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The verbs meaning 'to sell' and 'to give' in Saami

The oldest Saami verb meaning 'to sell' is Kildin Saami *mīgke* with synonymous cognates in Ter Saami, Akkala Saami and the Njuõ'ttjäu'rr dialect of Skolt Saami, as well as in other branches of the Uralic language family. Also North Saami *vuovdit* 'to sell' with synonymous cognates in Inari, Lule, Pite and Ume Saami goes back to Presaami, but its cognates outside Saami languages don't mean 'to sell', but 'to give'. A third Saami verb meaning 'to sell' is South Saami *doekedh* with synonymous cognate in Ume Saami. Also this verb has Presaami background, but its cognates outside Saami languages (e. g. Finnish *tuoda* 'to bring') have other meanings than 'to sell'. In Skolt Saami the common verb for 'to sell' is *kaaupšed;* it is beside other verbs known in North, Inari, Kildin and Ter Saami too.

Wide spread Saami verbs meaning 'to give' are Lule *vaddet* (cognates in South, Ume and Pite) and North *addit* (cognates in Inari, Akkala, Kildin and Ter). In Skolt Saami, the verb *â'dded* is only known in Paaččjokk dialect, where it means 'to (give a) hit (e. g. with axe)'. A common verb for 'to give' is in all Skolt Saami dialects *u'vdded*.

The oldest Saami printed matter, i. e. Abc book and Mass book ("sång book") published in 1619 by Nicolaus Andreae, has in the meaning 'to give' the verbs *addele* and *wuobde*. The verb *wadde(-)* 'to give' occurs first time in a Abc book published by an unknown author in 1638. The last occurrence of verb *addel(-)* 'to give' (beside *wadde-*) is in Manuale Lapponicum, published by Olaus Stephani Graan in 1669. (More information on these books, see Qvigstad & Wiklund 1899, Kazakėnaitė & Blokland 2024.)

Saami printed matter of 17th century contains no verb with meaning 'to sell'. The Latin Saami word list made by Z. Plantinus in 17th century (see Koponen 2014 with further literature) has entries "Dare vaddeth", "Tradere waddith" and "Vendere tvåketh".

The presentation outlines the Protosaami and post-Protosaami developments that have led to the verbs meaning 'to sell' and 'to give' in modern Saami languages.

References

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