

National University of Mongolia



A comparative ethnolinguistic study of Mongolian and Inuit Languages

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Background of research

Ethno linguistics, a branch of contemporary linguistics, investigates the varieties between ethnicities and languages. It is an innovative field that is rapidly developing in interaction with the field of humanities, such as sociolinguistics, neurolinguistics, paralinguistics, ethnography, communication ethnography, mythology, semiotics, psychology, sociology, folklore, and mythology.

Ethnolinguistics

USA, UK

Anthropological component of
language

Russia

Ethnographic linguistics

Ethno-sociolinguistics



Ethnolinguistic Identity theory

Ethnolinguistic Vitality theory



- Lately, the study of ethnic minority linguistics and sociolinguistics has focused on the study of the language and culture of ethnic minorities.



Scholars of ethnography and ethnolinguistics

B Wilhelm von Humboldt (1767-1835)	GERMANY	Giles, H, 1946.	GREAT BRITAIN
Boas, F (1858-1942)	USA	Taylor,D,	USA
Sapir, E (1884-1939)	USA	Haarmann,H, (1946).	GERMANY
Whorf, B (1897-1941)	USA	Edwards J.R	USA
Herder.J.G (1744-1803)	GERMANY	Furgeson, C.	USA
N.I. Tolstoy (1923-1996)	RUSSIA	Bourhis R. 1994.	CANADA
Schuhardt.H (1842-1927)	GERMANY	Duranti, A.1950.	ITALY



Aim of research

The research intends to study Inuit, a type of Eskimo language in the world, in the context of the theory of ethno-sociolinguistics.





