# Finnic

Community of Practice in Uralic Studies (COPIUS)

Introduction to Uralic Studies

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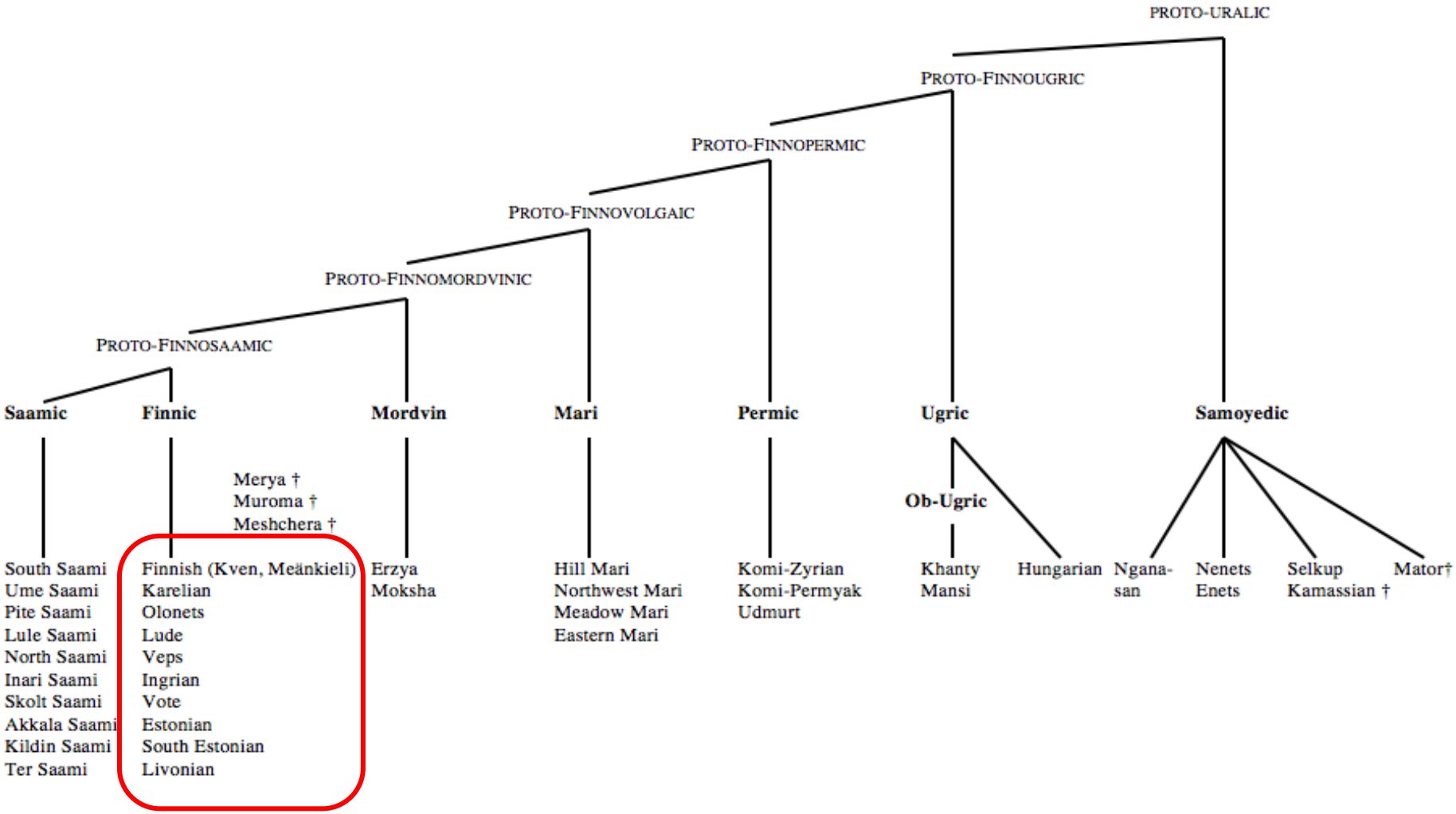
# The minor Finnic languages

- This is an overview of the minor Finnic languages, i.e. excluding the major languages Estonian and Finnish
- The first section (A) consists of a brief introduction to the Finnic languages, including maps and typical features characteristic of Finnic
- The second section (B) consists of brief overviews of the minor Finnic languages (Kven, Meänkieli, Karelian, Veps, Ingrian, Vote, South Estonian, and Livonian). Each overview is followed by a brief list of major reference works (grammars, dictionaries, text collections).

# A
# A brief introduction to Finnic

# Genealogical classification

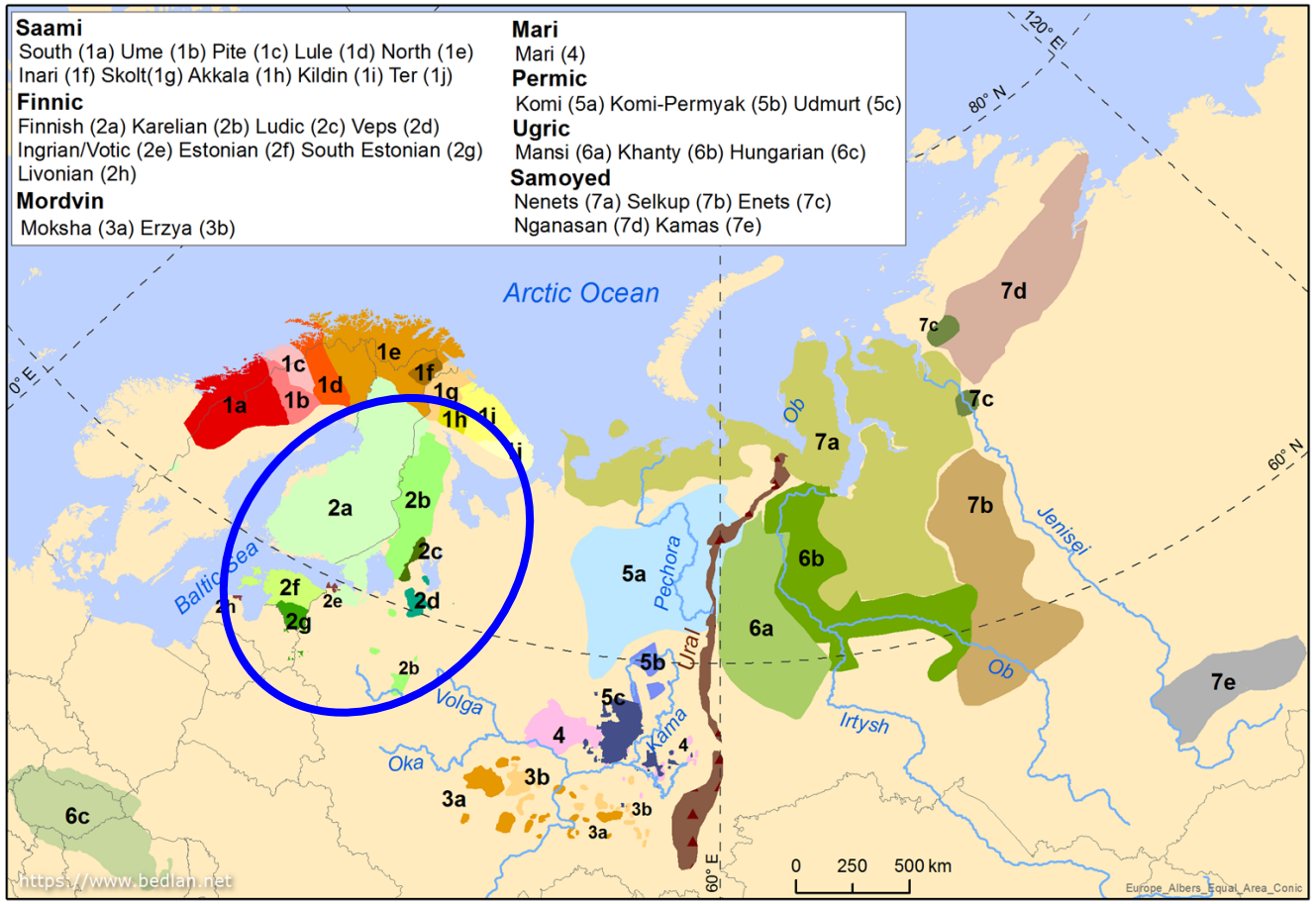


# The Finnic languages

N

- Kven
- Meänkieli
- Finnish
- Karelian
- Lude
- Olonets
- Veps
- Ingrian
- Vote
- Estonian
- South Estonian
- Livonian

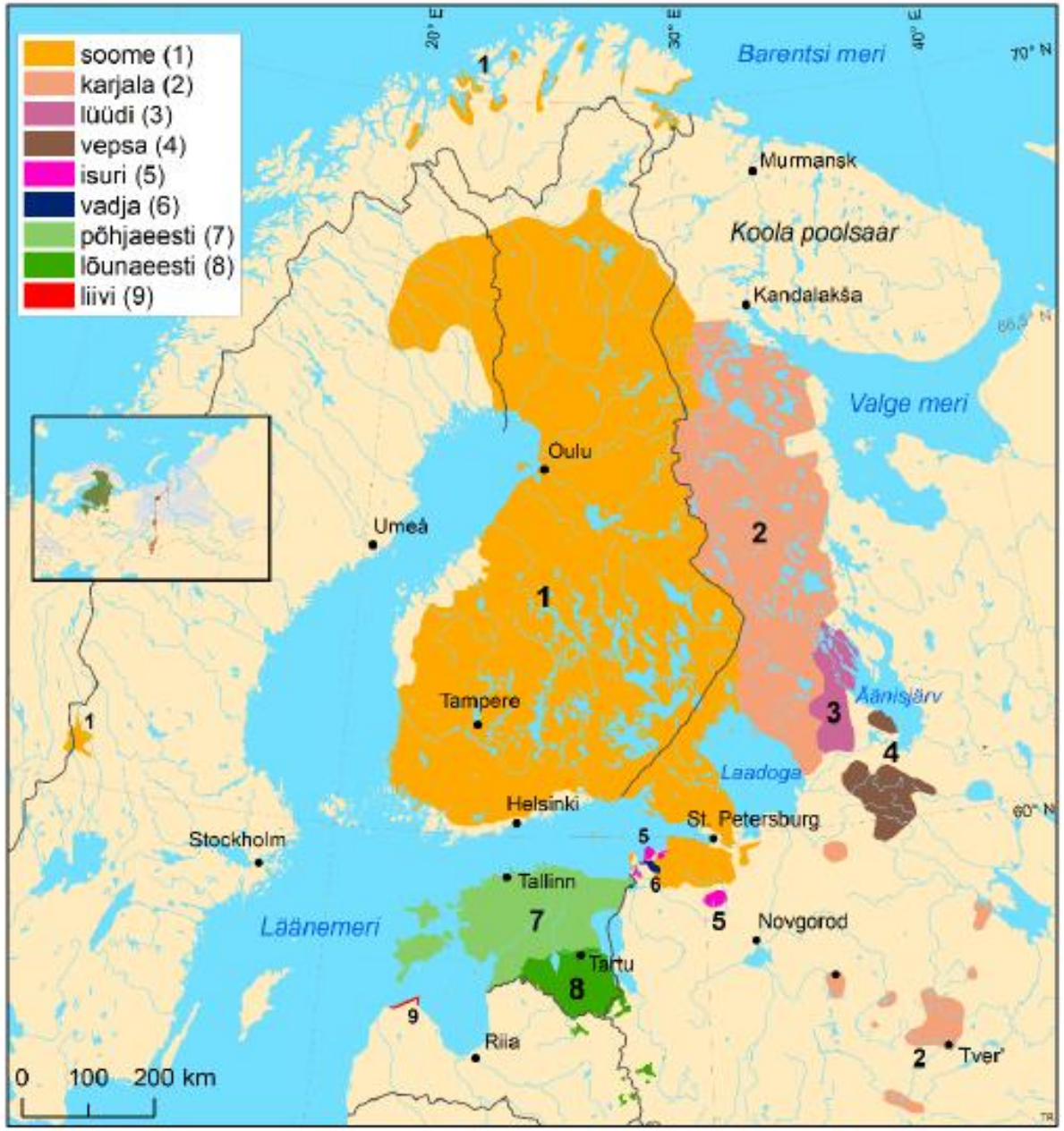
S




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# The Finnic languages

| | |
|---|---|
| **German:** | ostseefinnische Sprachen |
| **English:** | (Baltic, Balto-) Finnic languages |
| **Russian:** | прибалтийско-финские языки |
| **Finnish:** | itämerensuomalaiset kielet |
| **Estonian:** | läänemeresoome keeled |
| **Hungarian:** | balti finn nyelvek |




Map by Timo Rantanen
(2020; BEDLAN project)

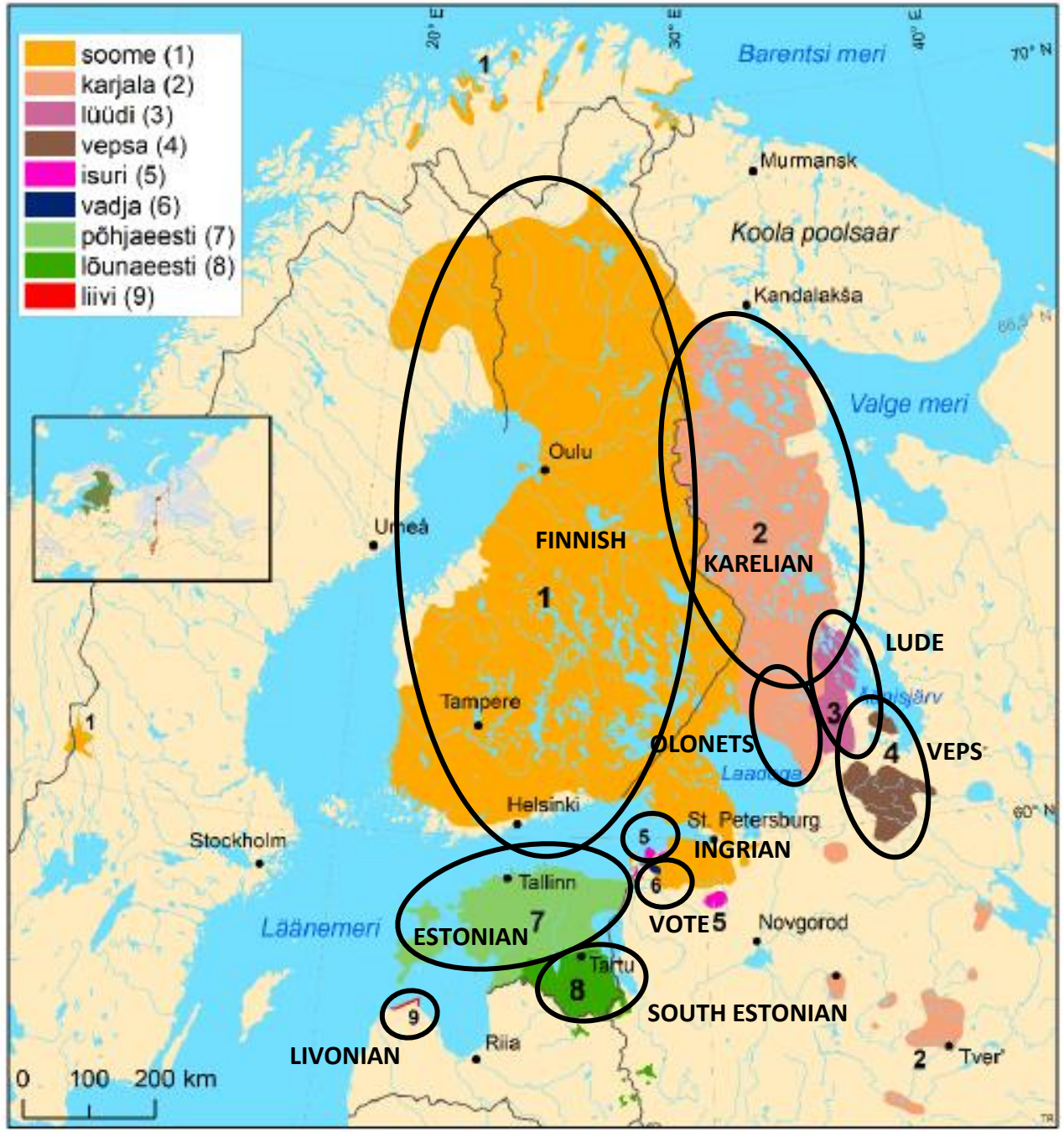
# Number of speakers (Uralic)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hungarian | 14 000 000 | Selkup | 1 000 |
| Finnish | 5 300 000 | Forest Nenets | 700 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 | Lule Saami | 700 |
| Meadow Mari | 360 000 | South Saami | 500 |
| Udmurt | 350 000 | Kildin Saami | 350 |
| Erzya Mordvin | 300 000 | Lude | 300 |
| Zyrian Komi | 160 000 | Inari Saami | 250 |
| Moksha Mordvin | 150 000 | Nganasan | 150 |
| Permyak Komi | 60 000 | Skolt Saami | 150 |
| South Estonian | 30 000 | Ingrian | 70 |
| Karelian | 25 000 | Pite Saami | 40 |
| Tundra Nenets | 25 000 | Ter Saami | 20 |
| North Saami | 20 000 | Forest Enets | 15 |
| Hill Mari | 20 000 | Tundra Enets | 10 |
| Olonets Karelian | 15 000 | Ume Saami | 5 |
| Khanty | 8 000 | Vote | 5 |
| Veps | 3 500 | Akkala Saami | 2 |
| Mansi | 1 005 | Livonian | 0 |

# The Finnic languages

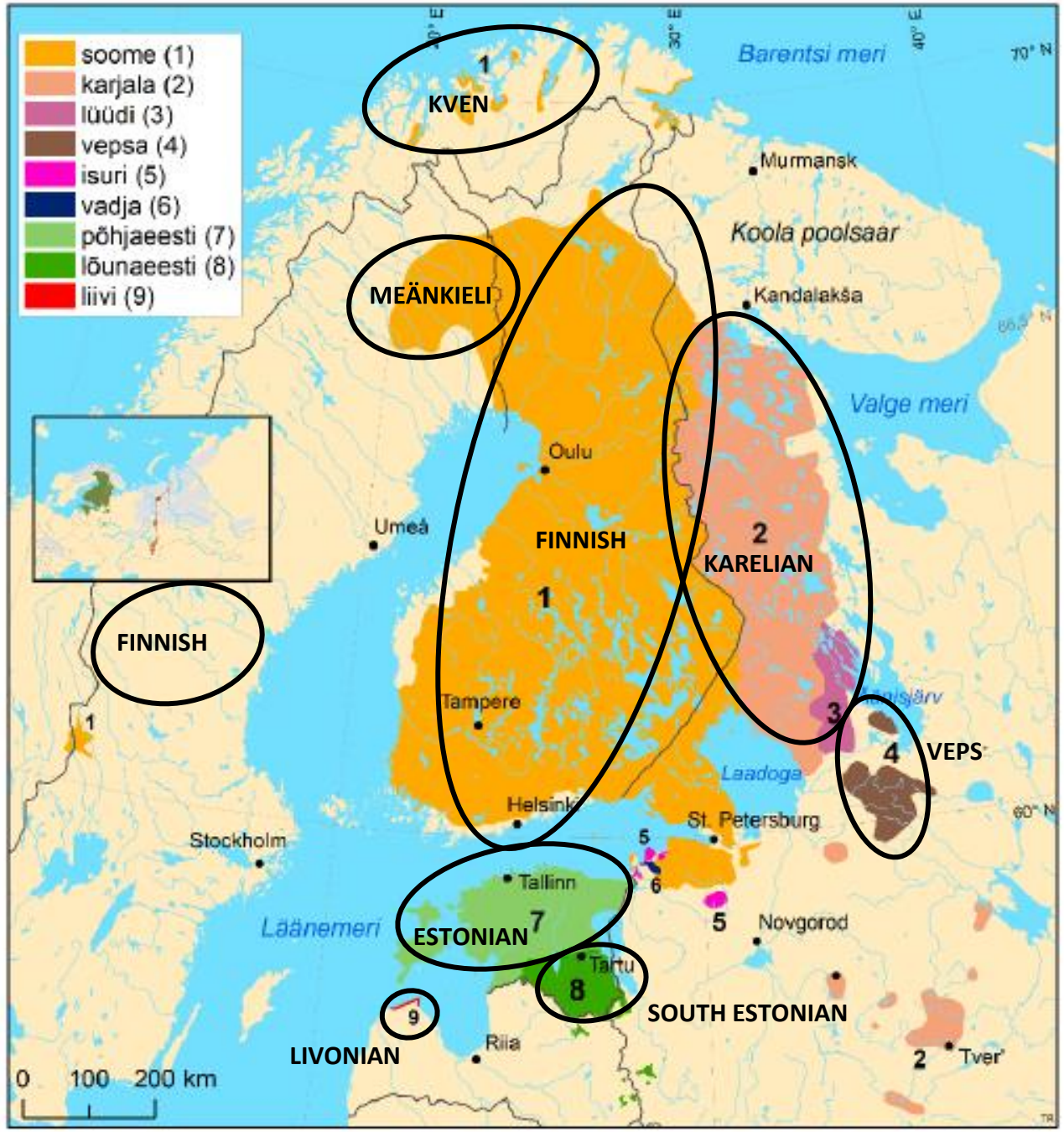
| Language | Speakers | Where | Status |
|---|---|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 | Finland, Sweden, Russia | official language (FI)<br>minority language (S) |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 | Estonia, Russia, Latvia | official language (EST) |
| South Estonian | 30 000 | Estonia, Russia, Latvia | (undecided, EST) |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 | Sweden | minority language (S) |
| Karelian | 25 000 | Russia, Finland | protected by law (RUS)<br>minority language (FI) |
| Olonets | 15 000 | Russia | protected by law (RUS) |
| Kven | 5 000 | Norway | minority language (N) |
| Veps | 3 500 | Russia | protected by law (RUS) |
| Lude | 300 | Russia | protected by law (RUS) |
| Ingrian | 70 | Russia | - |
| Vote | 5 | Russia | - |
| Livonian | 0 | Latvia | protected by law (LV) |

# The Finnic languages (linguistically)




Map by Timo Rantanen (2020; BEDLAN project)

# The Finnic languages (political status)




Map by Timo Rantanen (2020; BEDLAN project)

# How many Finnic languages?

| **7 (Laanest 1975)** | **8 (Viitaranta& Suhonen 1978)** | **6 (Grünen 1988)** | **7 (Viitso 1998)** | **7 (Bereczki 2000)** | **9 (Grünthal 2003)** | **12 (COPIUS)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | Kven |
| | | | | | | Meänkieli |
| Finnish | Finnish | Finnish | Finnish | Finnish | Finnish | Finnish |
| Karelian | Karelian | Karelian | Karelian | Karelian | Karelian | Karelian |
| | | | | | Olonets | Olonets |
| | Lude | | | | Lude | Lude |
| Veps | Veps | Veps | Veps | Veps | Veps | Veps |
| Ingrian | Ingrian | | Ingrian | Ingrian | Ingrian | Ingrian |
| Vote | Vote | Vote | Vote | Vote | Vote | Vote |
| Estonian | Estonian | Estonian | Estonian | Estonian | Estonian | Estonian |
| | | | | | | South Estonian |
| Livonian | Livonian | Livonian | Livonian | Livonian | Livonian | Livonian |

# Lexicon

| | **drink’** | **’I’ ’one’** | | **’you’** | **’to be’** | **’to eat’** | **’to** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Liv.** | *sīedə* | *jūodə* | *mina* | *sina ikš* | | *je’lə* | |
| **Est.** | *jooma* | *mina* | *sina üks* | | *elama* | *sööma* | |
| **Vote** | *miä juvva* | | *siä ühsi* | | *elā̄* | | *süvvä* |
| **Veps** | *mińä* | *sińä ükś* | | *eľädä* | *söda* | *joda* | |
| **Kar.** | *šüvvä* | *mie juvva* | | *šie ükś* | | *eleä* | |
| **Fin.** | *juoda* | *minä* | *sinä yksi* | | *elää* | | *syödä* |

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# Typical features of the Finnic languages

- Vowel harmony (not everywhere)
- Opposition of short and long phonemes
- Consonant gradation (not in Veps or Livonian)
- Agglutination, but also flexion
- No articles
- Concord (adjective attribute with noun)
- Partitive case

# Vowel harmony

- For Finnic in general vowel harmony can be defined as a restriction on the co-occurrence of vowels in a specific domain, in this case words.
- This means that in any non-compound word the vowels usually belong to a specific group, e.g. front or back vowels
- Most Finnic languages have vowel harmony, though the system is not the same in all of them.
- Estonian and Livonian do not have vowel harmony (though many dialects of Estonian do); South Estonian, however, does have vowel harmony.

