːɽ | **tsə** | dəraχt | wat |  |  |
|  | apple | [from | tree] | fall.pst |  |  |
|  | ‘The apple fell from the tree.’ (SGY-Val-GM:084) | | | | | |

This is a feature is a minority feature and limited to the Iranian languages of the sample (primarily in the north of the region). It is present (sometimes in addition to other coding, such as suffixing or a postposition) in approximately a fifth of the languages.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 11 | 19 |
| Absent | 48 | 81 |
| Indeterminate | 0 | 0 |