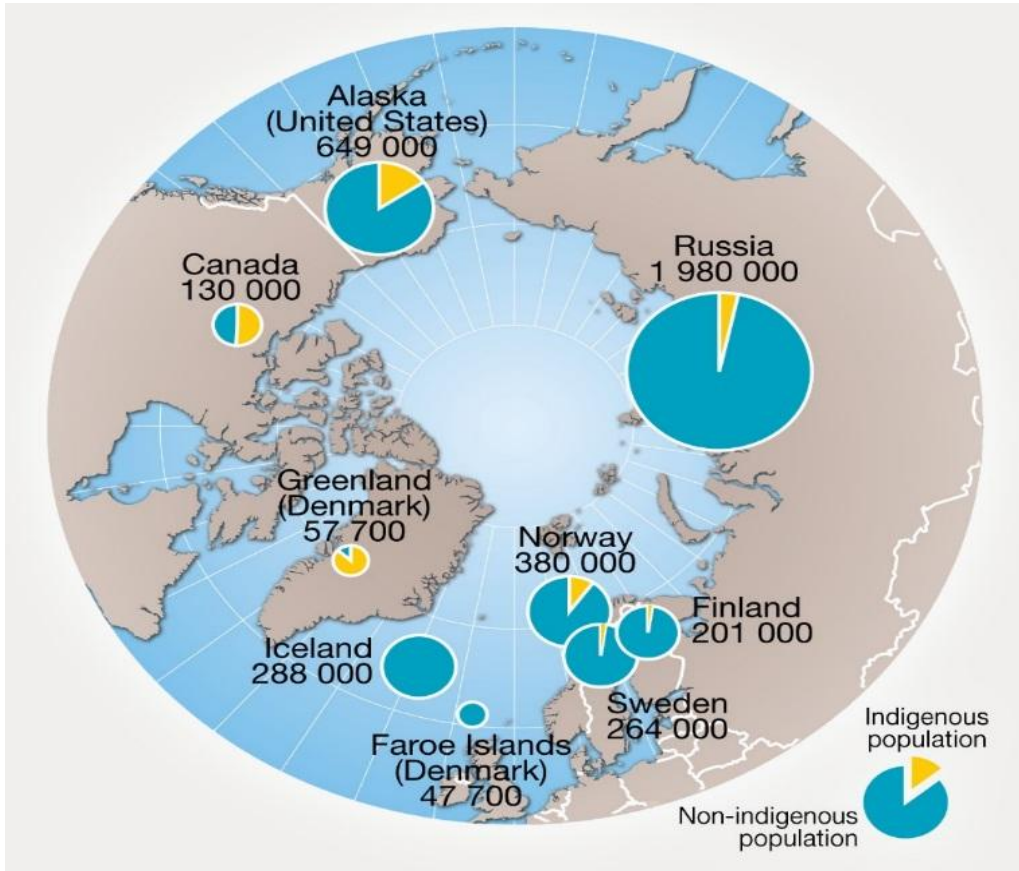
Inuit community in the world

Eskimo is a word that presents challenges for anyone who is concerned about avoiding the use of offensive language. Its offensiveness stems partly from a now-discredited belief that it was originally a pejorative term meaning "eater of raw flesh." By the 21st century it had been widely supplanted by the name 'Inuit'. Inuit is the plural of the word 'inuk' which means 'human being'.





Inuit community in the world



Region	Population
Greenland (Denmark)	50,366
Denmark	13,482
Canada	50,480
Alaska (USA)	15,700
USA (Outside region of Alaska)	3,140
Yupit region in western Alaska	31,550
Chukotka (Russia)	13,000
Total	177,718