# Vowel harmony in Finnish

- Finnish vowels can be grouped into front vowels (*ä*, *ö*, *y*), back vowels (*a*, *o*, *u*) or neutral vowels (*e*, *i*; these are phonologically 'neutral'; phonetically they are front vowels)

- Thus the Finnish word Finnish *kylä* 'village' has only the front vowels *y* and *ä*, but the word *talo* 'house' has only the back vowels *a* and *o*.

- The neutral vowels *e* and *i* can occur with both front and back vowels:
  *ikä* 'age' (neutral vowel *i,* front vowel *ä*)
  *kiitos* 'thanks' (neutral vowel *i*, back vowel *o*)

# Vowel harmony in Finnish

- Any endings come in two pairs: one with front vowels and one with back vowels.
- E.g. the word *kylässä* ‘in the village’ has the an inessive suffix (*-ssA*) with a front vowel (*ä*)
- However, the word *talo-ssa* ‘in the house’, has the same suffix, but with a back vowel (*a*), because the word *talo* has back vowels.
- In compounds both words follow their own vowel harmony rules: *jälkiruoka* ‘dessert’ is compound made up of the words *jälki* ‘after’ (with front vowels) and *ruoka* ‘food’ (with back vowels)

# Opposition of short and long phonemes

- Typical for Finnic languages is an opposition between short and long phonemes; a good example is Finnish:

  *tule!* ‘come!’
  *tulee* ‘she comes’
  *tullee* ‘she maybe comes’
  (*ei*) *tulle* ‘she maybe does not come’
  *tuulee* ‘it is windy’
  *tuullee* ‘it is maybe windy’
  (*ei*) *tuule* ‘it is not windy’
  (*ei*) *tuulle* ‘it is maybe not windy’

# Opposition of short and long phonemes

- In some other Finnic languages long phonemes can only occur in the first syllable, for example in Estonian:

| | |
|---|---|
| *minema* ‘to go’ | (cf. Finnnish *menemään*) |
| *Tallinna* ‘to Tallinn’ | (cf. Finnish *Tallinnaan*) |
| *kappi* ‘into the cupboard’ | (cf. Finnish *kaappiin*) |

- And for example in many dialects of Veps, however, there are short vowels where in the other Finnic languages you’ll find long vowels:

| | |
|---|---|
| *pen* ‘small’ | (cf. Finnish *pieni* ‘id.’, Estonian *peen* ‘thin’) |
| *sön* ‘I eat’ | (cf. Finnish *syön* ‘id.’, Estonian *söön* ‘id.’) |

# Consonant gradation

- In nearly all Finnic languages except Veps and Livonian there is an alternation of consonants between different realisations, where there is generally a ‘strong grade’ and a ‘weak grade’. The phonetic nature of this alternation may manifest itself as length, voiceness, manner of articulation, or even as an opposition between a consonant and zero.

- Finnish has the simplest system, where the (singleton) plosives *k*, *p*, and *t* alternate *qualitatively* as follows:

| strong | weak | example: |
|---|---|---|
| *k* | *Ø*, *v* | *teko* ‘act’ (nom.sg) > *teon* (gen.sg) |
| *p* | *v* | *lupa* ‘permit’ (nom.sg) > *luvan* (gen.sg) |
| *t* | *d* | *katu* ‘street’ (nom.sg) > *kadun* (gen.sg) |

# Consonant gradation

- Geminate plosives *kk*, *pp*, and *tt* alternate with singletons:

| strong | weak | example: |
|---|---|---|
| *kk* | k | *kukka* ‘flower’ (nom.sg) > *kukan* (gen.sg) |
| *pp* | *p* | *kaappi* ‘cupboard’ (nom.sg) > *kaapin* (gen.sg) |
| *tt* | *t* | *matto* ‘mat’ (nom.sg) > *maton* (gen.sg) |

This is then *quantitative* consonant gradation, as here long consonants (i.e. geminates) alternate with short ones (singletons). Compare *lupa* ~ *luvan* ‘permit’
(where there is an alternation between the voiceless bilabial plosive /p/ with a voiced labiodental fricative /v/).

# Consonant gradation

In the other Finnic languages this system is similar, but can apply to other consonants as well:

strong grade /s/ versus weak grade /z/ in Vote:

| nom.sg | gen.sg |
| --- | --- |
| *isä* ‘father’ | *izää* |

strong grade /ss/ versus weak grade /s/ in Estonian:

| nom.sg | gen.sg |
| --- | --- |
| *poiss* ‘boy’ | *poisi* |

# Agglutination, but also flexion

- A typical Uralic feature is agglutination, i.e. words contain a linear sequence of morphs without little or no change in their form:

  Finnish *taloissani* ‘in my houses’ can nicely segmented as *talo-* ‘house’ + *-i-* (plural) + *-ssa* ‘in’ + *-ni* ‘my’, i.e. *talo-i-ssa-ni*

- Not all forms are so cleanly segmentable, as there are changes occurring in many stems:

  Finnish *tottelemattomuudestani* ‘because of my disobedience’
  *tosi* ‘right’: *tode-* > *tottele-* ‘obey’ > *tottelematon* ‘disobedient’: *tottelemattom(a)-* > *tottelemattomuus* ‘disobedience’: *tottelemattomuude-* > *tottelemattomuudesta* ‘because of disobedience’ > *tottelemattomuudestani*

# Agglutination, but also flexion

- Especially in the southern Finnic languages, however, there are traces of flexion, where one morph may represent several morphological oppositions:

- E.g. in the Estonian word *kalu* ‘fish’ (partitive plural), the suffix *-u* simultaneously represents ‘plural’ and ‘partitive’ and cannot be further segmented.

- Livonian goes even further: the genitive of *laps* ‘child’ (< **lapsi*) is *läpš* (< **lapsen*), i.e. a case of metaphony, a clear ‘violation’ of the linear principle of agglutination.

# No articles

- The Finnic languages do not have articles; this typically causes difficulties for speakers of languages with articles:

  Finnish *talo* ‘a house; the house’

- Veps, however, has often been said to use the demonstrative pronoun *se* as an article:

  Veps *oli mužikal se koir* ‘the man had a dog’

- There is, however, no agreement as yet on its exact function or definition; it has also been called an unspecific focus particle.

# Concord

- Concord (or agreement) of premodifiers with nouns is common in Finnic, but there are exceptions.
- In general, adjectives, pronouns and numerals as premodifiers of nouns agree with the head noun in case and number:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ingrian | *onnetoin ihmiin* | ‘unhappy person’ (nom.sg) |
| | *onnettomat ihmiist* | ‘unhappy people’ (nom.pl) |
| | *onnettommiia ihmiziä* | ‘unhappy people’ (part.pl) |
| | *tämä koti* | ‘this house’ (nom.sg) |
| | *näät koit* | ‘these houses’ (nom.pl) |
| | *kolmeez päivääz* | ‘in three days’ (ine.sg.) |

# Concord

- Especially in southern Finnic languages there is sometimes lack of concord; thus in Estonian, the so-called *nina taga* 'behind the nose'-cases, namely the terminative (-*ni*), the essive (-*na*), the abessive (-*ta*) and the comitative (-*ga*) do not agree in case (adjectives are then in the genitive), though they do agree in number:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Estonian | *suur maja* | 'big house' | |
| | *suured majad* | 'big houses' | (red = plural) |
| | *suures majas* | 'in a big house' | (blue = case) |
| | *suurtes majades* | 'in big houses' | |
| | | | |
| but: | *suure majaga* | 'with a big house' | |
| | *suurte majadega* | 'with big houses' | |

# Partitive case

- Typical for the Finnic languages is also the existence of a grammatical case, which denotes partialness, irresultativity, or lack of specific identity:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Finnish | *Anna joi maidon* (acc) | 'Anna drank the milk' |
| | *Anna joi maitoa* (part) | 'Anna drank milk' |
| | *lapset olivat kadulla* | 'The children were on the street' |
| but: | *kadulla oli lapsia* | 'There were children on the street' |

- Objects in negative sentences are nearly always in the partitive:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Estonian | *ma ostsin raamatu* | 'I bought a book' |
| | *ma ei ostnud raamatut* | 'I did not buy a book' |

# Partitive case

- Intrinsically irresultative verbs, however, generally require objects in the partitive (so that positive and negative sentences have the same object case):

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Finnish | *Anna rakastaa Tiinaa* | ‘Anna loves Tiina’ |
| | *Anna ei rakasta Tiinaa* | ‘Anna does not love Tiina’ |
| Karelian | *lapsi kuundelou muuzikkua* | ‘The child is listening to music’ |
| | *lapsi ei kuundele muuzikkua* | ‘The child is not listening to music’ |
| Livonian | *mēg luggõm rōntõzt* | ‘we’re reading a book’ |
| | *mēg äb luggõm rōntõzt* | ‘we’re not reading a book’ |

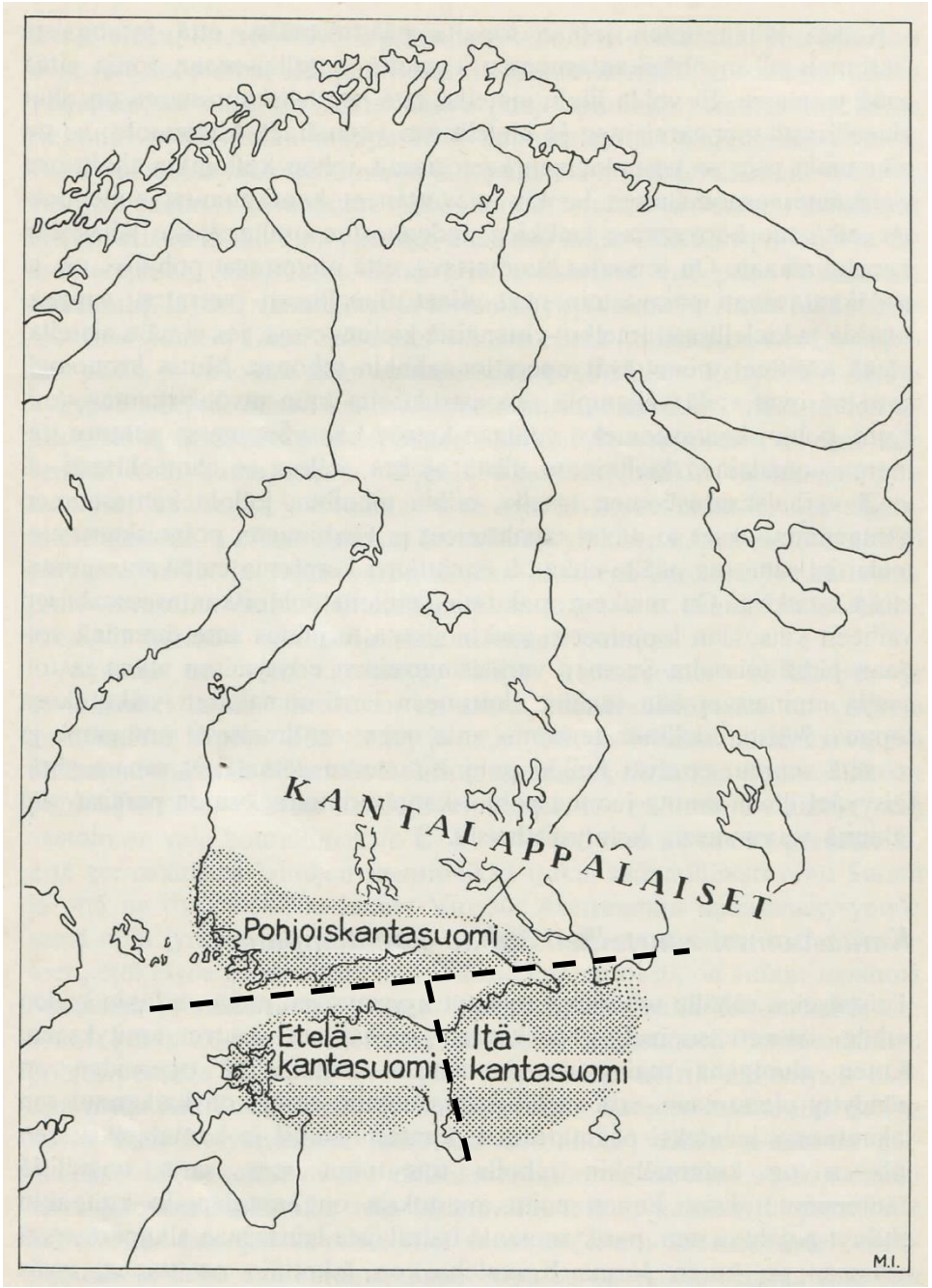
# Partitive case

- When a noun phrase post-modifies a numeral that noun is in the partitive for numbers higher than one:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Finnish | *yksi kirja* | ‘one book’ |
| | *kaksi kirja**a*** | ‘two books’ |
| | *kolme kirja**a*** | ‘three books’ |
| Livonian | *ikš rōntõz* | ‘one book’ |
| | *kakš rōntõz**t*** | ‘two books’ |
| | *kuolm rōntõz**t*** | ‘three books’ |

# Tripartite division

- - - - - north-south
- - - - - east-west




Itkonen, Terho 1984. Suomessa puhutun suomen kantasuomalaiset juuret. In: Gallén, Jari (ed). *Suomen väeston esihistorialliset juuret*. Helsinki. p. 360.

# Cladistics: the traditional division into northern and southern Finnic

- Finnish
- Karelian — northern
- Veps
- Ingrian

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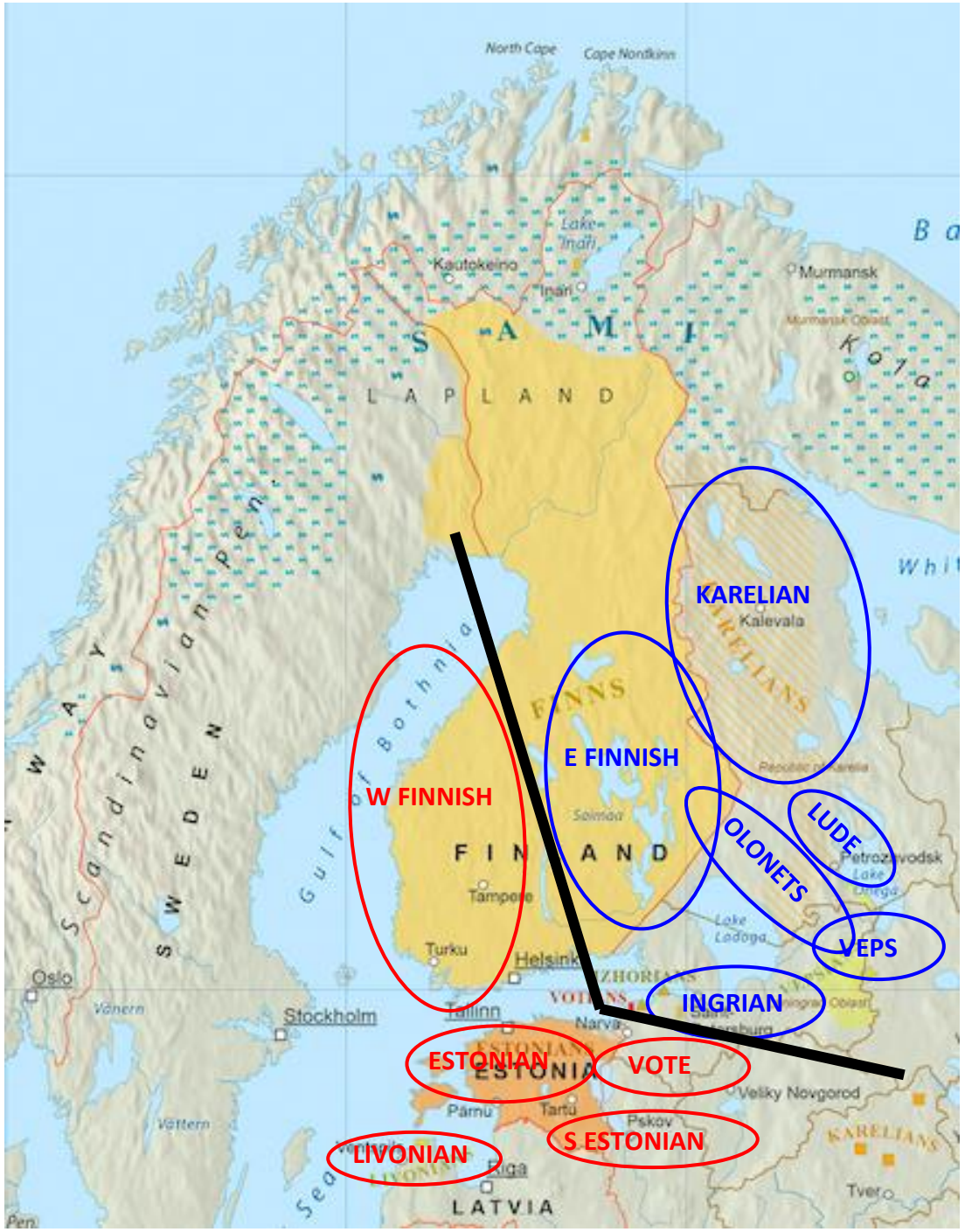
- Vote
- Estonian
- South Estonian — southern
- Livonian

# What is the north-south division based on?

| North (Finnish) | South (Estonian) |
|---|---|
| *e*, *o*, *a*: *verkko* ‘net’, *ottaa* ‘take’ | *õ*: *võrk*, *võtma* |
| consonant gradation<br>(except Veps) | even more consonant gradation<br>(except Livonian) |
| vowel harmony: *kylä* ‘village’<br>(except Veps) | wide loss of vowel harmony: *küla*<br>(except Vote, S Estonian) |
| no apocope: *suomalainen* ‘Finn’<br>(except Veps) | apocope: *soomlane*<br>(except Vote) |
| *Vn*: *mansikka* ‘strawberrry’ | *VV*: *maasikas* |
| plural marker *i*: Fin. *kalojen* | plural marker *de*: Est. *kalade* |
| possessive suffixes: *kirjani* ‘my book’ | no possessive suffixes: *minu raamat* |
| conditional marker *-isi* | conditional marker *-ks* |
| 3rd psg pronoun *hän* | 3rd psg pronoun *tema* |

# The west-east divide



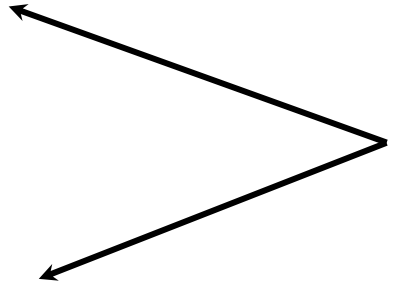

”The Finno-Ugric and Samoyed peoples”, Regio, Tartu.

# What is the west-east division based on?

| | ‘we’ | ‘sheep’ (plg) |
|---|---|---|
| W Fin. | *me* | *lammas<u>ten</u>* (t+n) |
| Est. | *meie* | *lammas<u>te</u>* (later loss of *n*) |
| Liv. | *mēg* | *lambõ<u>d</u>* (later loss of *n*) |
| E Fin. | *myö* | *lampa<u>iden</u>* (i+t+n) |
| Kar. | *myö* | *lambah<u>in</u>* (loss of *t* due to consonant gradation) |
| Vep. | *ḿī* | *lambh<u>iď</u>en* |

# The tripartite division

Finnish (e. dialects)
Karelian — eastern group
Veps
Ingrian



north

Finnish (w. dialects) — western group

Vote
Estonian — southern group ← south
South Estonian
Livonian

# Cladistic

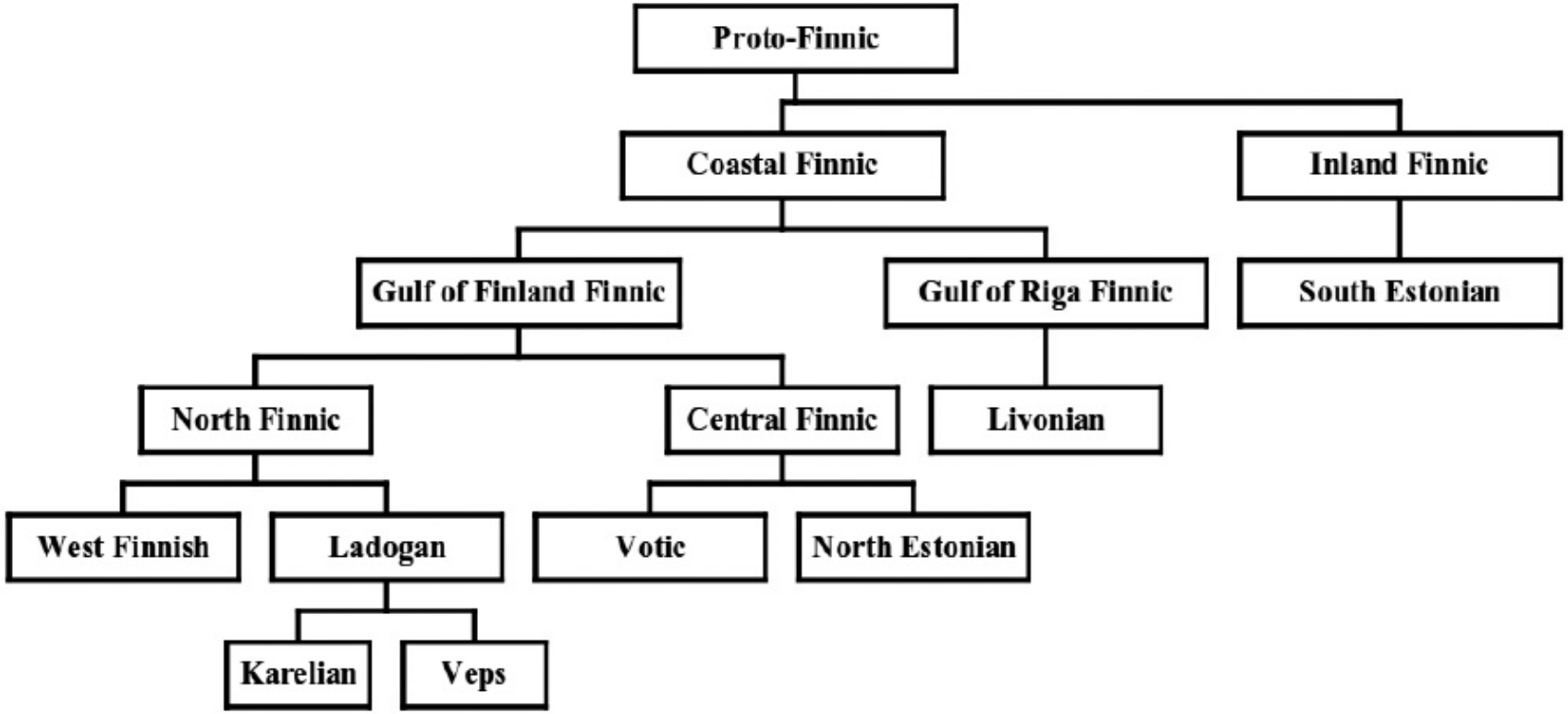



*Fig. 1. The Finnic family tree.*

Kallio, Petri 2014. The diversification of Finnic. In: Ahola, Joonas et al. *Fibula, Fabula, Fact. The Viking Age in Finland*. Helsinki. p.163.

# Handbooks

**Linguistics:**

Bereczki, Gábor 2000. *Bevezetés a balti finn nyelvészetbe.* Budapest: Universitas kiadó.
Kettunen, Lauri 1960. *Suomen lähisukukielten luonteenomaiset piirteet.* Suomalais-ugrilaisen seuran toimituksia 119. Helsinki: Suomalais-ugrilainen seura.
Laanest, Arvo 1975. *Sissejuhatus läänemeresoome keeltesse.* Tallinn: Eest NSV Teaduste Akadeemia.
Laanest, Arvo 1982. *Einführung in die ostseefinnischen Sprachen.* Hamburg: Buske. (German translation of Laanest 1975)
Õispuu, Jaan (ed). 1988. *Kaheksa keelt, kaheksa rahvast.* Tallinn:

**History & culture:**

Jokipii, Mauno (ed) 1995. *Itämerensuomalaiset. Heimokansojen historiaa ja kohtaloita.* Helsinki: Atena.
Klement'ev, Je.I. & Šlygina, N.B. (eds) 2003. *Pribaltijsko-finskie narody Rossii.* Moskva.

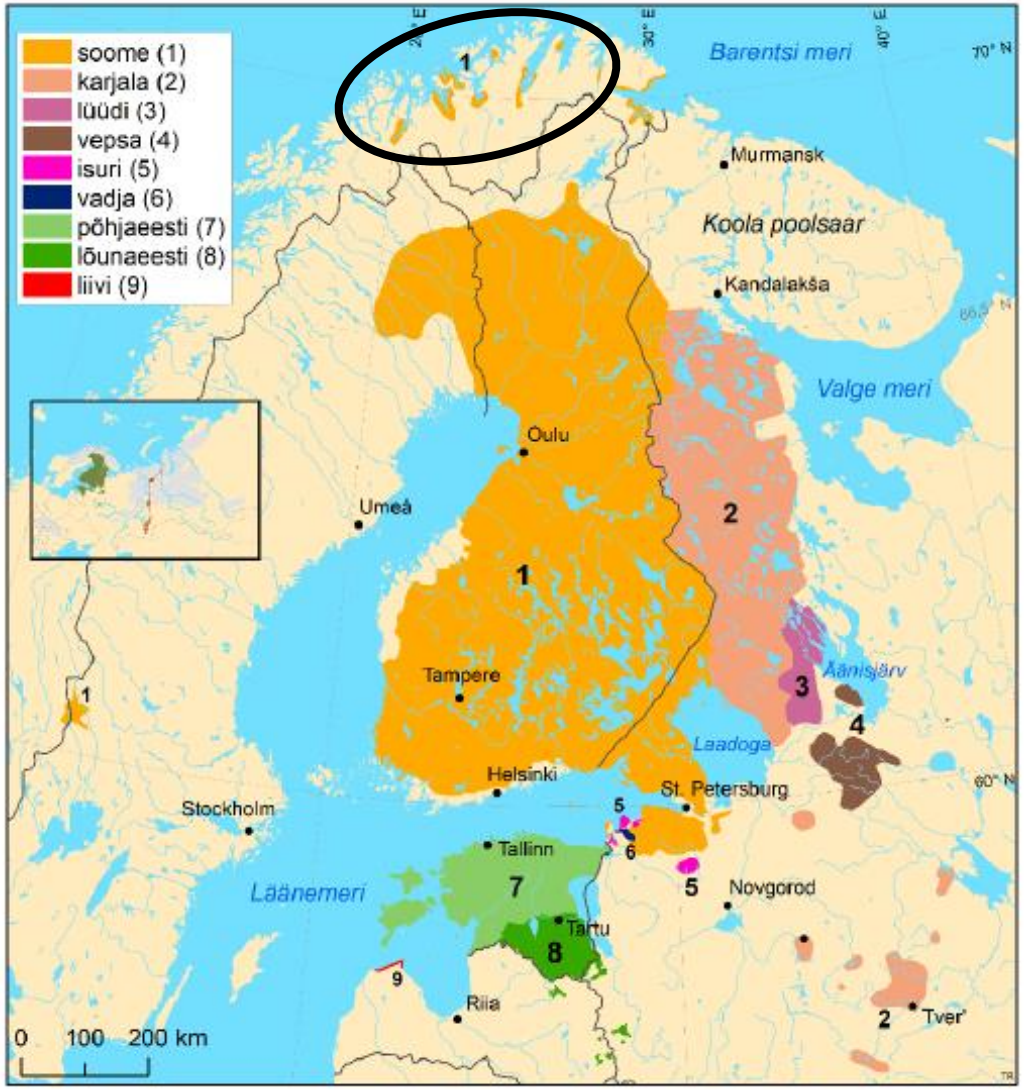
# B
# Brief overviews of the Finnic languages

# 1. The Kven language

- Kvens are an official minority in Norway since 1998

- Language status in Norway since 2005; official language in Porsanger municipality

- Number of speakers: 8 000 – 15 000




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# Phonetics & phonology

a b d đ e f g h i j k l m n o p r s š t u v y ä ö

*yks* ~ *yhđen*, *vesi* ~ *veđen* (only in Porsanger! Other dialects: *yhen*, *veen*; cf. Finnish *yksi* ~ *yhden*, *vesi* ~ *veden*)

triphthongs: *nuo* ‘those’ > *nuoilta*, *nuoitten* (otherwise only in Lude and Livonian)

h: *saunhaan* ‘to the sauna’ (< **saunahan* > Fi. *saunaan*, Kar. *saunah*)
*ajamhaan* < **ajamahan* > Fi. *ajamaan*
*rikkhaan* < **rikkahan* > Fi. *rikkaan*
*lamphaat* < **lampahat* > Fi. *lampaat*

# Morphology

*venet* ‘boat’ = Fi. *vene*
*puhhuut* ‘to talk’ = Fi. *puhua*
*äitilet* ‘to mother’ = Fi. *äidille*
*läpit* ‘through’ = Fi. *läpi*

*vanhaa* ‘old’ > *vanhempi* ‘older’ > *vanhiin* ‘oldest’
but also:
*vanhaa* > *vanhempi* > *vanhimus* (borrowed from Saamic)
*paha* ‘bad’ > *pahempi* ‘worse’ > *pahimus* ‘worst’ (cf. NSa *báha* > *bahát* > *bahámus*)

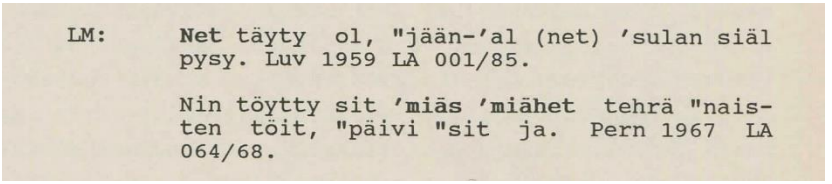
*tämä oon minun kirja* ‘this is my book’ = Fi. *tämä on kirjani*
*hän pesi omat jalat* ‘she washed her feet’ = Fi. *hän pesi jalkansa*
*hän pesi ittensä jalat* ‘id.’ (cf. Est. *ta pesi oma/enda jalad* ‘id.’)

# Syntax

**Plural predicate in the nominative plural:**
*het oon kovin iloiset* ‘They were very happy’
*vanhaat kainulaiset olthiin sepät ihmiset* ‘The old Kvens were very skilled people.’
Cf. Fi. *vanhat kväänit olivat taitavia ihmisiä*; plural predicate in the partitive plural
But cf. Est. *vanad kveenid olid oskuslikud inimesed*; plural predicate also in the nominative plural

**Modal verb agrees with the subject:**
*mie häyđyn mennä kothiin* ‘I have to go home’
Cf. Fin. *minun täytyy mennä kotiin* ‘id.’; modal verb is in 3Sg
Cf. Est. *mina pean*..., Fi. dial. *minä täydyn*…

LM = lounaismurteet ’Southwestern dialects of Finnish’

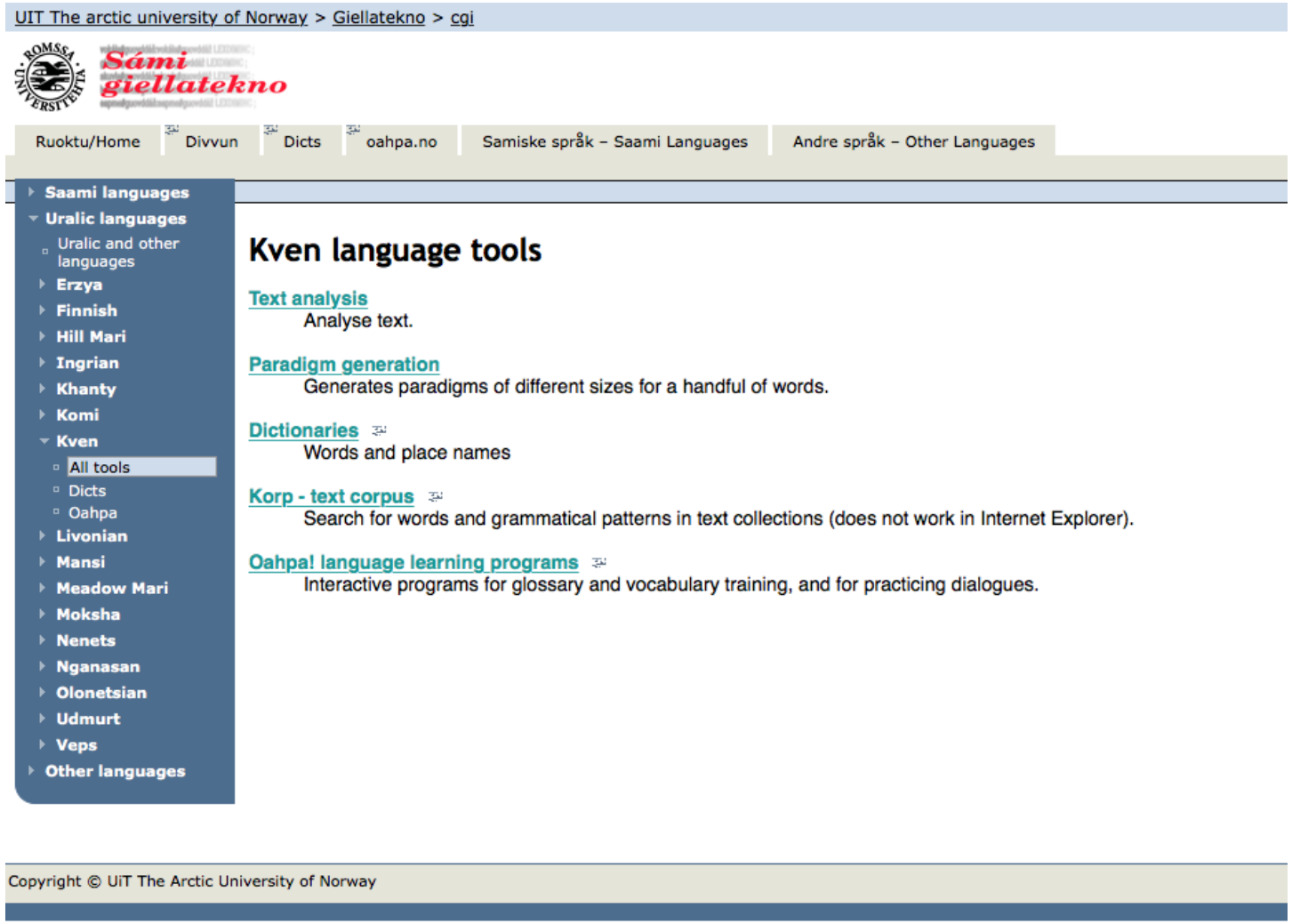

LM: Net täyty ol, "jään-'al (net) 'sulan siäl pysy. Luv 1959 LA 001/85.

Nin töytty sit 'miäs 'miähet tehrä "naisten töit, "päivi "sit ja. Pern 1967 LA 064/68.

Ikola, Osmo et al. 1989. *Suomen murteiden lauseoppia ja tekstikielioppia*. Helsinki. p. 229.

**Object case in the imperative:**
*Kirjota preivin faarile!* ‘Write a letter to granddad!’; accusative
*Ojena minule tuon piđemän kepin!* ‘Hand me that longer stick!’
Cf. Fin. *Ojenna minulle tuo pidempi keppi!* ‘Id.’; object is in nominative

# Kven language tools on the Internet




http://giellatekno.uit.no/cgi/index.fkv.eng.html

## Grammars

Söderholm, Eira 2014. *Kainun kielen grammatikki.* Helsinki: Suomalaisen Kirjallisuuden Seura.
Söderholm, Eira 2017. *Kvensk grammatikk.* Oslo: Cappelen Damm Akademisk.

## Dictionaries

Pyykkö, Vappu Inkeri 2008. Sana-aitta. Ordliste til “Kuosuvaaran takana” og “Aittiruto” av Alf Nilsen-Børsskog. Børselv: Kainun institutti – Kvensk institutt. (*a wordlist of typical Kven words used in novels by the Kven author Alf Nilsen-Børsskog*)

## Texts

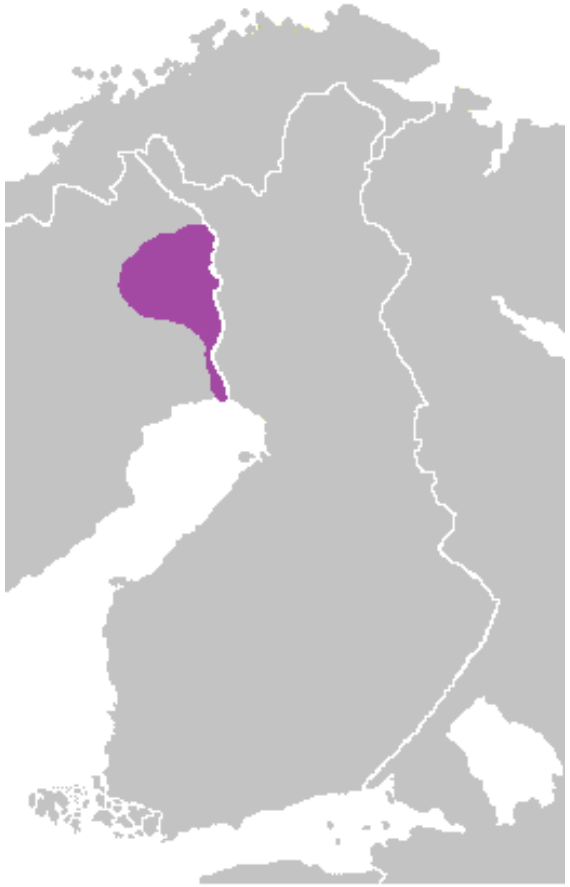
Nilsen-Børsskog, Alf 2004. *Kuosuvaaran takana.* Ikkaldas: Iđut. (*the first novel in Kven*)
Nilsen-Børsskog, Alf 2007. *Aittiruto.* Ikkaldas: Iđut.

## Other important publications

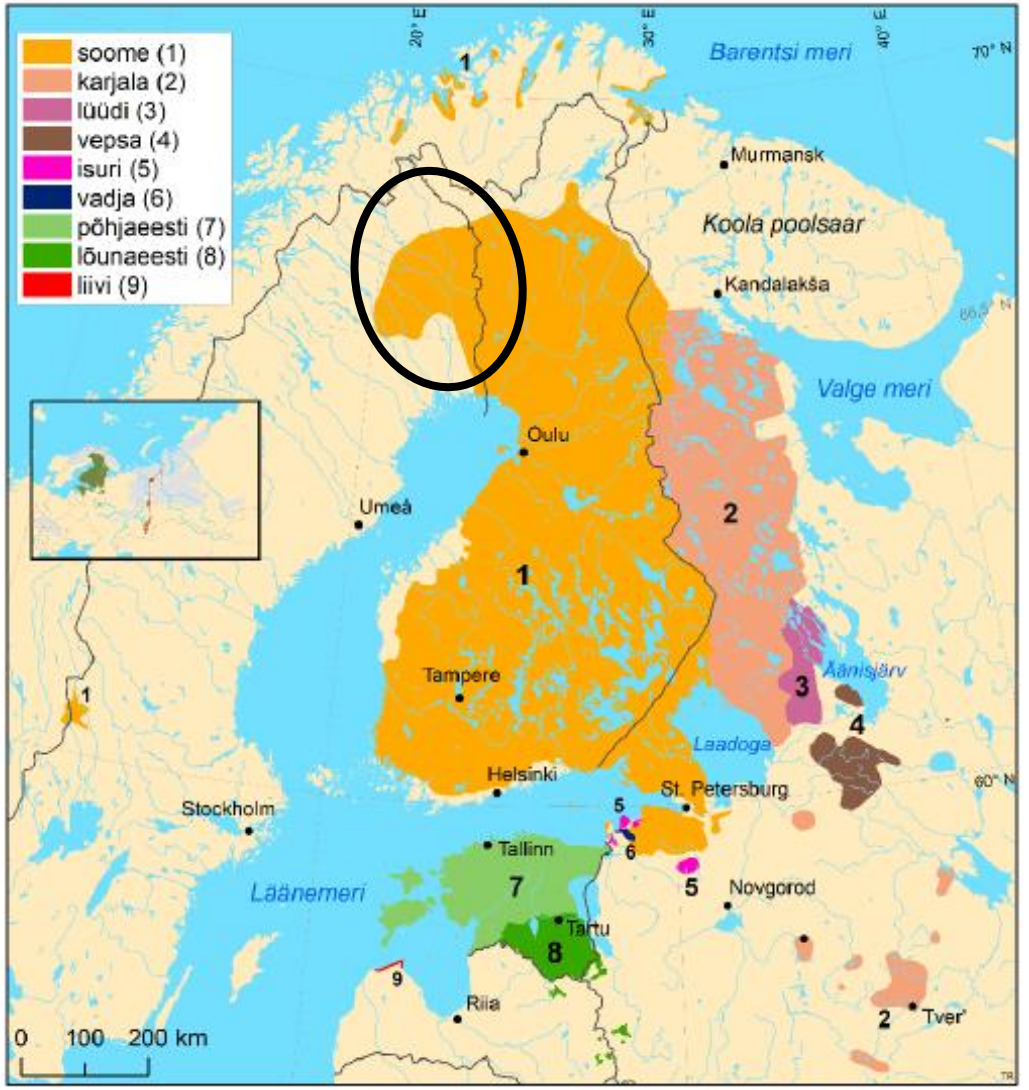
Räisänen, Anna-Kaisa & Arola, Laura 2012. *The Kven language: an overview of a language in context.* Working Papers in European Language Diversity 15. Mainz.
Lane, Pia 2011. The birth of the Kven language in Norway. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* 209: 57–74
Larsen, Karin & Paavalniemi, Pirjo & Söderholm, Eira 2012. *Allmenn innføring i skriving av kvensk*. Børselv: Kainun institutti – Kvensk institutt. (*a brief introduction to the orthography*)
Lindgren, Anna-Riitta 1993, *Miten muodot muuttuvat*. *Ruijan murteiden verbitaivutus Raision, Pyssyjoen ja Annijoen kveeniyhteisössä*. Tromsø.(*monograph on Kven morphology*)

# 2. Meänkieli

Meänkieli, very closely related to Finnish, acquired language status in Sweden in 2000



Wikimedia Commons
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Meänkieli_kartalla.png




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# Phonetics & phonology

a (b) (d) e f g h i j k l m n o p r s t u v y ä ö

*yks* ~ *yhen*, *vesi* ~ *veen* (cf. Fi. *yksi* ~ *yhden*, *vesi* ~ *veden*)

H phoneme: *saunhaan* ~ *sauhnaan* ‘to the sauna’ (< **saunahan* > Fi. *saunaan*, Kar. *saunah*)
*ajamhaan* ‘to drive’ < **ajamahan* > Fi. *ajamaan*
*vierhaan* ~ *viehraan* ‘stranger’ (gsg) < **vierahan* > Fi. *vieraan*
*kylmähän* ~ *kylmhään* ~ *kylhmään* ‘cold’ (illsg) < **külmähän* > Fi. *kylmään*

*Panee minun myötä facebookhiin* ‘Befriend me on Facebook’
*Läheks juhlimhaan viikonloppuna?* ‘Shall we party on the weekend?’

# Morphology

*pitkä* ‘tall’ > *pitempi* ‘taller’ > *pishiin* ‘tallest’

Possessive suffixes tend not to be used;

*mie sanon kerran minun mammale*... ‘I once said to my mother…’
*mutta jos met emmä ossaa eli emmä saa kirjottaa ja puhua meän ommaa kieltä, meitä ei ole niinku olemassa*. ‘But if we do not know or can write and speak our own language, it is as if we do not exist.’

If they do occur, then only the 2nd and 3rd person singular forms:

*Oonkos pappasti kotona?* ‘Is your father at home?’
*Se ei halunnu panna paitaansa likhoon* ‘He didn’t want to put his shirt to soak’

# Morphology

Case forms:

| | ‘horse’ | ‘hand’ |
|---|---|---|
| nominative | *hevonen* | *käsi* |
| genitive | *hevosen* | *käen* |
| partitive | *hevosta* | *kättä* |
| inessive | *hevosessa* | *käessä* |
| elative | *hevosesta* | *käestä* |
| illative | *hevosheen* | *kätheen* |
| adessive | *hevosella* | *käelä* |
| ablative | *hevoselta* | *käeltä* |
| allative | *hevoselle* | *käele* |
| essive | *hevosenna* | *kätenä* |
| translative | *hevoseksi* | *käeksi* |
| abessive | *hevosetta* | *käettä* |
| comitative | *hevosinheen* | *käsihneen* |
| instructive | *hevosin* | *käsin* |

# Syntax

Object case in the imperative:
*Osta hyvän hevosen!* ‘Buy a good horse!’
*Osta hyvä hevonen!* can also occur

Modal verb agrees with the subject:
*Met häymä jatkaa* ‘we have to continue’
Cf. Fin. *meidän täytyy jatkaa* ‘id.’
but cf. Est. *me peame jätkama*

Flag of the Tornedalians (‘Meänmaan flaku’)
(15 July)

# Glottonyms, endonyms and exonyms

***meänkieli*** ‘our language’

- *tornionlaaksonsuomi* ‘Torne Valley Finnish’
  (Sw. *tornedalsfinska*)
- *lannankieli* ‘Lanta language’

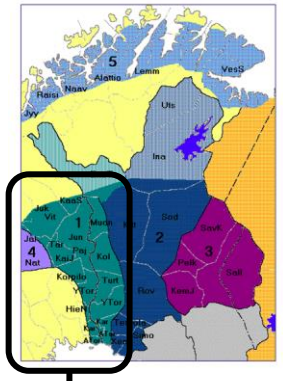
*jukkasjärvensuomi* ‘Jukkasjärvi Finnish’

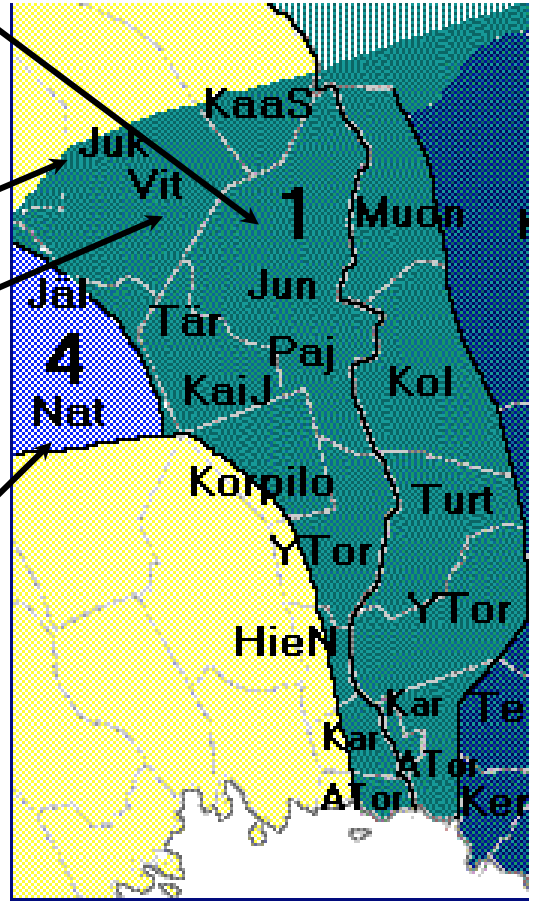
*vittankinsuomi* ‘Vitt Finnish’

*suomi*
‘Finnish’

(Sw. *jukkasjärvifinska* ‘J. Finnish’)

(Sw. *byfinska* ‘village Finnish’)



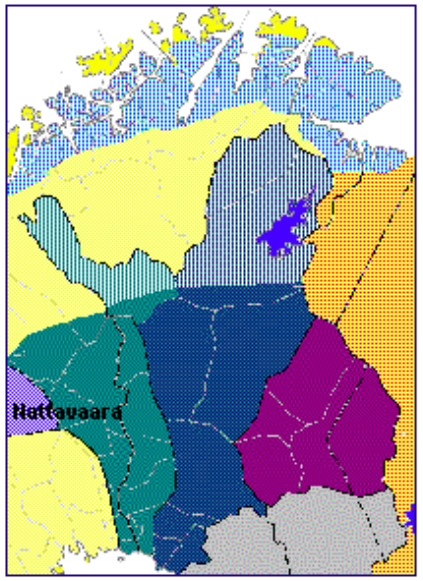



http://sokl.uef.fi/aineistot/aidinkieli/murteet/perapohj.html

Täälä likelaki on vanhat kesahauat. Net on häätuttu hautaa, ko on lämmin ollu. Mie piin yhen episuutin sannoo siitä hautahommasta. Yks vanha äija, se on kuolu ny, taitaa kakskymmentä vuotta aikaa, mulle berättai. Hällä oli nepukka kuolu kesala, ja net hautaiva sen tänne vaaralen, ei se oli pikta tästa.
Se oli kevakesa, ja äija meni hyysikhän eli hemlihyyssiin. Siina olthin tyha reika. Äija istuu siela. Se on varhan aamu, ei ole pimmii ollenkhan, oikhen häämu vain. Ko äija istuu siina, niin yhtäkkiä tullee nepukka, mikä on tuola hauvassa. Se ottaa kiini nuita ovensyrjista, mutta äija niin pöläsui, ette se hyppai siita. Ei se kerjeny valhmiiksi tehä mithään mutta hyppai siita ja niin laukkui äija ja meni ämman työt. Ei se ollu pikta tuphan.