Inuit community in the world



Inuit fishers



Inuit dwelling



Inuit food



Inuit community in the world



Inuit traditional clothes



Inuit community in the world



Inuit girl



Inuit hunter



Inuit community in the world



Igloo



Northern light



Inuit community in the world



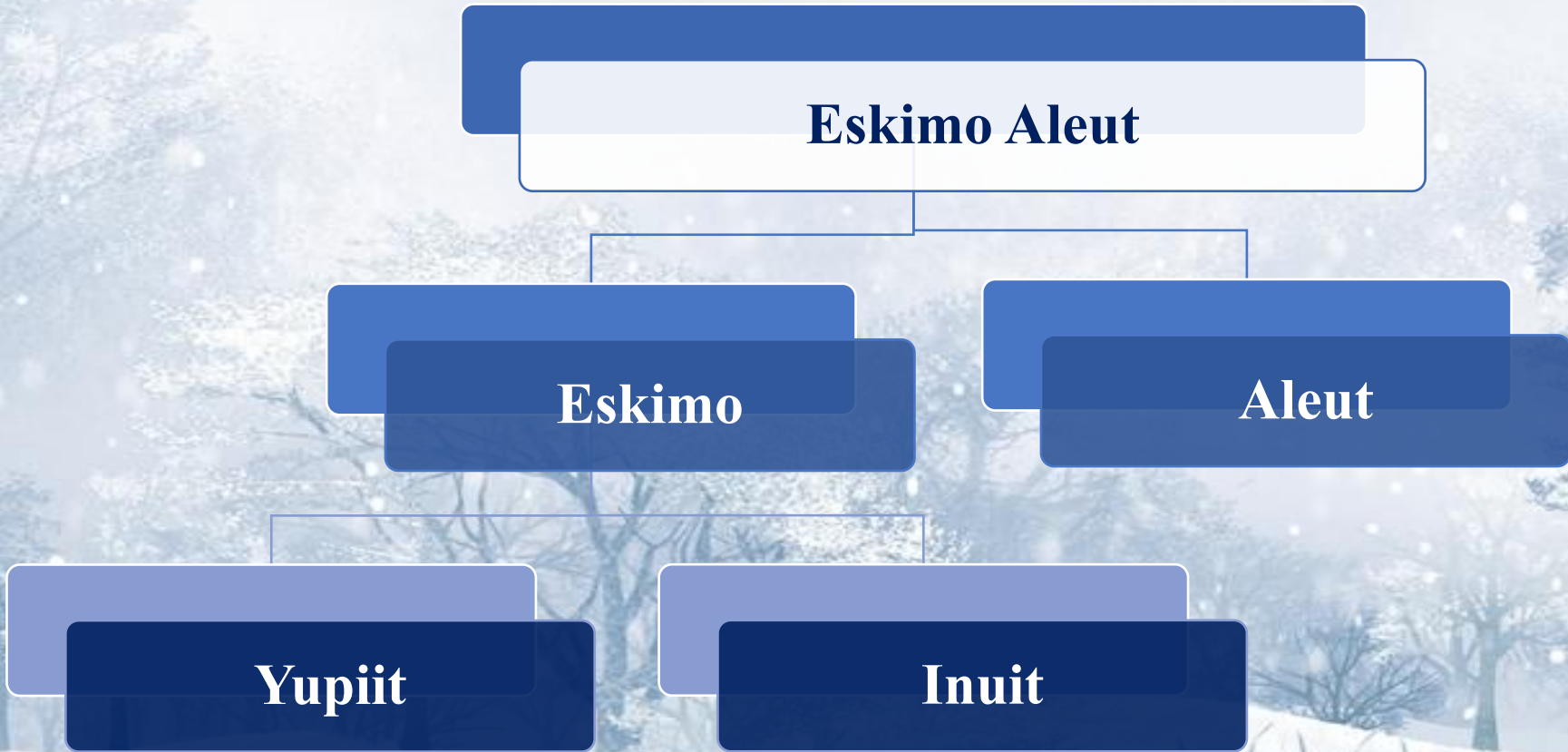
Inuit shaman



Inuit belief and religion



Inuit language classification

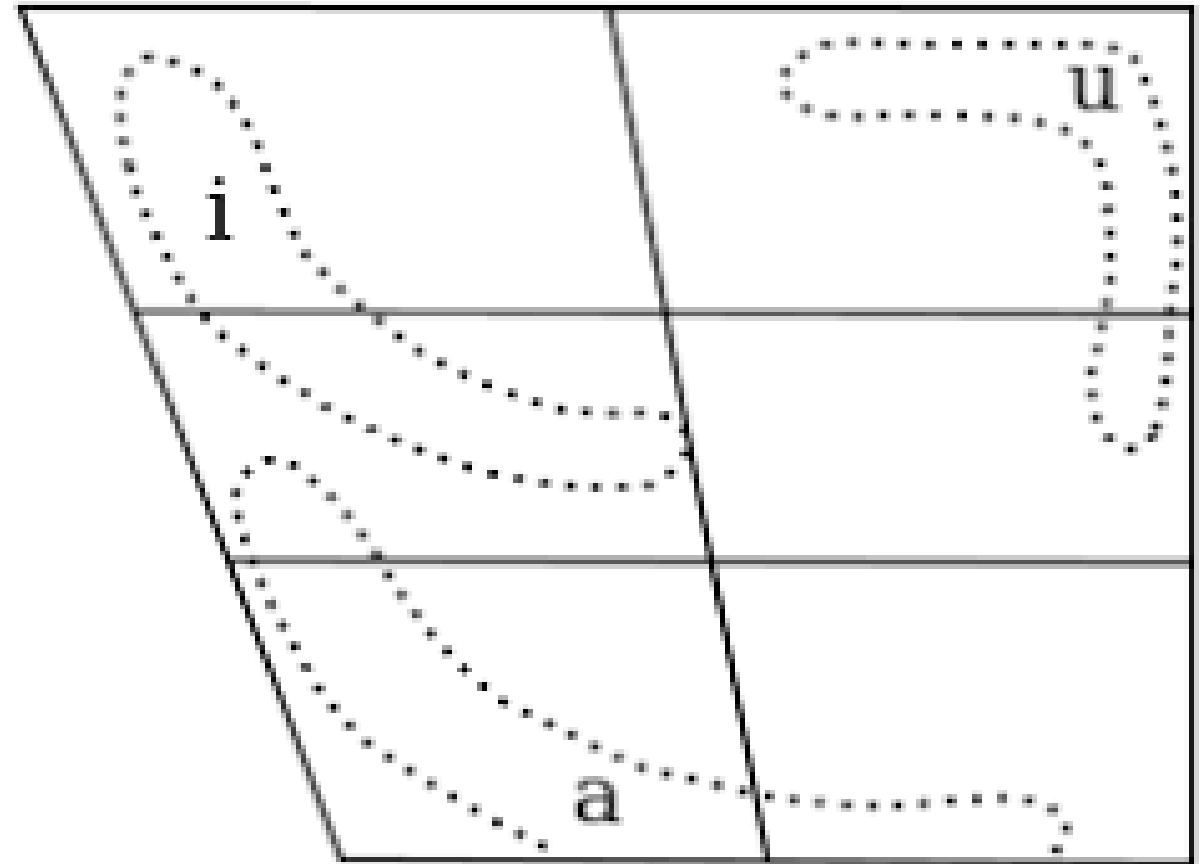




Phonology

ᠠ	i	ᠳ	u	ᠠ	a	ᠬ
ᠯ	pi	ᠮ	pu	ᠨ	pa	ᠬ
ᠨ	ti	ᠮ	tu	ᠨ	ta	ᠬ
ᠫ	ki	ᠳ	ku	ᠪ	ka	ᠪ
ᠭ	gi	ᠵ	gu	ᠯ	ga	ᠯ
ᠮ	mi	ᠵ	mu	ᠯ	ma	ᠯ
ᠨ	ni	ᠪ	nu	ᠨ	na	ᠨ
ᠰ	si	ᠰ	su	ᠰ	sa	ᠰ
ᠯ	li	ᠯ	lu	ᠯ	la	ᠯ
ᠵ	ji	ᠵ	ju	ᠵ	ja	ᠵ
ᠠ	vi	ᠮ	vu	ᠨ	va	ᠨ
ᠨ	ri	ᠫ	ru	ᠨ	ra	ᠨ
ᠫ	qi	ᠮ	qu	ᠪ	qa	ᠪ
ᠮ	ngi	ᠵ	ngu	ᠯ	nga	ᠯ
ᠨ	&i	ᠮ	&u	ᠨ	&a	ᠨ

Fifteen consonants



Three vowels



Grammar case

	Grammar Case	Singular	Dual	Plural
1	Basic	nuna ∅	nuna <u>ak</u>	nuna <u>it</u>
2	Relative	nuna <u>up</u>	nuna <u>ak</u>	nuna <u>it</u>
3	Modalis	nuna <u>mik</u>	nuna <u>annik</u>	nuna <u>anik</u>
4	Ablative	nuna <u>mit</u>	nuna <u>annit</u>	nuna <u>anit</u>
5	Locative	nuna <u>mi</u>	nuuna <u>nni</u>	nuna <u>ni</u>
6	Allative	nuna <u>mut</u>	nuna <u>annut</u>	nuna <u>anut</u>
7	Translative	nuna <u>kkut</u>	nuna <u>akkut</u>	nuna <u>tigut</u>
8	Simulative	nuna <u>tut</u>	nuna <u>attitut</u>	nuna <u>titut</u>



Numeration of Inuit language

One	atausiq	
Two	mulruk	
Three	pingasut	
Four	sitamat	