*täälä* = Fi. *täällä*
*net* = Fi. *ne*
*häätuttu* = *häätyä* ‘must’
*mie* = Fi. *minä*
*piin* = Fi. *pidin*
*episuutin*: *episuutti*
*sannoo* = Fi. *sanoa*
*berättai* = Sw. *berätta* ‘to tell’
*hautaiva* ‘they buried’
*vaaralen* = Fi. *vaaralle*
*pikta* = Fi. *pitkä*

*hyysikhän*: *hyysikkä* ‘toilet’
*olthin* (= Fi. *oltiin*) = Fi. *oli*
*pimmii* = Fi. *pimeä*
*hemlihyysi* = Sw. *hemlighet* ‘toilet’
*häämu* ‘hazy’
*nepukka* = Fi. *nepaa* ‘cousin’
*pöläsui* = Fi. *pelastyi*
*hyppai* = Fi. *hyppäsi*
*aukkui*: *laukkua* ‘to run’
*työt* = Fi. *tykö* ‘towards’
*tuphan* = Fi. *tupaan*



Kertoja Arnold Högman (10.5.1911 – 4.1.1993) syntyi ja eli ikänsä Nattavaarassa, n. 50 kilometriä Jällivaarasta etelään.

# A text in Meänkieli

http://sokl.uef.fi/aineistot/aidinkieli/murteet/nattavaa.html

## Grammars

Kenttä, Matti & Pohjanen 1996. *Meänkielen kramatiikki*. Overtorneå: Kaamos.

Pohjanen, Bengt & Muli, Eeva 2007. *Meänkieli rätt och lätt. Grammatik och lärobok i meänkieli.* Överkalix: Barents.

## Dictionaries

Pohjanen, Bengt (huvudred.) & Töyrylä, Hannu (red.) 2011. *Meänkielen iso sanakirja A-K*. *Storordbok för meänkieli.* Överkalix: Barents.

Pohjanen, Bengt (huvudred.) & Töyrylä, Hannu (red.) 2013. *Meänkielen iso sanakirja L-N*. *Storordbok för meänkieli*. Överkalix: Barents Publisher.

http://meankielensanakirja.com

## Texts

Niemi, Mikael 2002. *Poppimysiikkiä Vittulasta*. (transl. Paul Muotka). Stockholm: Norstedt. (*Meänkieli translation of Niemi's famous novel 'Popular music from Vittula'*)

Pohjanen, Bengt 1985. *Lyykeri.* Överkalix: Kaamos. (*first novel in Meänkieli*)

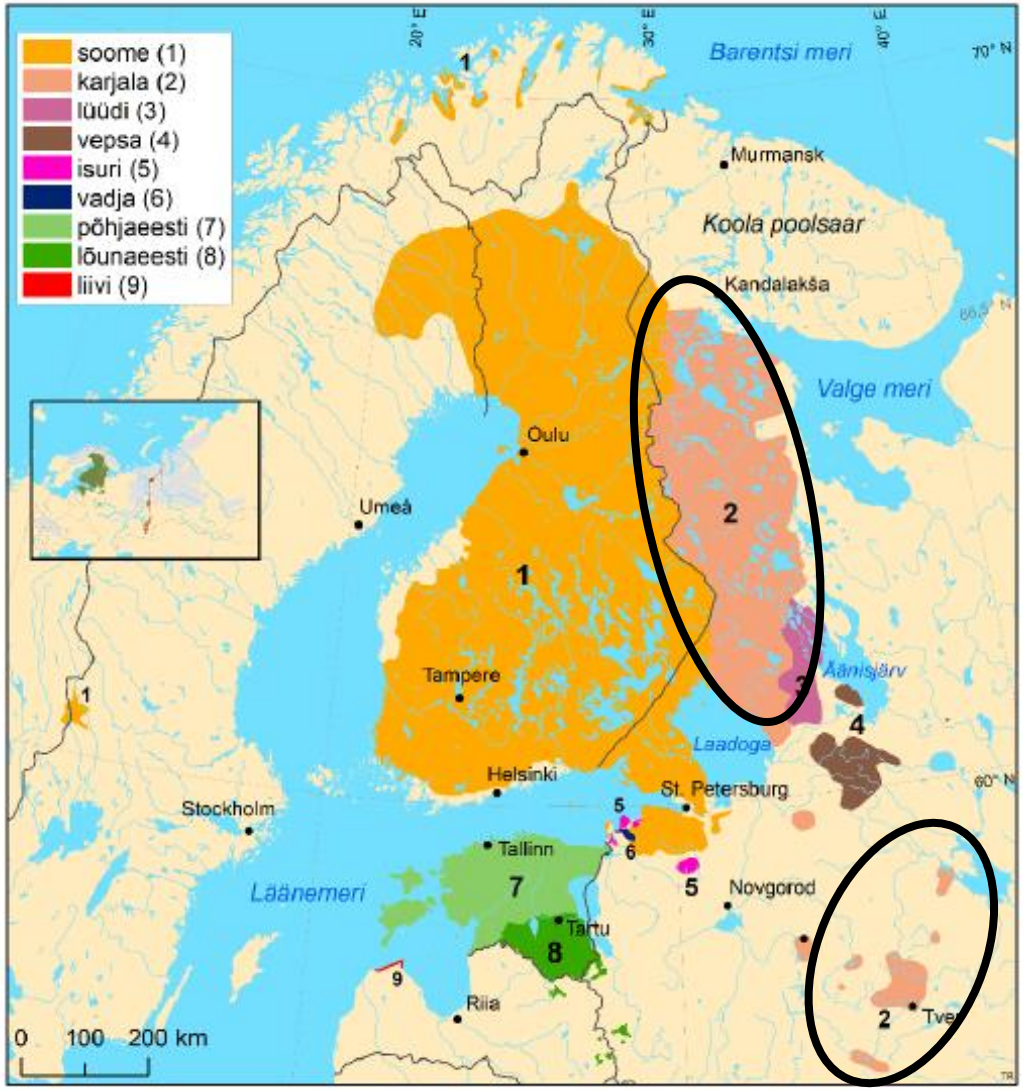
## Other important publications

Arola, Laura & Kunnas, Niina & Winsa, Birger 2011. *Meänkieli in Sweden: an overview of a language in context.* Working Papers in European Language Diversity 6. Mainz.

Hansegård, Nils-Erik 1990. *Den norrbottensfinska språkfrågen. En återblick på halvspråkighetsdebatten.* Uppsala Multiethnic Papers 19. Uppsala: Uppsala University.

# 3. Karelian

| | |
|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 |
| South Estonian | 30 000 |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 |
| **Karelian** | **25 000** |
| **Olonets** | **15 000** |
| Kven | 8 000 |
| Veps | 3 500 |
| **Lude** | **300** |
| Ingrian | 70 |
| Vote | 5 |
| Livonian | 0 |




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

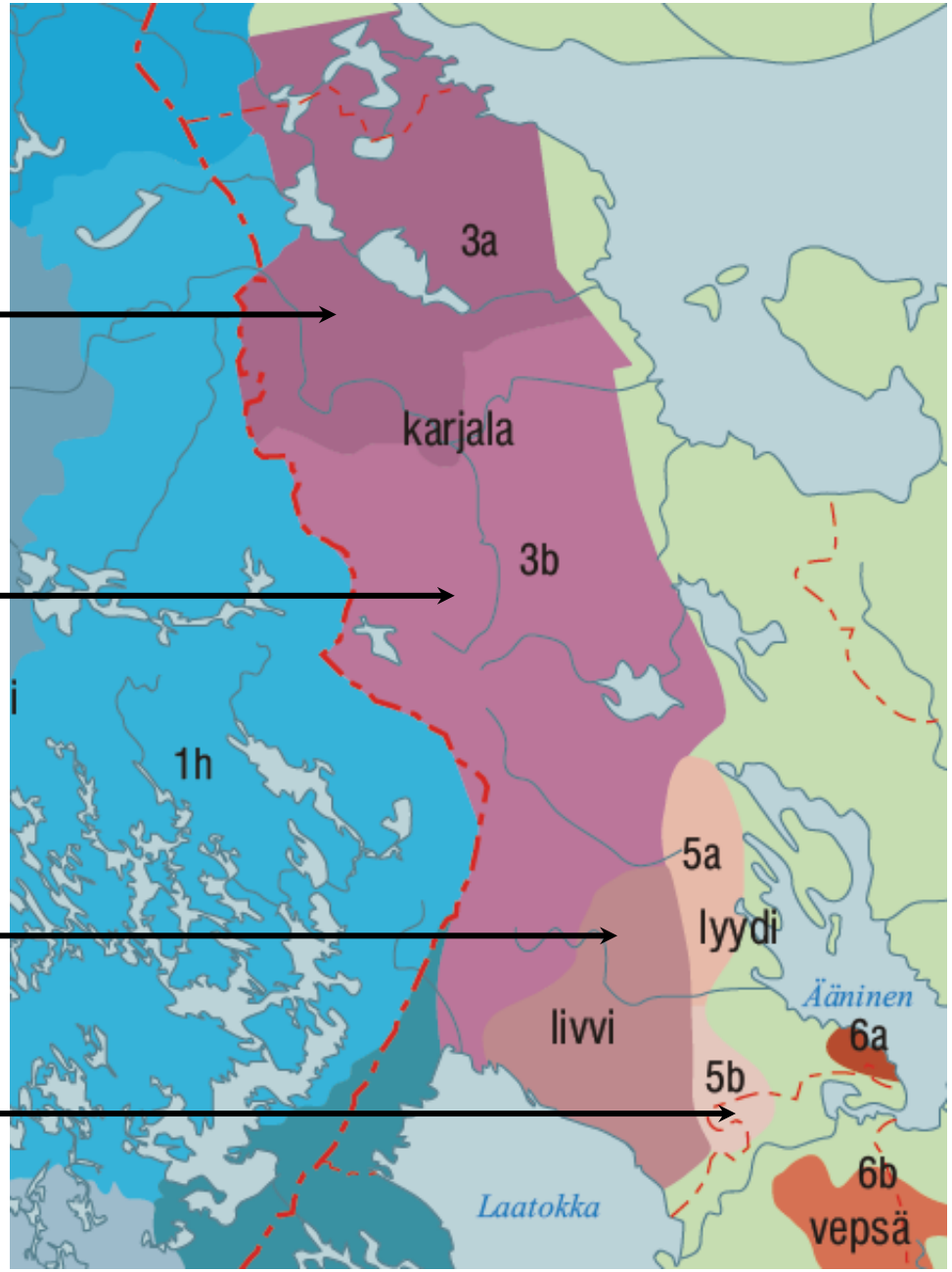
# Maps

North Karelian

South Karelian

Olonets

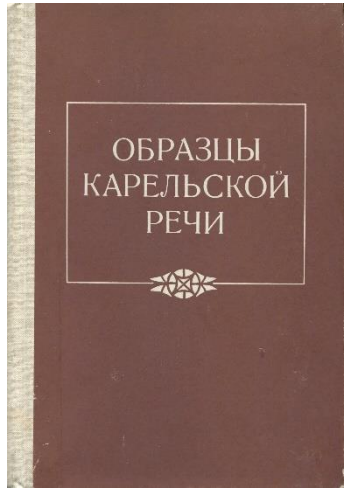
Lude

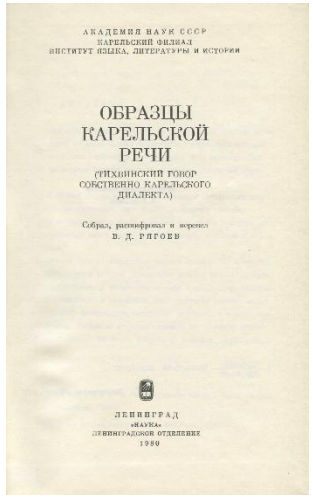


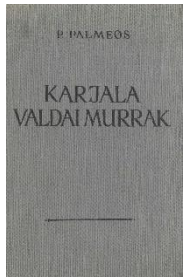

Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

# Maps

(and text collections)



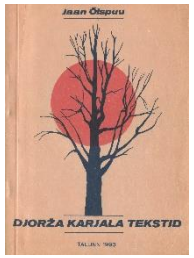



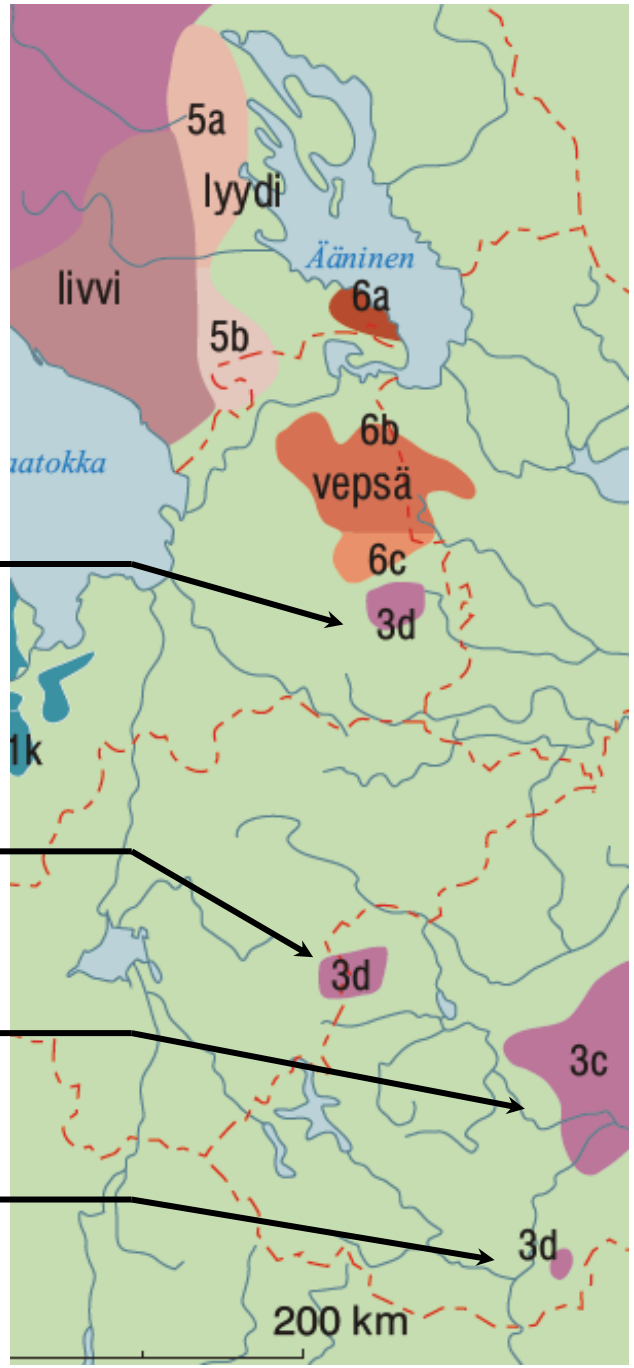

Tihvin Karelian (South)

Valdai Karelian (South)

Tver Karelian (South)




Djorža Karelian (South)




Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

# many „Karelias”:

**Karjalan Tasavalta**
‘Republic of Karelia’

**Pohjois-Karjala**
‘North Karelia’

**Raja-Karjala**
‘Border Karelia’

**Laatokan Karjala**
‘Ladoga Karelia’

**Etelä-Karjala**
’South Karelia’

**Karjalan kannas**
‘Karelian isthmus’

**Tverin Karjala**
‘Tver Karelia’

http://www.jns.fi/museokoulu/kokokuva/historia/isot_kuvat/karjalat.html

# Glottonyms

| **Karelian** | **English** | **Finnish** |
|---|---|---|
| *(vienan)karjala* | *North Karelian* | *pohjoiskarjala, vienankarjala* |
| *karjala* | *South Karelian* | *eteläkarjala* |
| *Tverin kariela* | *Tver Karelian* | *tverinkarjala* |
| *livvin kieli* | *Olonets* | *aunus, aunuksen karjala* |
| *lüüdin kiel’* | *Lude* | *lyydi* |

# Number of speakers

| | |
|---|---|
| North Karelian: | 35 000 |
| South Karelian: | |
| Tver: | *14 600* |
| Djorža: | *70* |
| Novgorod (Valdai): | † |
| Leningrad (Tihvin): | *1500 ~ 2000* |
| Olonets: | 15 000 |
| Lude: | 300 |

In the Republic of Karelia Karelians only make up 10% of the population, and only 50% of those still speak Karelian.

# Karelian dialect continuum

| | ‘leg’ | ‘tail’ | ‘sheep’ | ‘white’(NOM) | ‘white’(ADE) | ‘high’(NOM) | ‘high’(ADE) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Fin.** | *jalka* | *häntä* | *lampaat* | *valkea* | *valkealla* | *korkea* | *korkealla* |
| **NKar.** | *jalka* | *häntä* | *lampahat* | *valkia* | *valkialla* | *korkia* | *korkialla* |
| **SKar.** | *jalga* | *händä* | *lambahat* | *valgia* | *valgialla* | *korgia* | *korgialla* |
| **Olon.** | *jalgu* | *händü* | *lambahat* | *valgie* | *valgiel* | *korgie* | *korgiel* |
| **Lude** | *ďalg* | *händ* | *lambahad* | *valged* | *valgedal* | *korged* | *korgedal* |
| **Veps** | *ďaug* | *händ* | *lambhad* | *vouged* | *vouktal* | *korged* | *korttal* |

# Typical features of Karelian

**Karelian proper (North and South Karelian):**

Diphtongization: *aa*, *ää*, *ee*, *oo*, *öö* > *ua*, *iä*, *ie*, *uo*, *üö*: *mua* ‘land’, *piä* ‘head’, *vien* ‘I bring’, *šüön* ‘I eat’

*h* retained: *lambahat* ‘sheep’, *veneh* ‘ship’

*s* > *š*: *šanon* (not in Olonets or Lude!)

NKar: *isä* ‘father’, *lisätä* ‘to add’ - SKar: *izä*, *lizätä* (only after *i*, otherwise *s* > *š*)

Consonant gradation in combinations with voiceless consonants:

*uškoa* ‘to believe’ > *ušš̆on* ‘I believe’

*mušta* ‘black’ > *mušš̆at* (pl)

*pitkä* ‘long’ > *pität* (pl)

North Karelian: *jalka* ‘leg’, *häntä* ‘tail’, *lampahat* ‘sheep’ (pl)

South Karelian: *jalga* ‘leg’, *händä* ‘tail’, *lambahat* ‘sheep’ (pl)

# Typical features of Karelian

**Karelian proper (North and South Karelian):**

plural suffix *-lOi*: *suoloissa* ‘in swamps’ (cf. Fin. *soissa*, Est. *soodes*)

adessive instead of allative: *vedellä* ‘on the water; onto the water’

impersonal instead of 3rd p.pl.: *hüö šanotah* ‘they say’

# Typical features of Karelian

***lugie* 'to read'**

| **present** | **sg** | **pl** |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | *luven* | *luvemma* |
| 2. | *luvet* | *luvetta* |
| 3. | *lugou* | *lugietah* |

| **preterite** | **sg** | **pl** |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | *luvin* | *luvimma* |
| 2. | *luvit* | *luvitta* |
| 3. | *lugi* | *lugiettįh* |

# Typical features of Olonets

*a* > *u*: *poika* > *poigu* ‘boy’; *orava* > *oravu* ‘squirrel’

both allative and adessive exist: *moale* ‘to the land’, *moal* ‘on the land’

no elative: *meťšäs päi* ‘from the forest’

no ablative: *meťšäl päi* ‘from the top of the forest’

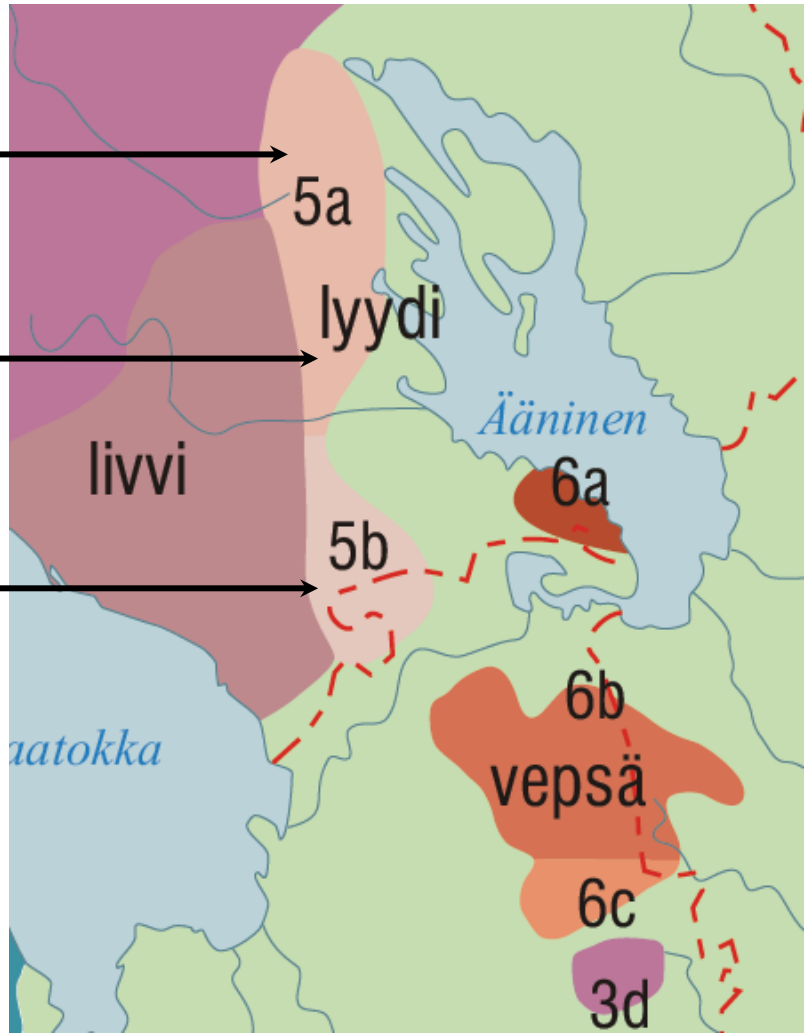
*andanuižin* ‘I would have given’ < **antanut* + *olisin*
(cf. Est. *andnuksin* ‘id.’)

# Dialects of Lude

**North Lude (Kontupohja)**
(contact with South Karelian)

**Central Lude (Prääsä)**
(contact with Olonets)

**South Lude (Kuujärv)**
(contact with North Veps)




Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

# Typical features of Lude

Usually no consonant gradation with stops:

*mägi* ‘hill’ > *mägen* (cf. Fin. *mäki* > *mäen*)

*kuolnuded* ‘the dead’ (cf. Fin. *kuolleet* << **kōlnutet*)

*ďuoda* ‘to drink’ (cf. Fin. *juoda*, Veps *ďoda*)

*nuoŕ* ‘young’ (cf. Fin. *nuori*, Veps *noŕ*)

no elative: *meťšäs piäi* ‘from the forest’

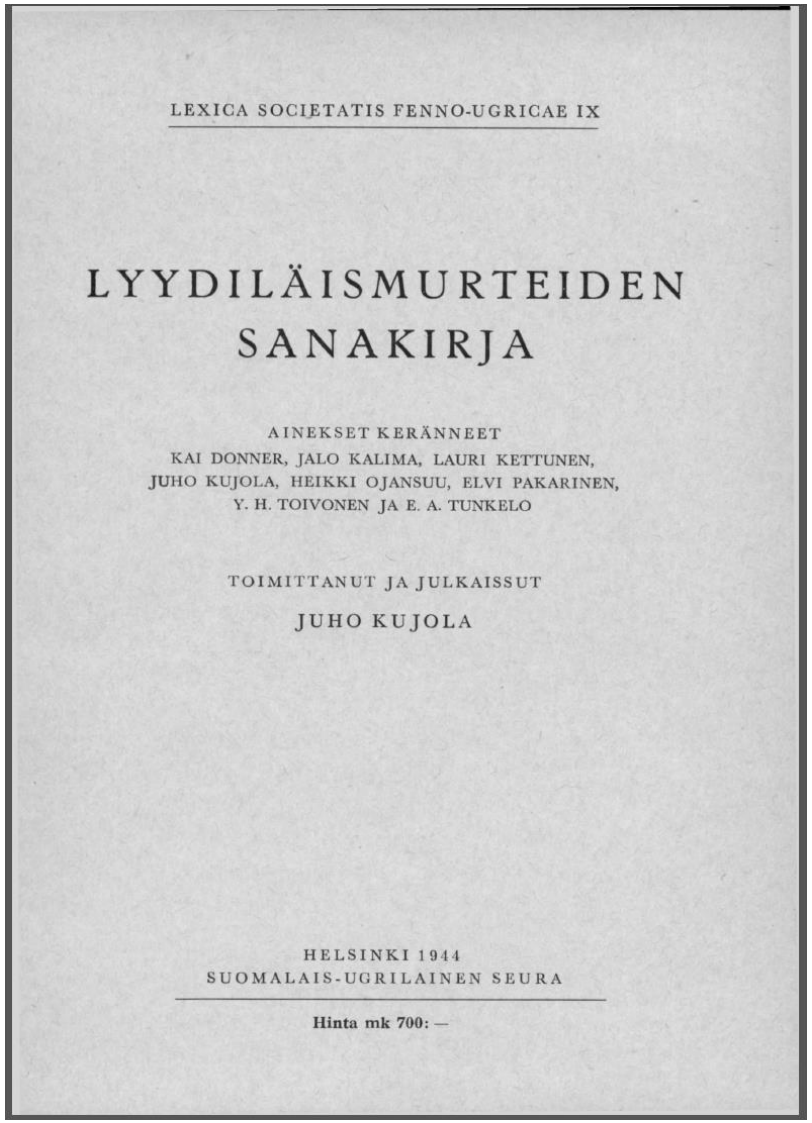
no ablative: *meťšäl piäi* ‘from the top of the forest’

inchoative *-škande*: *ruadaškanden* ‘I start working’

(North Lude: *ruadaškaden*)

(cf. Kildin Saami *sarŋjškuadɛ* ‘to start to talk’ < *sarnɛ* ‘to talk’;

cf. North Saami *muitališgoahtit* ‘to start to tell’ < *muitalit* ‘to tell’)



LEXICA SOCIETATIS FENNO-UGRICAE IX

LYYDILÄISMURTEIDEN SANAKIRJA

AINEKSET KERÄNNEET
KAI DONNER, JALO KALIMA, LAURI KETTUNEN,
JUHO KUJOLA, HEIKKI OJANSUU, ELVI PAKARINEN,
Y. H. TOIVONEN JA E. A. TUNKELO

TOIMITTANUT JA JULKAISSUT
JUHO KUJOLA

HELSINKI 1944
SUOMALAIS-UGRILAINEN SEURA

Hinta mk 700: —

https://fennougrica.kansalliskirjasto.fi/handle/10024/89818

# Karelian written languages

Today there are three written languages:

**North Karelian** (*karjala*, *vienankarjala*)
**(= North, Viena)**

**Olonets Karelian** (*livvin kieli*)

**South Karelian** (karjala)
**(Especially Tver Karelian** (*tverin kariela*)

# The written language

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Birch-bark_letter_292_real.jpg

birch bark letter no. 292: the oldest document in any Finnic language, dated to the beginning of the 13th century

# The written language

Nr. 292

Arcihovskin (Arcihovski & Borkovski 1963: 120) tulkinta (translitteroituna):
*jumolanuoli.i.nimiži / nulišĕhanoliomobu / jumolasudьniiohovi.*
Vermeerin (1991) transkriptio: *jumolanuliinimiži / nulišĕ[h/l]anoliomobu / [hu/lu]molasudьni[i/p]ohov[i?]*

Laakso, Johanna 1999. Vielä kerran itämerensuomen vanhimmista muistomerkeistä. *Virittäjä* 95: 532.

# Karelian language planning 1930-1940

Diagram 1 Language status planning in Karelia and the Tver area 1930-1940

| | Karelian ASSR | The Tver area |
|---|---|---|
| 1921 | Finnish as the official standard for Karelian | Measures for creating a separate Karelian standard* |
| 1930 | ⇓ | ⇓ |
| 1931 | ⇓ | Standard Tver Karelian (Latin alphabet*) |
| 1932 | Compromises: "Karelo-Finnish" "dialectal literature", "Soviet-Finnish" | ⇓ |
| 1937 | ⇓ | ⇓ Decision to adopt the Cyrillic alphabet* |
| | Unified Standard Karelian (Cyrillic alphabet) | |
| | ⇓ | ⇓ |
| | North Karelian-based* (Cyrillic | Standard Karelian alphabet*) |
| | ⇓ | ⇓ |
| 1938 | Olonets-based* (Cyrillic | Standard Karelian alphabet*) |
| | ⇓ | ⇓ |
| 1939 | Karelian ASSR Standard Karelian | Standard Karelian abandoned.* Russian established as the sole official language.* |
| | ⇓ | |
| 1940 | Return to Standard Finnish | |

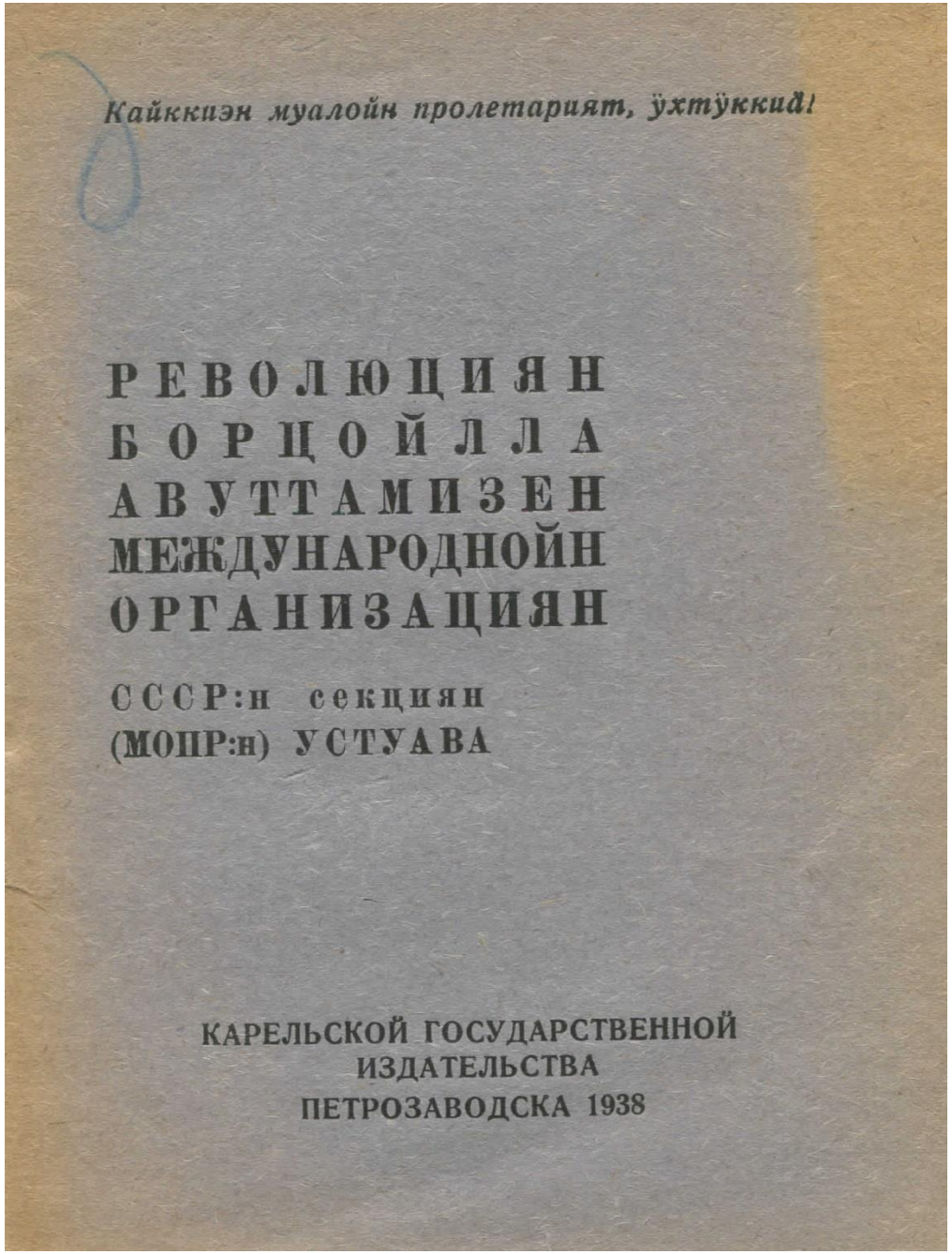
Sarhimaa, Anneli 1999: *Syntactic transfer, contact-induced change, and the evolution of bilingual mixed codes: Focus on Karelian-Russian language alternation*. Helsinki. p. 36.

# 1938
# Standard Karelian based on Olonets

‘Revoljucijan borcoilla avuttamizen meždunarodnojn organizacijan SSSR:n sekcijan (MOPR:n) ustuava’

Устав международной организации помощи борцам революции секции
СССР

‘Charter of the USSR section of the international organisation for helping revolutionary fighters’



## Grammars


Ojansuu, Heikki 1907. *Karjalan kielen opas.* Helsinki.
Turunen, Aimo 1956. *Pohjois-Karjalan murreopas.* Helsinki.
Ruoppila, Veikko 1956. *Etelä-Karjalan murreopas.* Helsinki.
Palmeos, Paula 1962. *Karjala Valdai murrak.* Tallinn.
Novak, Irina et al. 2019. *Karel'skij jazyk v grammatikakh*. Petrozavodsk.
Novak, Irina et al. 2019. *Karjala kieliopeissa*. Petroskoi.
Zaikov, Pekka 2013. *Vienankarjalan kielioppi.* Helsinki.


## Dictionaries


Kujola, Juha 1944. *Lyydiläismurteiden sanakirja.* Helsinki.
Makarov, G.N. 1990. *Slovar' karel'skogo jazyka* (*livvikovskij dialekt*). Petrozavodsk.
Virtaranta, Pertti et al. (eds) 1968-2005. *Karjalan kielen sanakirja I-VI*. Helsinki.
https://kaino.kotus.fi/cgi-bin/kks/karjala.cgi (the above online)


## Texts

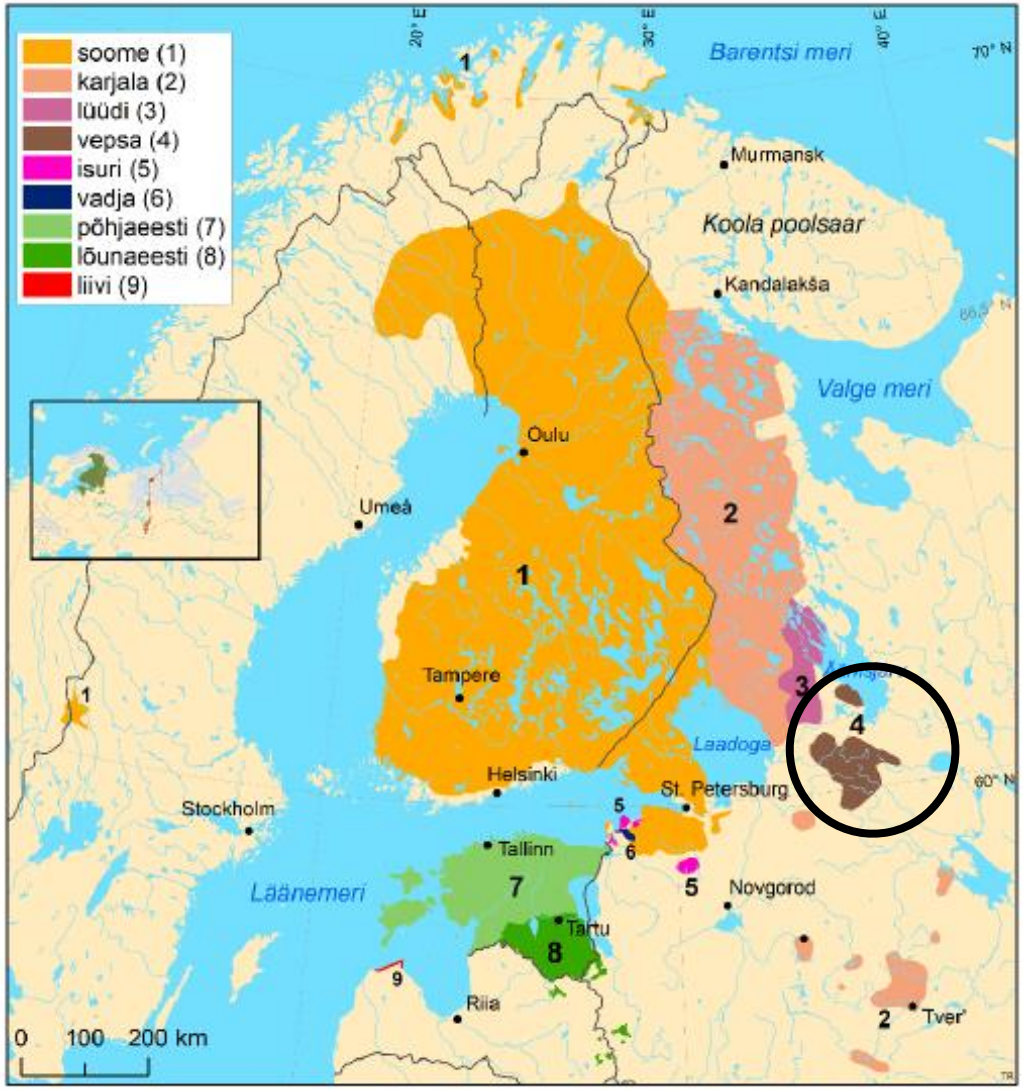

Leskinen, Eino 1933-36. *Karjalan kielen näytteitä I-III.* Helsinki.
Makarov, G.N. & Rjagoev, V.D. 1969. *Obrazcy karel'skoj rechi*. Leningrad.
Virtaranta, Pertti 1962-94. *Lyydiläisiä tekstejä I-VI.* Helsinki.


## Other important publications


Bubrich, D.V. et al. 1997. *Dialektologicheskij atlas karel'skogo jazyka – Karjalan kielen murrekartasto*. Petroskoi- Helsinki.

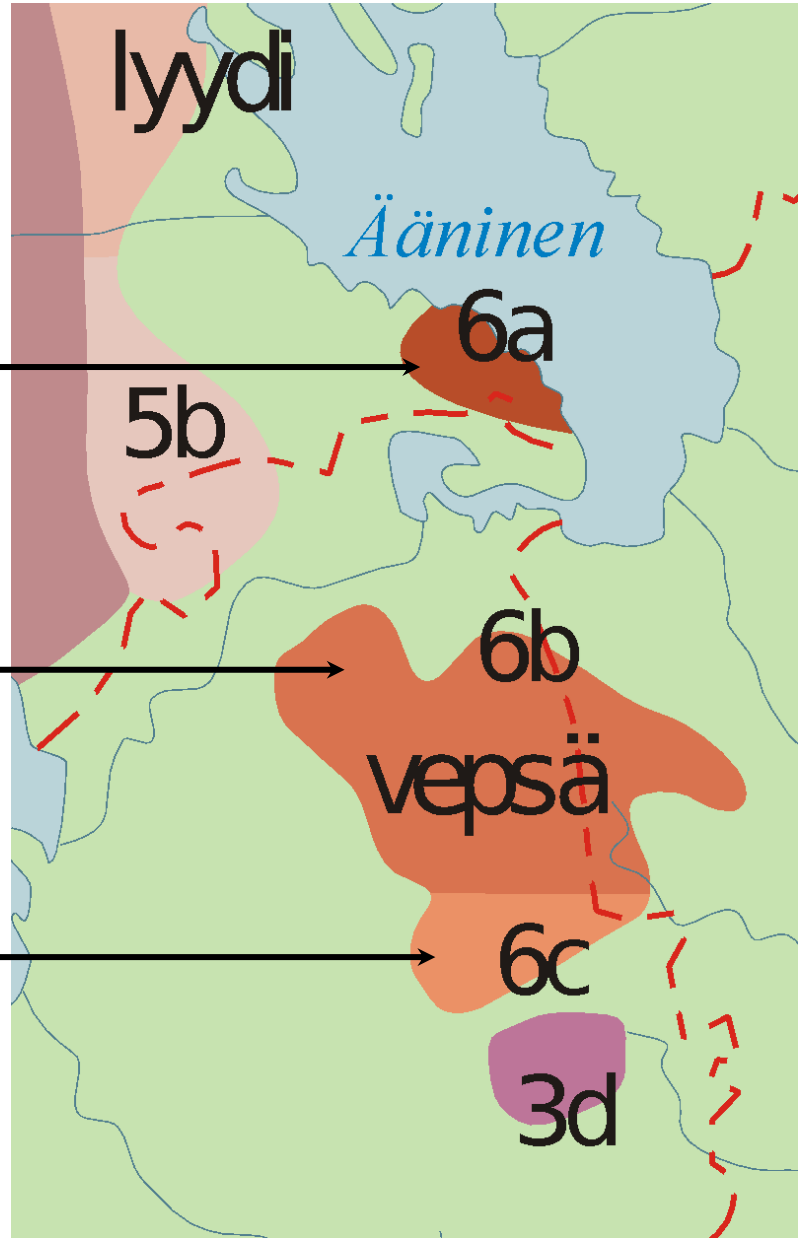
# 4. Veps

| | |
|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 |
| South Estonian | 30 000 |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 |
| Karelian | 25 000 |
| Olonets | 15 000 |
| Kven | 8 000 |
| **Veps** | **3 500** |
| Lude | 300 |
| Ingrian | 70 |
| Vote | 5 |
| Livonian | 0 |




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

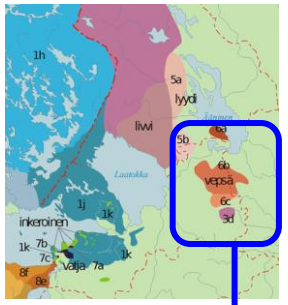
# Maps




Northern Veps

Central Veps

Southern Veps



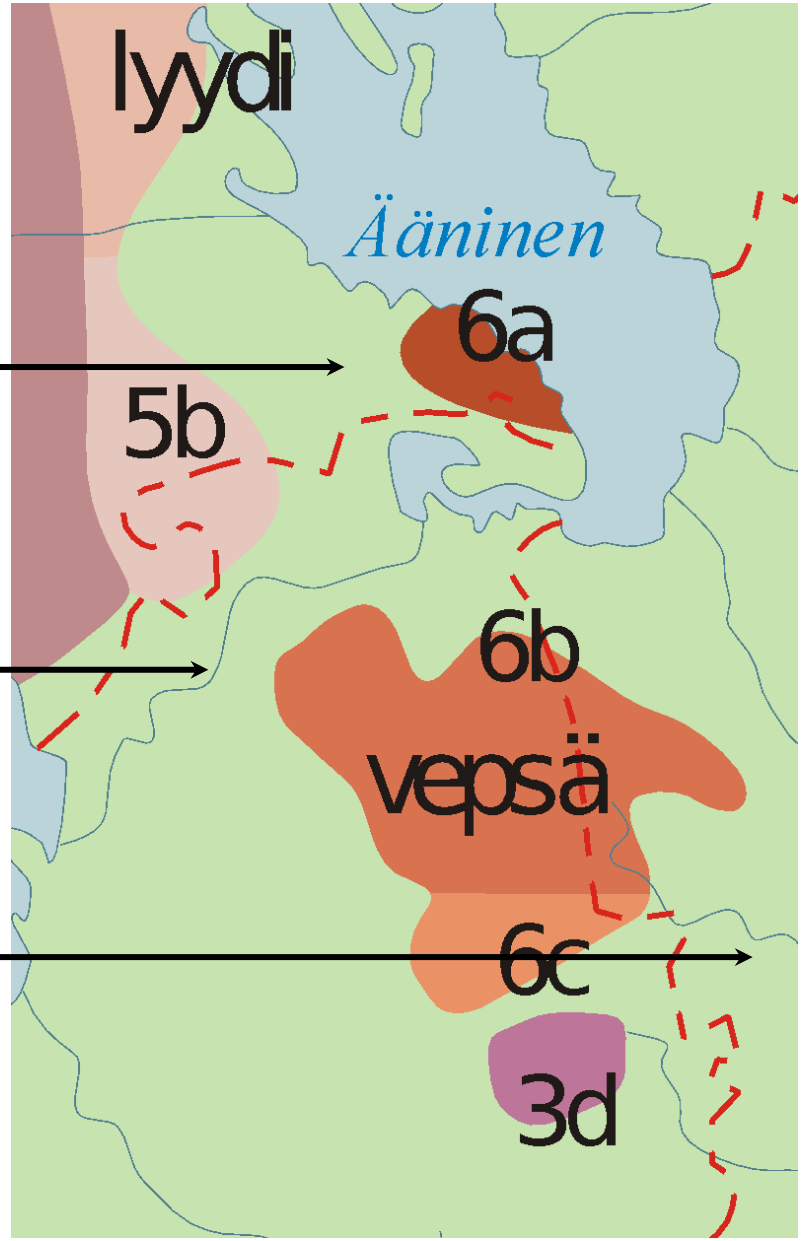
Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

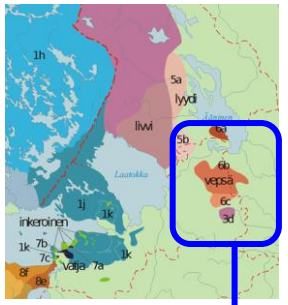
# Maps

Republic of Karelia

Leningrad Oblast

Vologda Oblast



Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

# Glottonyms

| **Veps** | **English** | **Finnish** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *lüdinik* | *Northern Veps* | *pohjoisvepsä* |
| *lüdilaine* | | *äänisvepsä* |
| *vepsľäińe* | *Central Veps* | *keskivepsä* |
| *(wCV: lüdinik)* | | *(ojattivepsä)* |
| *bepsläińe,* | *Southern Veps* | *etelävepsä* |
| *bepslāńe* | | |

# Number of speakers

| | **Ethnic** | **Speakers** |
|---|---|---|
| Total (2010) | 5936 | 3613 (?) |
| Republic of Karelia | 3423 | 493 |
| Leningrad Oblast | 1380 | 789 |
| Vologda Oblast | 412 | 261 |
| elsewhere | 721 | ? |
| Speakers in 2012 (estimate) | 3500 (?) | |

# Typical features of Veps

All vowels are short: *ma* ‘country, land’, *pä* ‘head’ (except for *ii* and *uu* in North Veps)

Vowel harmony is irregular

*e* after labial *v* becomes *ö*: *vön* ‘I bring’ (cf. Finn. *vien*)

No geminates: *ak* ‘old woman’, *akad* NOM.PL. & PART.SG.
(cf. Finn. *akkaa* < **akkata* + *akat*)

Apocope: *roud* ‘iron’, (Fin. *rauta*); *ostmaha* ‘buy’ (Finn. *ostamaan*)

Palatalization in front vowel environments: /vön/ = [v́ön] ‘I bring’

Wiik, Kalevi 1989. *Vepsän vokaalisointu*. Helsinki.