Five	tallimat	
Six	arvinilik	
Ten	qulit	The upper part of body
Eleven	qulillu atausirly	Ten and one
Eleven	aqqanillit	They get to the feet
Twenty	avatit	Completing a person
Twenty	Inuk naa (ma)jug/ ii	All fingers of body
Forty	avatit marruuk	Two twenties
Forty	naattungut martit	Completing two persons



Types of word 'snow'

1	Qanik	Falling snow	14	Piiqturiniq	Thin coat of snow deposited on something
2	Qanittag	Recently fallen snow	15	Qiqumaaq	Snow whose surface is frozen
3	Aputi[k]	Snow on the ground	16	katakaqtanaq	Hard crust of snow giving way under footsteps
4	Maujag	Soft snow on the ground	17	Aumannaq	Snow on the ground, ready to melt
5	Masak	Wet falling snow	18	Aniu	Snow for making water
6	Matsaag	Half-melted snow on the ground	19	Sirmiq	Melting snow used as cement for the snow-house
7	Aqilluqaaq	Drift of soft snow	20	Illusaq	Snow that is fit for building a snow-house
8	Sitiiuqaaq	Drift of hard snow	21	Isiriaqtaq	yellow or reddish falling snow
9	Qiqsuqaaq	Refrozen snow	22	Kiniqtaq	Damp, compact snow
10	Kavisirlaq	Snow made rough by rain and freezing	23	Mannguq	Melting snow
11	Pukka	Crystalline snow on the ground	24	Qannialaaq	Light falling snow
12	Minguliq	Fine coat of powdered snow	25	qanniapaluk	Very light falling snow, in still air
13	Natiruvaaq	Fine snow carried out by wind			



Sentence structure

The word order of sentence structure in Inuit language is:

S+O+V

Subject + Object + Verb



Inuit sentence

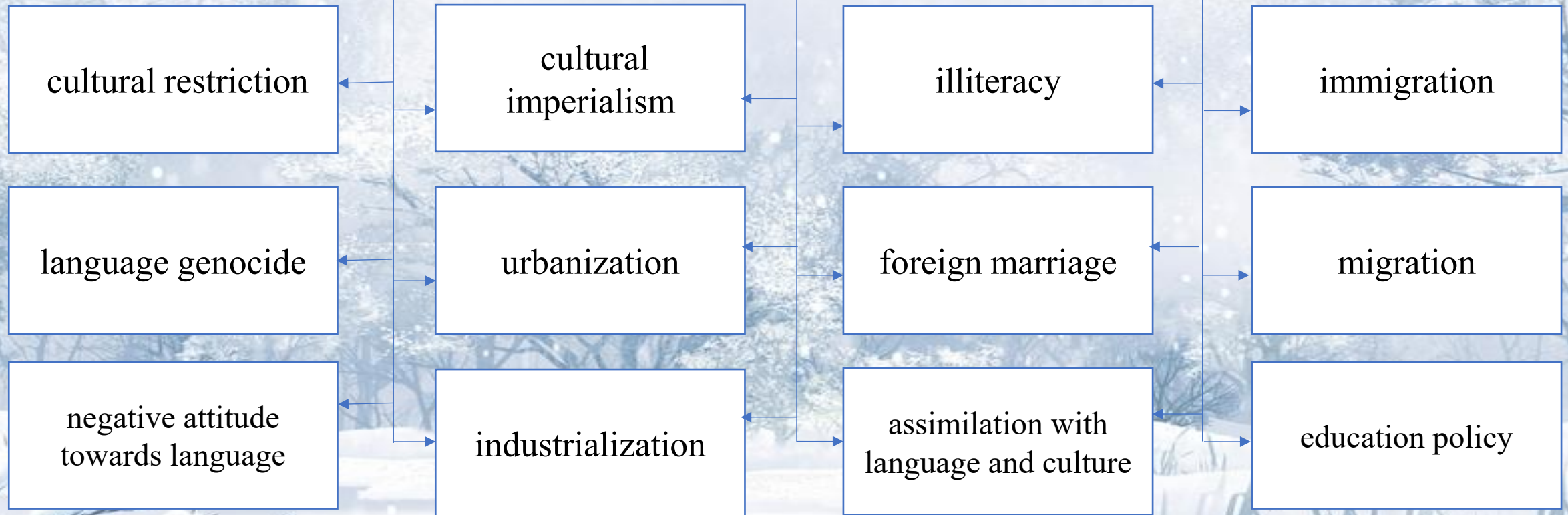
Inuit tamarmik inunngorput nammineersinnaassuseqarlutik assigiimmillu ataqqinassuseqarlutillu pisinnaatitaaffeqarlutik. Silaqassusermik tarnillu nalunngissusianik pilersugaapput, imminnullu iliorfigeqatigiittariaqaraluarput katanngutigiittut peqatigiinnerup anersaavani.

"Бүх хүн төрөлхтөн эрх чөлөөтэй, нэр төртэй, тэгш эрхтэй төрсөн. Тэд ухамсарт хүмүүн тул бие биентэйгээ ах дүүгийн найрсаг сэтгэлээр хандах ёстой." (Хүний эрхийн түгээмэл тунхаглалын 1-р зүйл)

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood (Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 1)



The major factors that instantly and strongly lead to the extinction of minority languages





Conclusion

- The Canadian Arctic can be a big illustration of how strong and consistent commitment has been towards the language policy as a basis for the protection of the Inuit language. Indigenous people in the Arctic, in collaboration with global community are working to preserve the indigenous language environment through assessment, monitoring, assistance and support to maintain the indigenous language transition. Many projects and programs focus on three areas: skill assessment, language policy, and language proficiency.
- At a time when special attention is paid to the protection and development of languages and cultural expressions, which are unique and irreplaceable cultural heritage of humankind, in-depth and contemporary sociolinguistic research is urgently required on the policy of ethnic minority languages and to protect, inherit and develop the languages and cultures of ethnic minorities.



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Thank you for your
attention

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