# Typical features of Veps

Palatalization in front vowel environments: /vön/ = [v́ön] ‘I bring’

Palatalization of dental consonants:

| | |
|---|---|
| *noŕ* ‘young’ | (cf. Finn. *nuori*) |
| *nor* ‘string’ | (cf. Finn. *nuora*) |
| *ńit* ‘meadow’ | (cf. Finn. *niitty*) |
| *ńiť* ‘thread’ | (cf. Est. *niit*: *niidi*) |

*l* > *u* in syllable auslaut: *siud* ‘bridge’, *koum* ‘three’ (Finn. *silta*, *kolme*)

No consonant gradation: *nägen* ‘I see’, *magadan* ‘I sleep’

New cases: *-päi*: *metsaspäi* ‘from the forest’ (cf. Finn. *metsästä päin,* where it is a postposition)

Article: *külä* ‘village’ > *külä-se* ‘the village’

# Veps dialects

**Northern Veps:**

*ď*- instead of *j*-: *ďärv* ‘lake’, *ďob* ‘s/he drinks’

*ī* and *ū* retained: *hīŕ* ‘mouse’, *pū* ‘tree’

*ӣ* > *üu*: *püu* ‘hazel hen’

**Central Veps:**

*au* > *ou* (> *ū*): **lauta* ‘table’ > *laud* > *loud*; *sūdan* ‘I row’

**Southern Veps:**

*au* = *ā*: *laud* ~ *lād*

*e* in non-first syllable in front of *b* and *m* > *o*: *tulob* ‘s/he comes’

**ui* > *ū*: **lintuinen* > *lindūńe* ‘little bird’

## Grammars


Airila, Martti et al. 1945. *Vepsän opas*. Helsinki.

Grünthal, Riho 2015. *Vepsän kielioppi.* Helsinki.

Zajceva, Maria I. 1981. *Grammatika vepsskogo jazyka.* Leningrad.


## Dictionaries


Zajceva, Maria I. & Mullonen, Maria I. 1972. *Slovar' vepsskogo jazyka.* Leningrad.

Zajceva, Nina G. & Mullonen, Maria I. 2009. *Uz' venä-vepsläine vajehnik. Novij russko-vepsskij slovar'.* Petrozavodsk.

Zajceva, Nina G. & Mullonen, Maria I. 2010. *Uz' vepsä-venäläine vajehnik. Novij vepssko-russkij slovar'.* Petrozavodsk.


## Texts


Kettunen, Lauri 1920-25. *Näytteitä etelävepsästä I-II*. Helsinki.

Kettunen, Lauri & Siro, Paavo 1935. *Näytteitä vepsän murteista.* Helsinki.

Sovijärvi, Antti & Peltola, Raimo 1982. *Äänisvepsän näytteitä.* Helsinki.

Zajceva, Maria I. & Mullonen, Maria I. 1969. *Obrazcy vepsskoj rechi.* Leningrad.

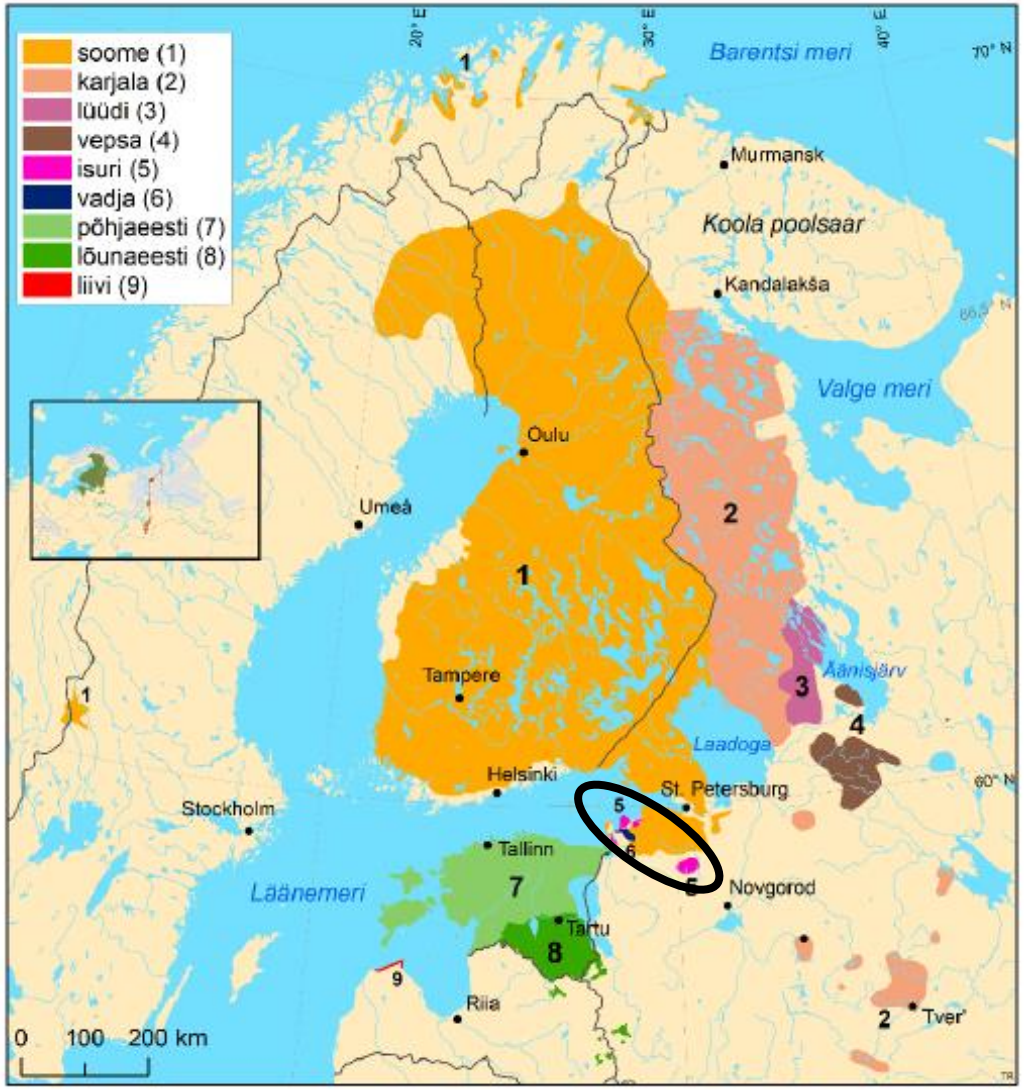

## Other important publications


Tunkelo, E.A. 1946. *Vepsän kielen äännehistoria.* Helsinki.

Zajceva, Nina G. (ed) 2019. *Lingvisticheskij atlas vepsskogo jazyka.* Sankt-Petersburg.

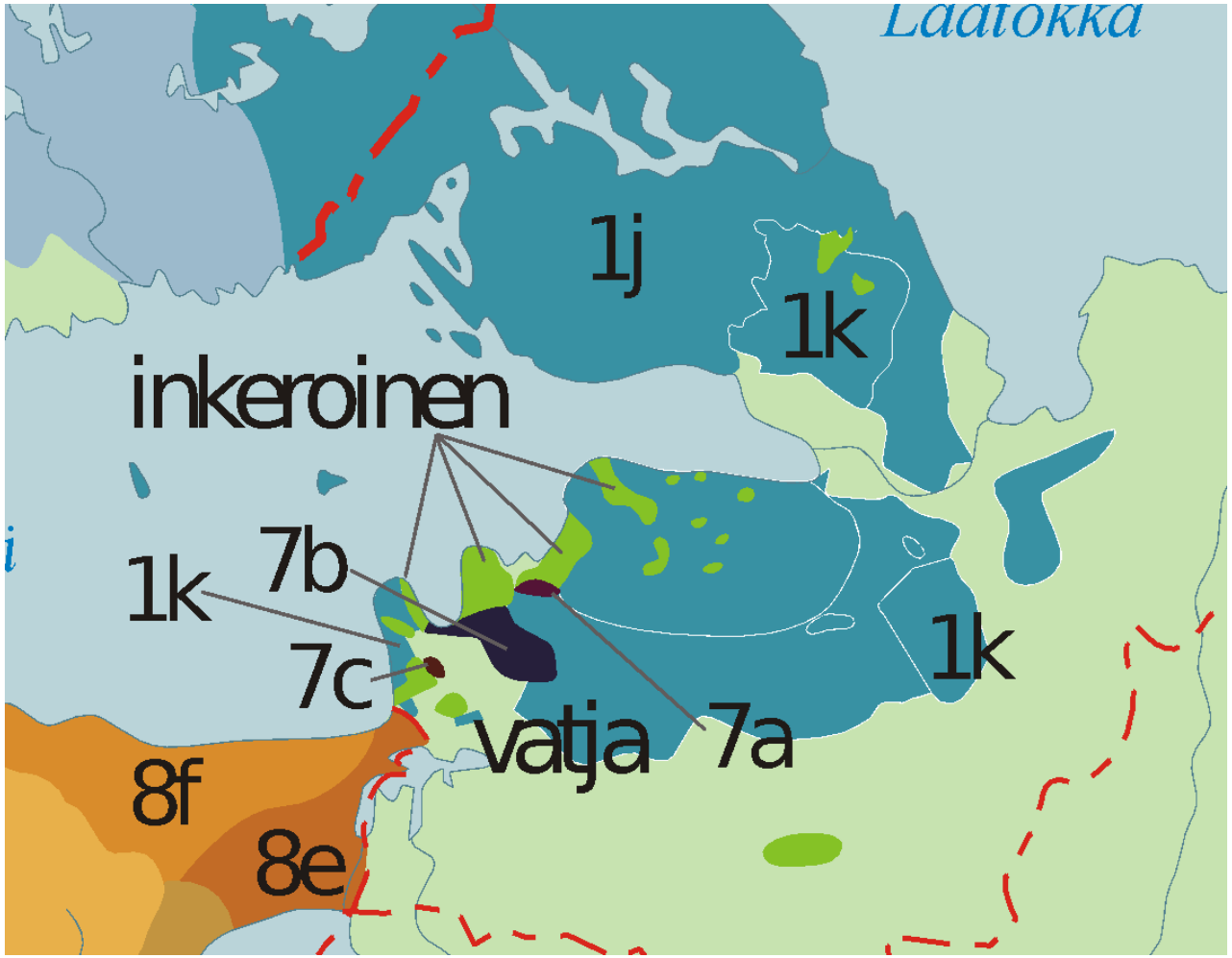
# 5. Ingrian

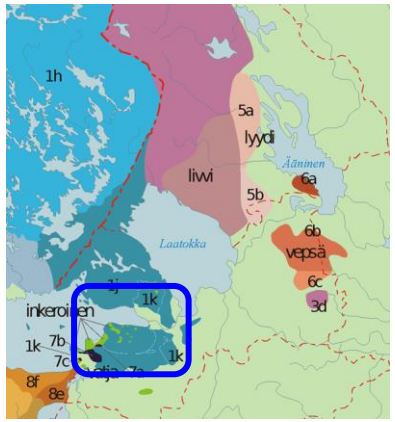
| | |
|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 |
| South Estonian | 30 000 |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 |
| Karelian | 25 000 |
| Olonets | 15 000 |
| Kven | 8 000 |
| Veps | 3 500 |
| Lude | 300 |
| **Ingrian** | **70** |
| Vote | 5 |
| Livonian | 0 |




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# Maps: Ingrian




Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

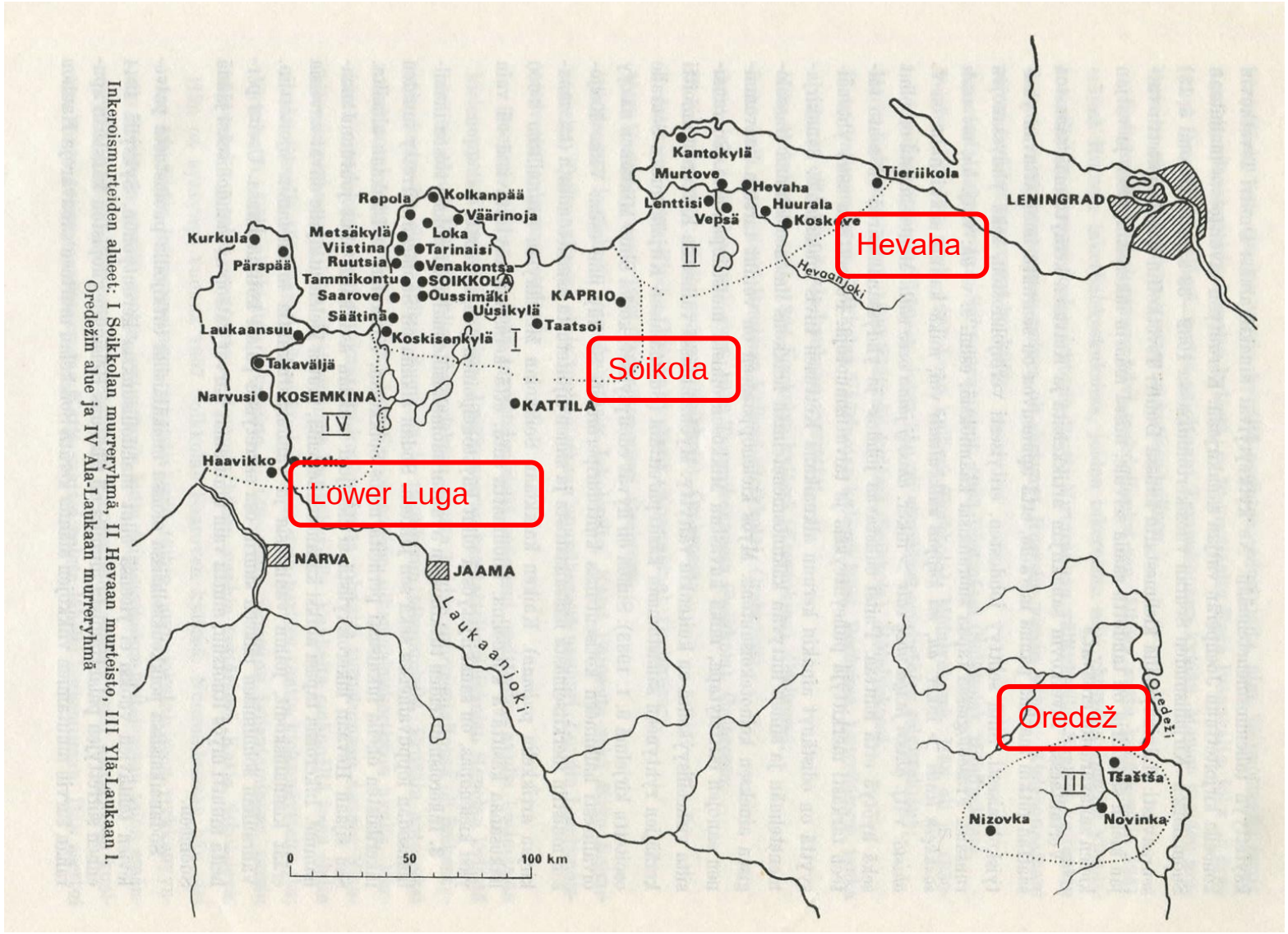
# Glottonyms

| **Ingrian** | **English** | **Finnish** | **Estonian** | **Russian** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *inkeroine* | *Ingrian* | *inkeroinen* | *isuri* | *ижора* |
| *ižora* | | | | |
| *ižoralain(e)* | | | | |
| *karjalain* | | | | |
| *maaväki* (< Vot. *maaväči*) | | | | |

**Nota bene!**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ≠ | *Ingrian Finn* | *inkeriläinen* | *ingerisoome* | *ингерманландец* |

# Dialects




Nirvi, R.E. 1971. *Inkeroismurteiden sanakirja*. Helsinki. p. vii

# Number of speakers

| | **Ethnic** | **Speakers** |
|---|---|---|
| **Total (2015)** | ? | 80 |
| **Total (2018)** | | |
| Lower Luga | ? | † |
| Soikola | ? | 10 |
| Hevaha | ? | ? |
| Oredež (Upper Luga) | | † (1960s) |

# Typical features of Ingrian

All originally long vowels have been retained: *mā* ‘land’, *pǟ* ‘head‘, *tōn* ‘I bring’

There is very little palatalization of consonants

Consonant gradation as in Karelian proper: *uskoa* ‘to believe’: *uzon*; *matka* ‘trip’: *madan*

Gemination: *männō̄* s/he is going, *mattala* ‘low’

Exessive *-nt*: *traktoristint* ‘no longer as a tractor driver’

(as in SE Finnish: cf. https://www.kotus.fi/nyt/kolumnit/kieli-ikkuna_(1996_2010)/potkut_ministerinta)

No *v*-element in 3rd person plural verb form: *männō̄d* ‘they go’

# Typical features of Ingrian dialects

**Soikkola dialect:**

*ea*/*eä* > *ia*/*iä*: *pimmiä* ‘dark’ < **pimeðä*

occasionally: plural-*t* in words with possessive suffixes: *venehemmeD* ‘our boats’

(cf. Burgenland Hungarian *lovåmåk* ‘my horses’, standard Hungarian *lovaim*)

**Hevaha dialect:**

word final -*k* retained: *näüttäG* ‘to show’, *kasseG* ‘dew’

allative in-*len*: *pellolen* ‘to the field’

**Oredež dialect** (~ Upper Luga dialect):

*ŋk*:*ŋŋ* CG: *haŋgi* ‘snowdrift’ - *haŋŋen* (gsg)

**Lower Luga dialect:**

*h* after *r* and *n* lost: *vana* ‘old’, *karu* ‘bear’

comitative in-(*ŋ*)*kā*, -(*ŋ*)*kā̄* instead of postposition *kera*

## Grammars

Chernjavskij, V. 2000. *Ižoran keel (ittseopastaja). Izhorskij jazyk (samouchitel')*. Sankt-Peterburg.
Junus, Väinö 1937. *Ižoran keelen grammatikka*. Leningrad - Moskova.
Laanest, Arvo 1986. *Isuri keele ajalooline foneetika ja morfoloogia.* Tallinn.

## Dictionaries

Laanest, Arvo 1997. *Isuri keele Hevaha murde sõnastik.* Tallinn.
Nirvi, R.E. 1971. *Inkeroismurteiden sanakirja.* Helsinki.

## Texts

Efimov, D.I. 1936. *Lukukirja inkeroisia alkuskouluja vart. Ensimäine osa.* Moskova - Leningrad.
Iljin, N.A. & Junus, V.I. 1936. *Bukvari. Izoroin skouluja vart.* Moskova - Leningrad.
Laanest, Arvo 1966. *Isuri murdetekste*. Tallinn.

## Other important publications

Laanest, Arvo 1966. *Izhorskie dialekty.* Tallinn.
Saar, Eva 2017. *Isuri keele Soikkola murde sõnamuutmissüsteem. Tartu.*

# 6. Vote

| | |
|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 |
| South Estonian | 30 000 |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 |
| Karelian | 25 000 |
| Olonets | 15 000 |
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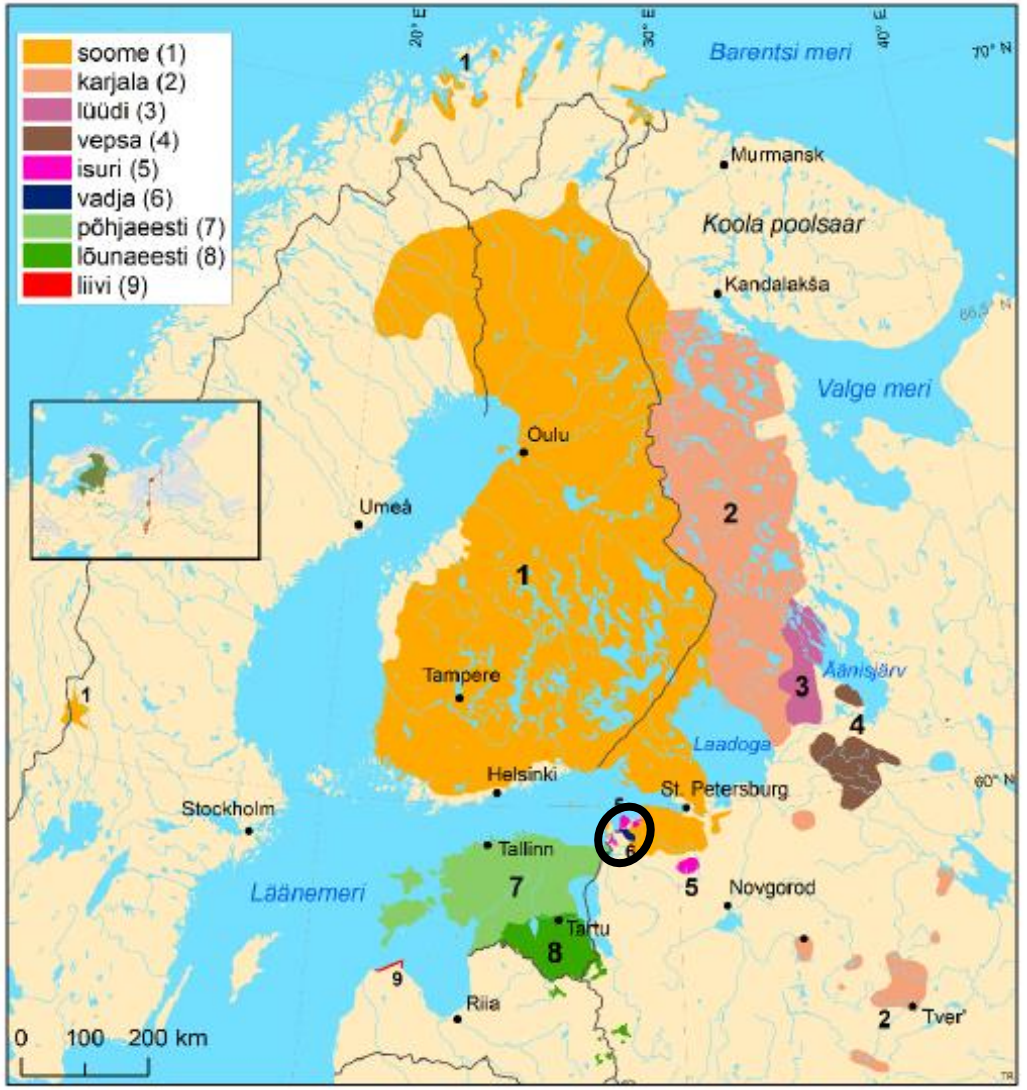
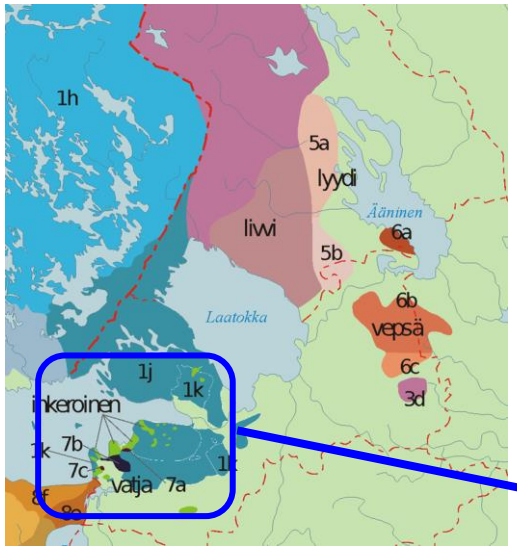
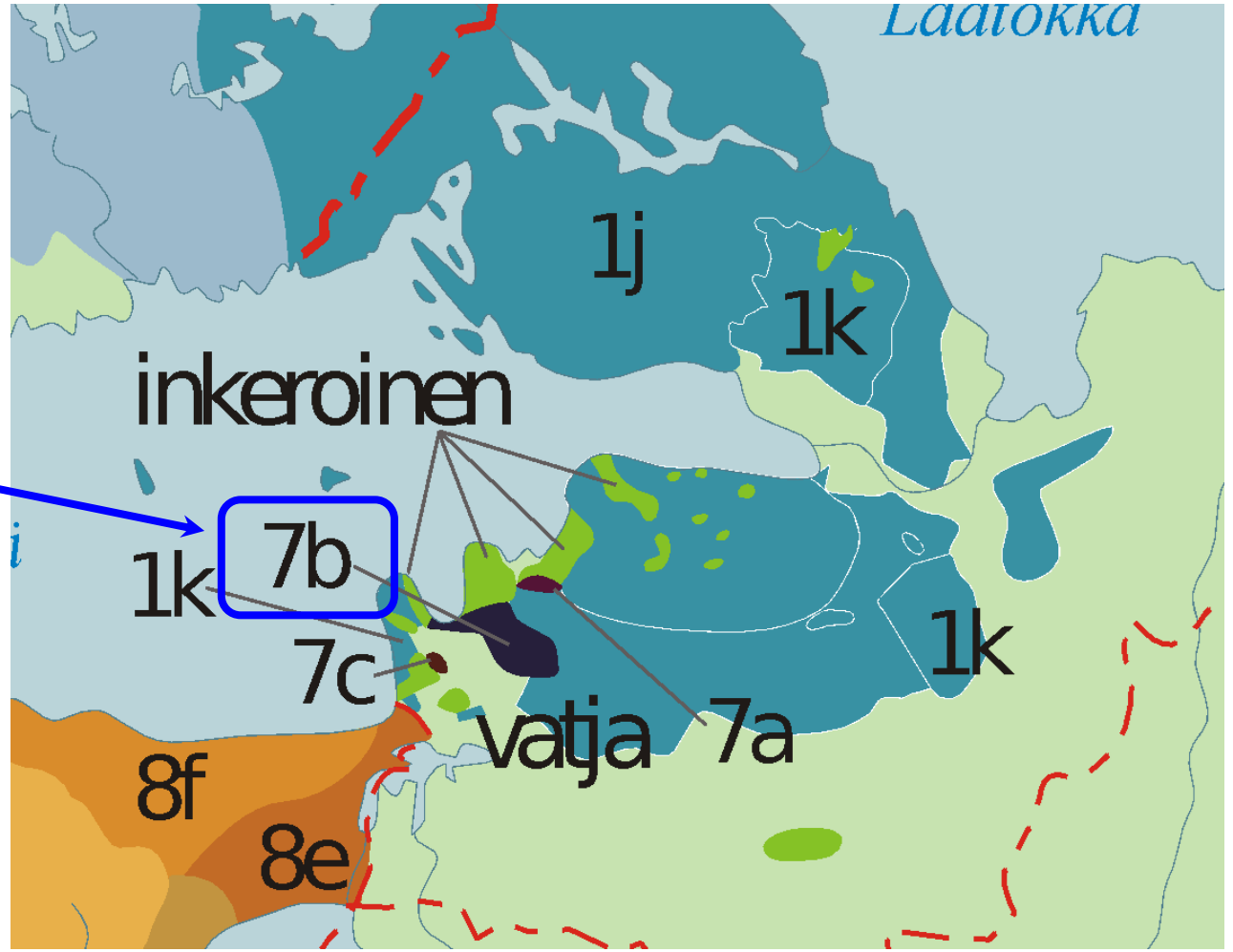
| Veps | 3 500 |
| Lude | 300 |
| Ingrian | 70 |
| **Vote** | **5** |
| Livonian | 0 |




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# Maps: Vote



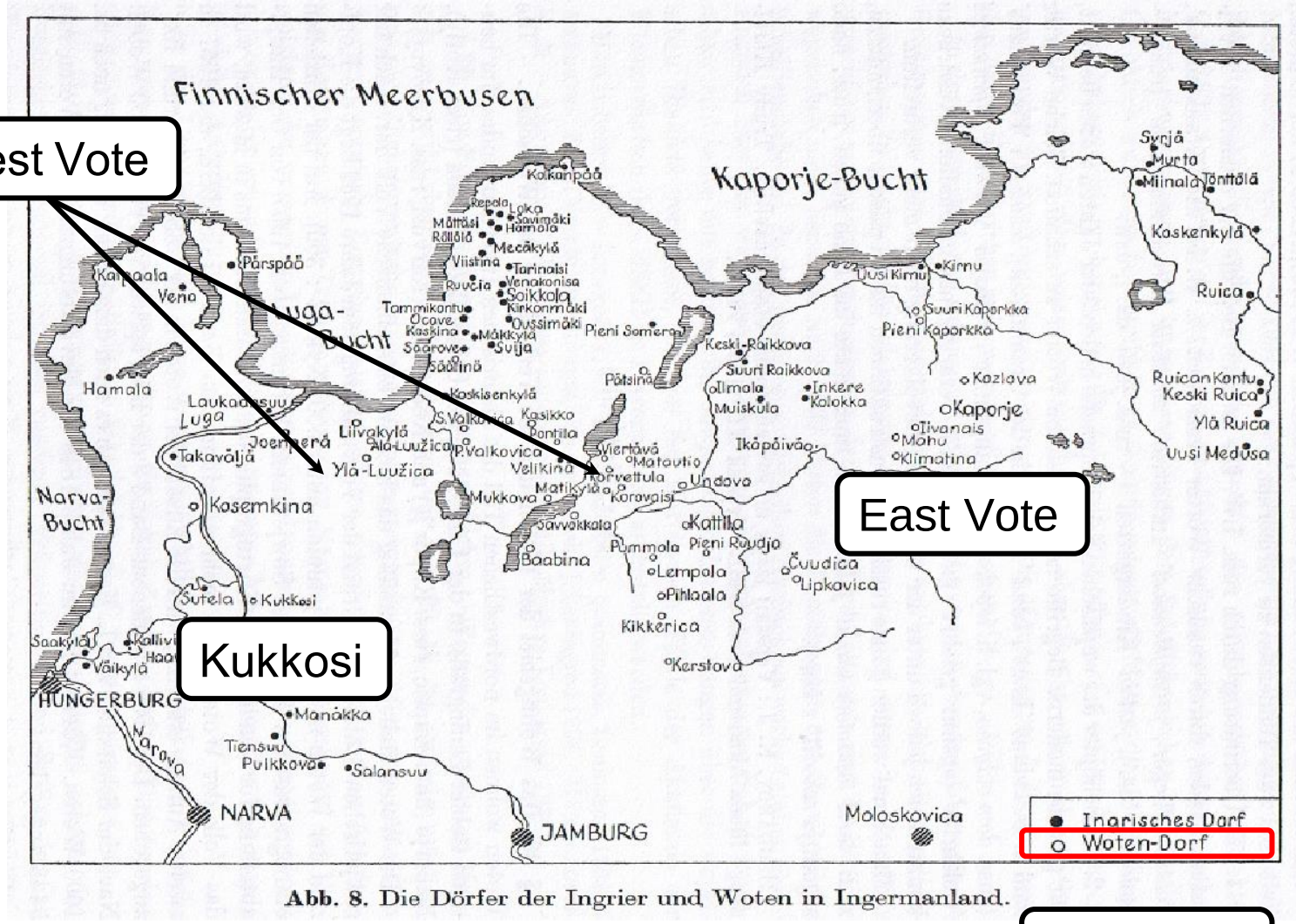




Grünthal, Riho & Sarhimaa, Anneli (eds) 2012. Itämeren-suomalaiset kielet ja niitten päämurteet. Helsinki.

# Nomenclature

| **Vote** | **English** | **Finnish** | **Estonian** | **Russian** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Glottonym** | | | | |
| *vaďďa tšeeli (vaďďa tšeeli)* | *Vote Votic* | *vatja(n kieli)* | *vadja (keel)* | водский (язык) |
| *maatšeeli* | | | | |
| **Ethnonym** | | | | |
| *vaďďalain (vaďďalain)* | *Vote* | *vatjalainen* | *vadjalane* | водь |
| *maaväči* | | | | |
| | | | | |

# Dialects




West Vote

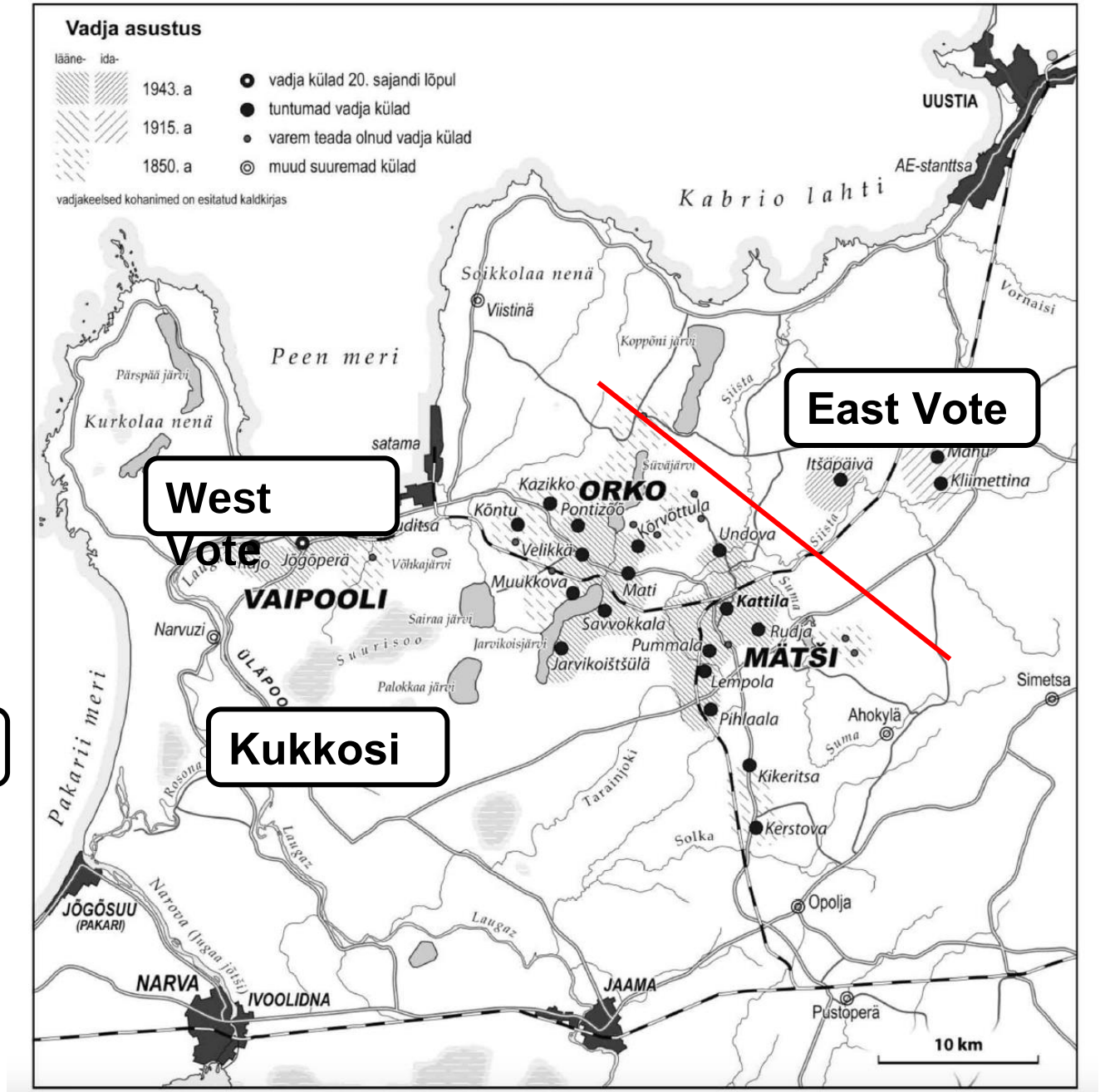
East Vote

Kukkosi

Krevinian

Décsy, Gyula 1965. *Einführung in die finnisch-ugrische Sprachwissenschaft*. Wiesbaden. p. 58

# Dialects




Grünberg, Silja et al. 2013. *Vadja keele sõnaraamat*. Tallinn. p. 94

# The Krevinians

1444-47: The German *Landmeister* of Livonia, Heidenreich Vinke von Overberg, invades Novgorod and takes a number of Votes as prisoners of war to Bauska in southern Latvia to build a castle as a fortification against the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; the Krevinians (< Lett. *krieviņš* 'little Russian' < *krievs* 'Russian') died out in the 19th century

468 Abbildungen

Abbildung 4

Winkler, Eberhard 1997. *Krewinisch: Zur Erschliessung einer ausgestorbenen ostseefinnischen Sprachform.* Wiesbaden. p. 468.

Bauska in southern Latvia

https://reliefweb.int/map/latvia/general-map-latvia-january-2004

# Typical features of Vote

*k* > *tš* in front of front vowels: *tšäsi* ‘hand’, *tšivi* ‘stone’

Consonant gradation of sibilants and affricates too:

*s* > *z* : *isä* ‘father’ (nsg) - *izā̄* (gsg)

*tš* > *dž* (East Vote): *autši* ‘pike’ (nsg): *audžid* ‘pike’ (npl)

Consonant gradation of *k* > *g*: *sika* ‘pig’ (nsg) - *sigā* (gsg)

*ps* and *ks* > *hs*: *lahsi* ‘child’ (nsg), *lahzõd* ‘children’, (npl); *mahzan* ‘I pay’

*st* > *ss*: *mussa* ‘black’ (nsg) > *musat* (npl)

*õ* (= Est. *õ*) very common: *õssā* ‘to buy’

Genitive by lengthening of stem vowel: *kalā* ‘fish’ (gsg), *izā̄* ‘father’ (gsg)

# Typical features of Vote dialects

**East Vote:**

**pesän* (gsg) > *pezzǟ*, **elätä* ‘to live’ > *ellǟ* (West Vote *elǟ*)

*-k* and *-h* retained: *kaseg* ‘dew’, *annag* ‘give!’, *terveh* ‘healthy’

**Kukkosi (the most divergent Vote dialect):**

No *õ*

No *tk* consonant gradation

*k* in front of front vowels retained

*mū vassa esimäissä kertā kūlimma, etti mū ōmma neitä vaďďalaisīta* (1932)

‘That’s the first time we’ve heard that we’re supposed to be Votes.’

**Krevinian:**

*k* in front of front vowels retained

## Grammars


Agranat, Tatjana 2007. *Zapadnyj dialekt vodskogo jazyka*. Moskva – Groningen

Ahlqvist, August 1856. *Wotisk grammatik jemte språkprof och ordförteckning.* Helsingfors.

Ariste, Paul 1948. *Vadja keele grammatika*. Tartu.

Ariste, Paul 1968. *A grammar of the Votic language.* Bloomington.

Markus, Elena B. & Rozhanskiy, Fedor I. 2011. *Sovremmenyj vodskij jazyk I-II.* Sankt Petersburg.

Tsvetkov, Dmitri 2008. *Vadja keele grammatika.* Tallinn.

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## Dictionaries


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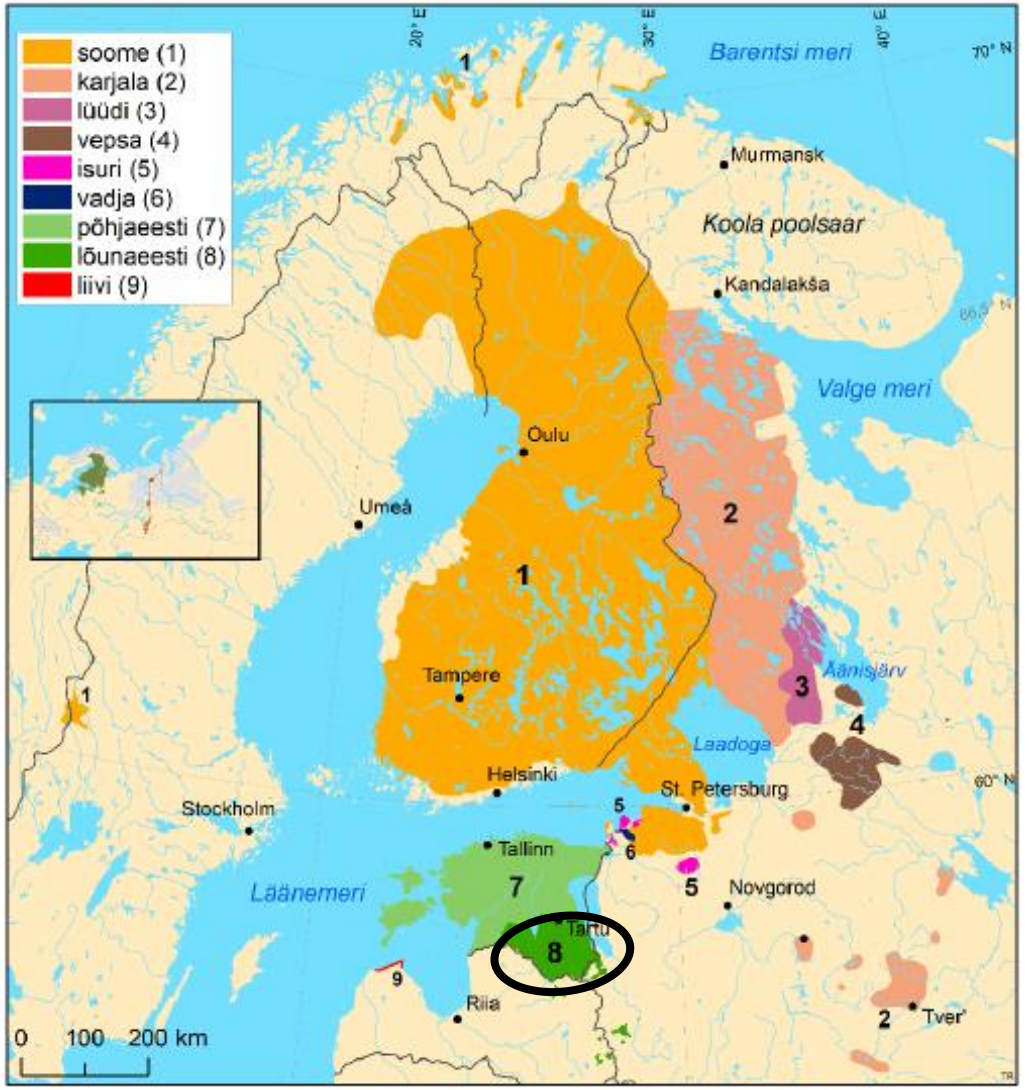
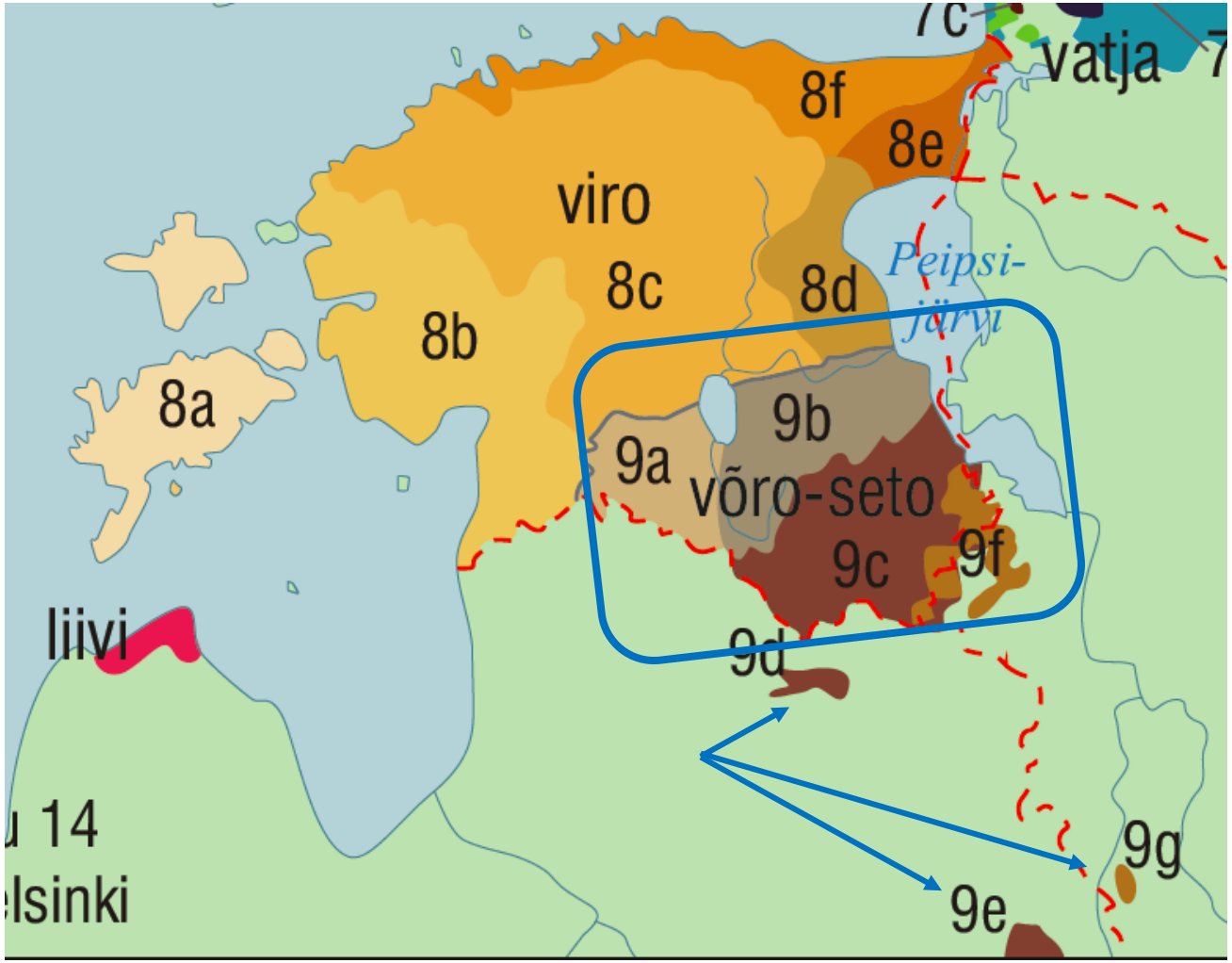
# 7. South Estonian

| | |
|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 |
| **South Estonian** | **30 000** |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 |
| Karelian | 25 000 |
| Olonets | 15 000 |
| Kven | 8 000 |
| Veps | 3 500 |
| Lude | 300 |
| Ingrian | 70 |
| Vote | 5 |
| Livonian | 0 |




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# Maps: South Estonian

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# Dialect islands

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:South_Estonian_language_area_corrected_2017.jpg

**Leivu (Võru) (Latvia)**

**Lutsi (Võru) (Latvia)**

**Kraasna (Setu) (Russia)**

# Nomenclature

| **South Estonian** | **(North) Estonian** | **Latvian** | **Finnish** | **Russian** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Glottonym** | | | | |
| *võro kiil* | *võru keel*<br>*võru murre* | *veru valoda*<br>*veriešu valoda* | *võru(n kieli)*<br>*võro(n kieli)* | *выруский диалект/язык* |
| *lõunõeesti kiil* | *lõunaeesti keel* | *dienvidigaunijas valoda* | *etelä̈viro(n kieli)* | *южно-эстонский язык* |
| **Ethnonym** | | | | |
| *võrokõnõ*<br>*võrokõsõq* (pl) | *võrukene*<br>*võrukesed* (pl)<br>*(võrokesed)* | *veru* | *võrolainen*<br>*võrolaiset* (pl) | *выру* |
| | *lõunaeestlane*<br>*lõunaeestlased* (pl) | *(dienvidigaunis)*<br>*(dienvidigauņi)* (pl) | *etelävirolainen*<br>*etelävirolaiset* (pl) | *южно-эстонец*<br>*южно-эстонцы* (pl) |

# Typical features of South Estonian

*õ* (IPA ɤ, UPA *ę*) and *ä* (IPA æ, UPA *ä*) in non-first syllables

No reduction of long vowels in preconsonantal position: *maa* ‘land, country’ > *maaha* ‘(ill.sg)’ (cf. Est. *maha*), *päähä* ‘head (ill.sg)’ (cf. Est. *pähe*)

*h*- and -*h* retained: *herneh* ‘pea’ (> *herneq*), *hoonõh* ‘building’

Vowel harmony retained: *lühüq* ‘short’, *külä* ‘village’ (cf. Est. *küla*)

Three phonemic lengths: *uma* ‘own’ (nsg), *umma* (psg), *´umma* (illsg)

Nominative plural -*q*: *mõtsa* ‘forest’ > *mõtsaq*

Typical in Eastern Võru and Setu, less in Western Võru, rare in Tartu (thus *kala* sg. and pl. > *kala* (sg) + *kalade* (pl)) and Mulgi

# Typical features of South Estonian

Inessive suffix: *-hn* > *-n* (West Võru, Tartu, Mulgi), *-h* (East Võru, Setu)

Inessive in *-n*: *Võron* ‘in Võru’

(compare Ostrobothnian Finnish *mihinä* ‘where/missä’ (indef.pron), *johona* ‘where/jossa’ (rel.pron)

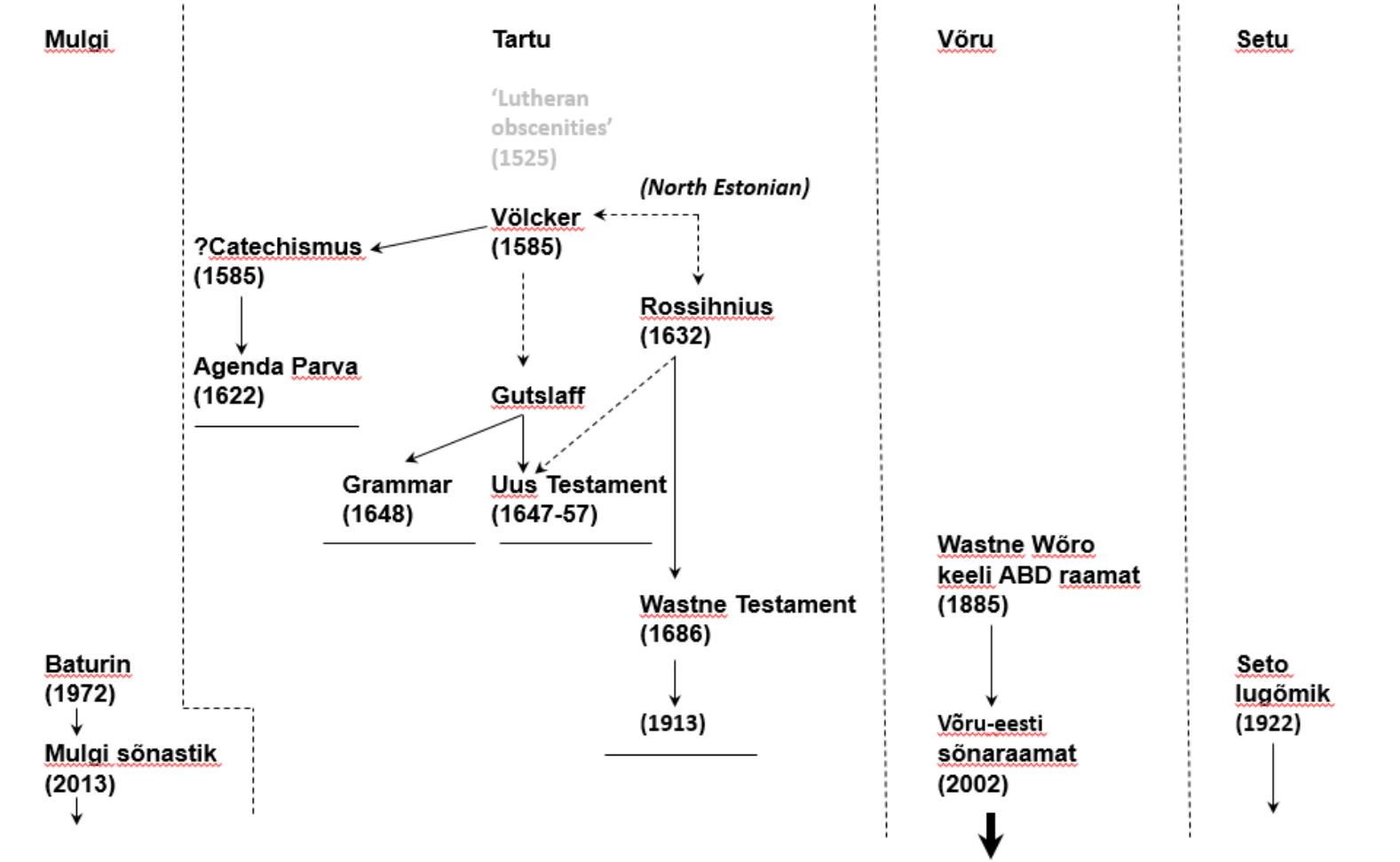
Abessive in *-ldAq*: *hambildaq* ‘without teeth’

Usually nominative or translative instead of essive: *tä om sääl oppaja* ‘she’s a teacher there’ (Est. *ta on seal õpetajana*) or *tä om sääl ku oppaja* ‘she’s there as a teacher’

Two conjugations in the 3rd person present tense: *-s*: *eläs* ‘s/he lives’ (*elli* ‘s/he lived) vs. *saa* ‘s/he gets’ (*sai* ‘s/he got’)

Tense expressed in negation verb: *maq ei võta* ‘I don’t take’ > *maq es võtaq* ‘I didn’t take’

# The development of written South Estonian

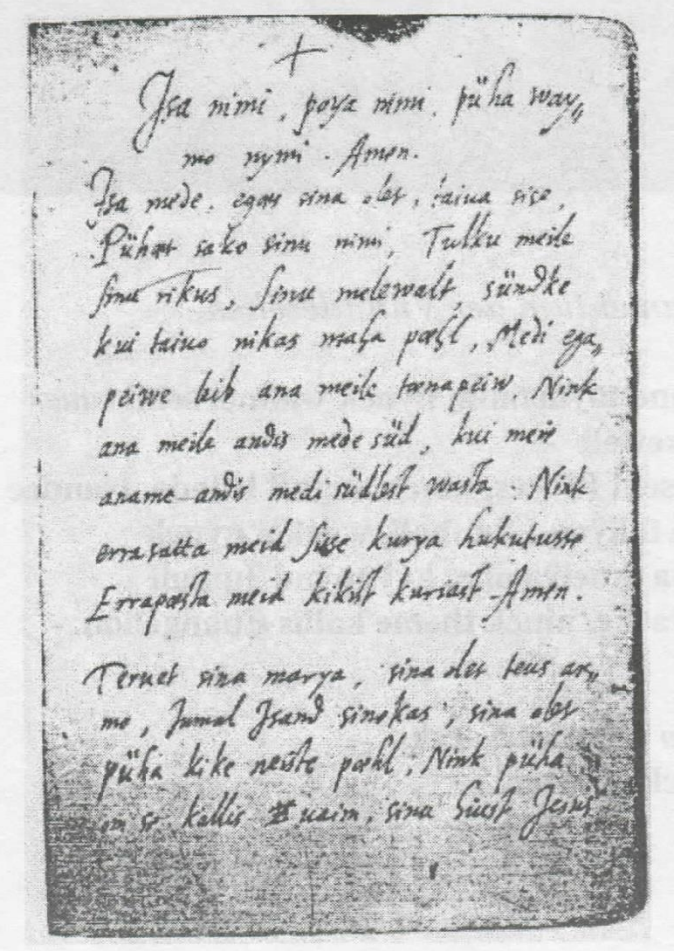


# The first books in the Nordic and Baltic countries

| | Swedish | Finnish | North Estonian | South Estonian | Latvian | Lithuanian |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **First book** | 1495 | 1543 | 1535 | ?1525 | ?1525 | 1547 |
| **New Testament** | 1526 | 1548 | 1715 | 1686 | 1685 | 1701 |
| **Bible** | 1541 | 1643 | 1739 | - | 1694 | 1735 |
| **Grammar** | 1636 | 1649 | 1637 | 1648 | 1644 | 1653 |
| **Newspaper** | 1645 | 1844 | 1766 | 1806 | 1822 | 1832 |
| **Novel** | 1742 | 1870 | 1896 | 1999 | 1879 | 1904 |

# First South Estonian text

## 1585: Völcker



1: Jsa nimi, poya nimi, püha waymo
2: nymi. Amen. ·

3: Jsa mede, egæs sina olet, taiva sise, ·
4: Pühæt sako sinu nimi, · Tulku meile
5: sinu rikus, sinu mele·walt, sündke
6: kui taivo ni·kas mah pæhl, · Medi ega·peiwe
7: leib, ana meile tæna·peiw, · Nink
8: ana meile andis mede süd, kui meie
9: aname andis medi südlest wasta. · Nink
10: erra·satta meid sisse kurya hukutusse, ·
11: Erra·pæsta meid kikist kuriast. · Amen. ·

12: Tervet sina marya, sina olet teus armo,
13: Jumal Jsand sino·kas, sina olet
14: püha kike neiste pæhl, Nink püha
15: om se kallis vaim, sinu hiust Jesus

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16: Christus, · püha Marya Jumala ema,
17: palo mede patton ehist, nüd, nink se
18: tunde sisen, meie surmas. · Amen. ·

Credo. ·

19: Mena uso ütte Jümala sise, Jsa kike·wæggewemb,
20: taivo nink maha loya. · Nink
21: sisse Jesum Christum, tema aino poya
22: mede Jsanda, ke on sündnut pühæst vaimost,
23: ilmale tolnut Maryast, puchtast
24: iunkrust, kannatenut on alla Pontio
25: Pilato, risti pæhl podut, erra·surnut nink
26: mattetut, maha minnut porgu·hauda,

https://dspace.ut.ee/handle/10062/40564
pp. 80-81

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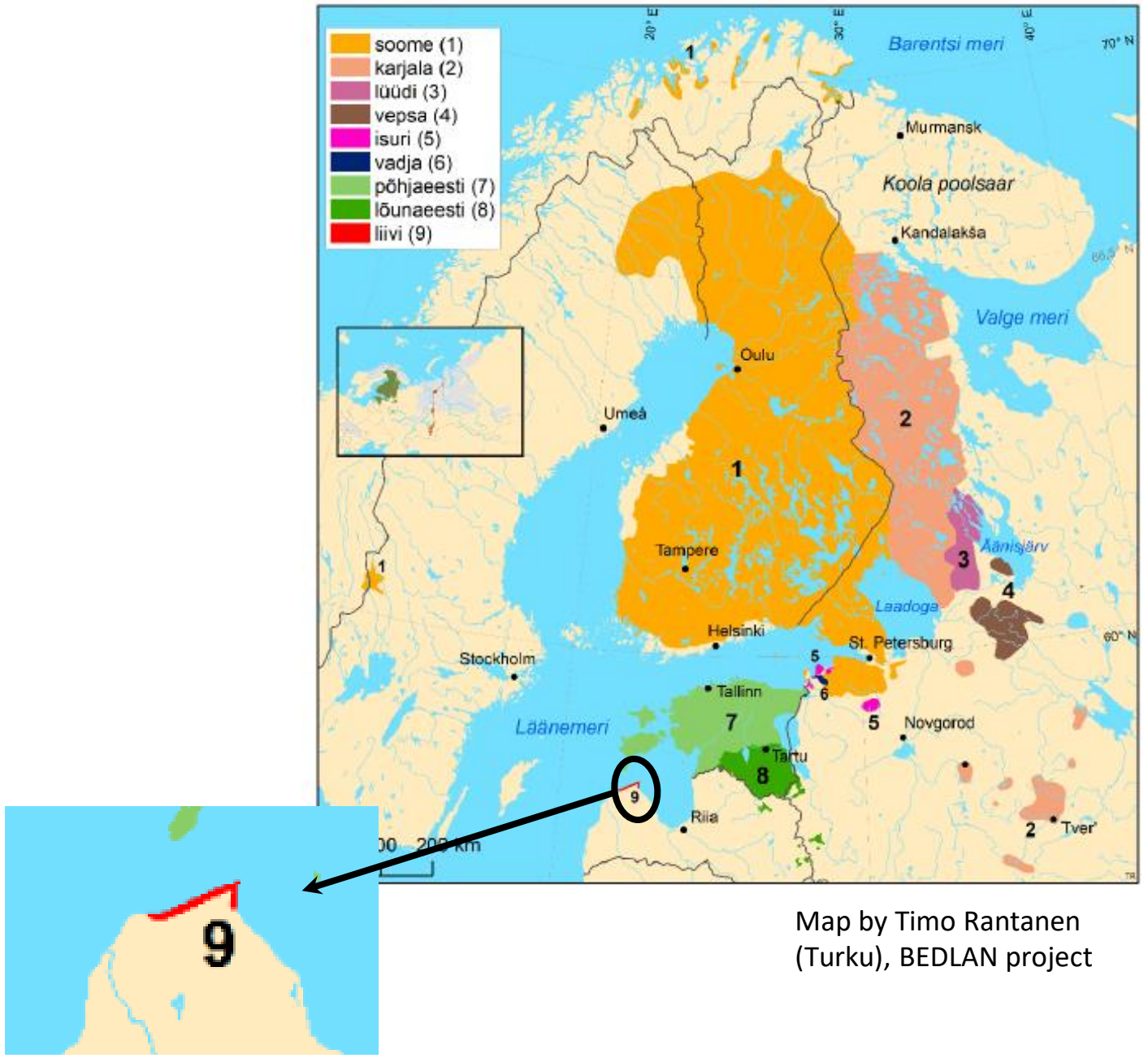
Toomse, Mihkel 1998. *Lõuna-eesti murded 1-30. Kaardid.* Turku.

# 8. Livonian

| | |
|---|---|
| Finnish | 5 300 000 |
| Estonian | 1 000 000 |
| South Estonian | 30 000 |
| Meänkieli | 30 000 |
| Karelian | 25 000 |
| Olonets | 15 000 |
| Kven | 8 000 |
| Veps | 3 500 |
| Lude | 300 |
| Ingrian | 70 |
| Vote | 5 |
| **Livonian** | **0** |




Map by Timo Rantanen (Turku), BEDLAN project

# Courland and Salis Livonian

https://alchetron.com/Livonian-language#livonian-language-bd005273-1f64-4fec-8392-8ce40a1f90e-resize-750.jpg

# Dialects of Courland Livonian

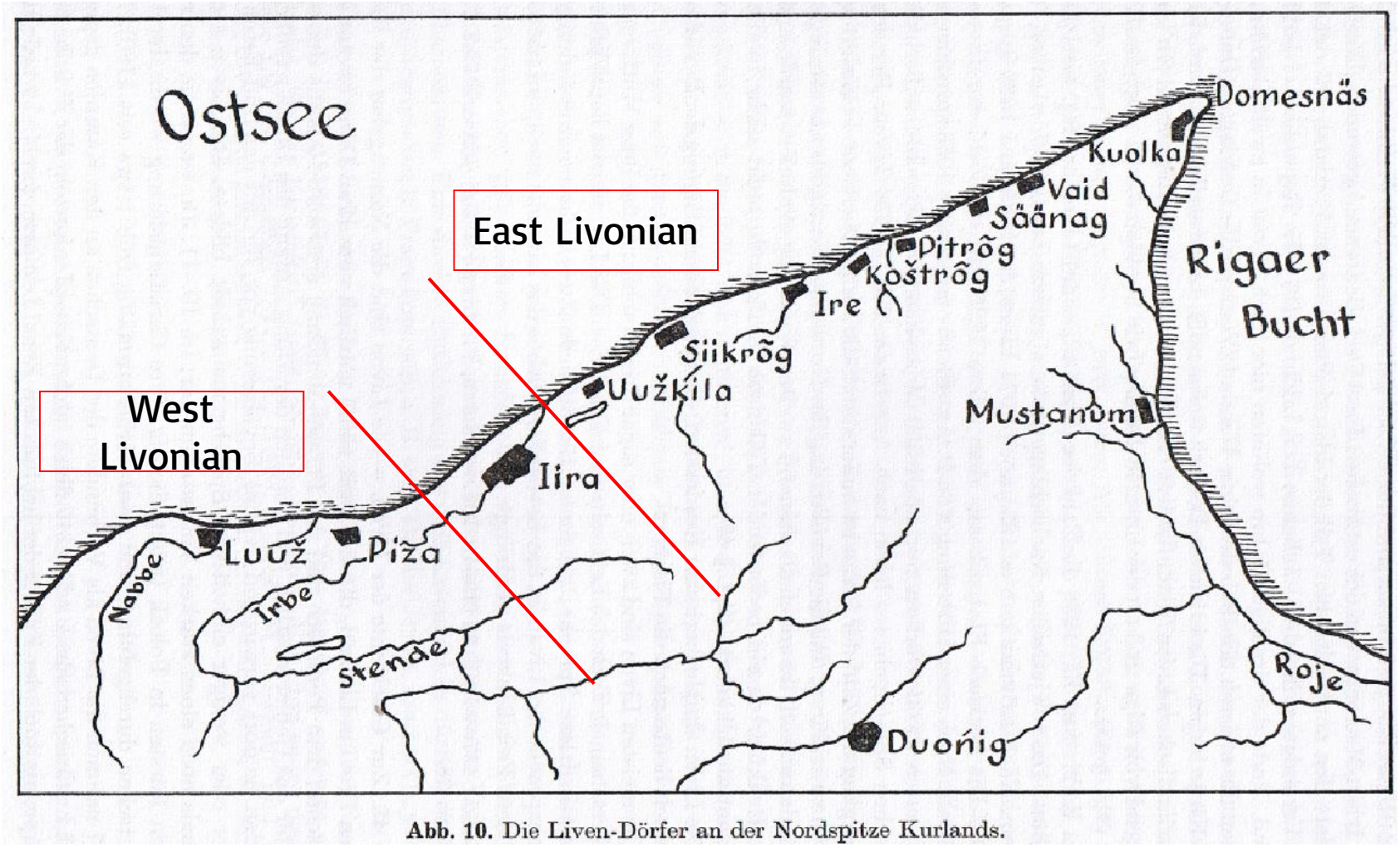



**Abb. 10.** Die Liven-Dörfer an der Nordspitze Kurlands.

Kettunen, Lauri 1938. *Livisches Wörterbuch*. Helsinki. p. 2

# Nomenclature

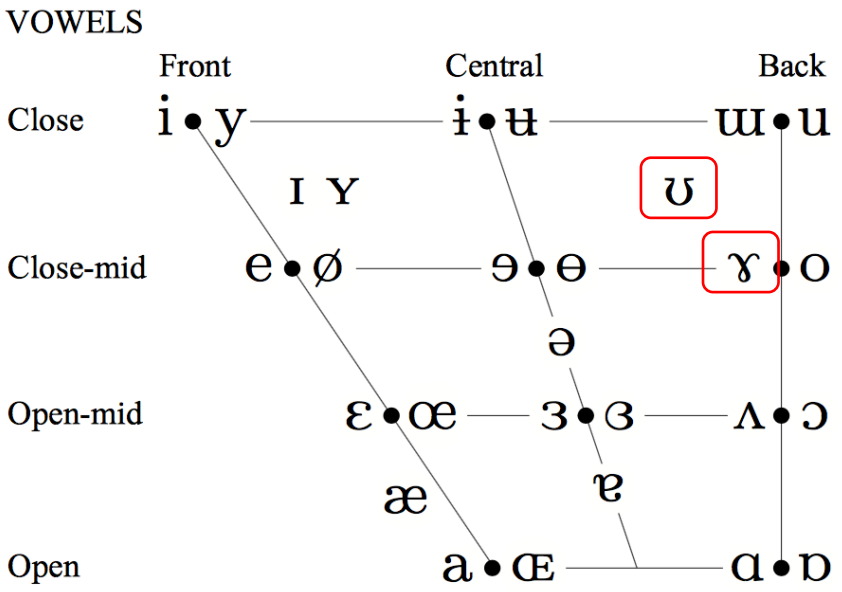
| **Livonian (Courland)** | **Livonian (Salis)** | **Latvian** | **Estonian** | **English** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Glottonym** | | | | |
| *līvõ kēļ* | *lībi kiel* | *lībiešu valoda* | *liivi keel* | *Livonian* |
| **Ethnonym** | | | | |
| *rāndali*<br>*rāndalist* | | | | |
| *kalā-mīez*<br>*kalāmi'ed*<br>(East Livonian) | | | | |
| *līvli*<br>*līvâz* | *Līb*<br>*Līb raust ~ roust* | *lībietis*<br>*lībieši*<br>*līvi* | *liivlane*<br>*liivlased* | *Livonian*<br>*Livonians* |

# The Livonian alphabet

a ā ä ǟ b d ḑ e ē f g h i ī j k l ļ m n ņ o ō ȯ ō̇ õ ō̃ p r ŗ s š t ţ u ū v z ž

<õ> IPA /ɤ/, UPA /ę/ (close-mid back unrounded vowel)
<ȯ> IPA /ʊ/, UPA /ǫ/ (near-close back rounded vowel)

*vȯidõ* ‘to hold’
*võidõ* ‘to be able’



# Typical features of Livonian

Etymologically short vowels lengthened: *jālga* ‘leg’, *nǟlga* ‘hunger’

*ē* and *ō* diphthongized to *īe* and *ūo*: *mīez* ‘man’, *tūodõ* ‘bring’

*ü* > *i*, *ö* > *e*: *sidām* ‘heart’, *sīemi* ‘food’

No vowel harmony: *täuž* ‘full’

No consonant gradation: *mäg* ‘hill ’~ *mägud* ‘hills’

Umlaut: *tämm* ‘oak’ (nsg) ~ *tamm* ‘oak’ (gsg)

(cf. Finn. *tammi* ~ *tammen*)

*läpš* ‘child’ (nsg) ~ *laps* (gsg)

*ti’g* ‘support’ (< *tü’g* < **tuki*)

# Typical features of Livonian

Stød (a tonal alternation usually realized as a glottal stop): *rō’* ‘money’ < **raha* (also sometimes written as ro̯’o̯ ~ ro̯’o̯ to show the glottal stop)

Dative in *-n*: *āndõ minnõn* ‘give me’ (only in Couronian Livonian!)

Translative and comitative have coalesced: *-ks*: *lapseks* ‘(becoming) a child; with a child’ (occasionally these functions have separate suffixes: *pi’ŋŋõks* ‘dog’ (tra) ~ *pi’ŋkõks* ‘dog’ (com)

1. P.Sg. = 3. P.Sg.: *ma lugub* ‘I read’ ~ *ta lugub* ‘s/he reads’

Borrowed verbal prefixes from Latvian: *novõttõ* ‘to take away’ (cf. Latv. *noņemt*), *atāndõ* ‘to give back’ (cf. Latv. *atdot*), but also cf. *tā’giž āndõ* ‘id.’

No morphological passive:

*läbūd rabīz vi’zzõ* ‘the windows were slammed shut’

*läbūd rabīztõ vi’zzõ* ‘the windows were slammed shut’ (by more than one person)

# Nominal inflection: *kalā* ‘fish’

| | **singular** | **plural** |
|---|---|---|
| nominative | *kalā* | *kalād* |
| genitive | *kalā* | *kalād* |
| partitive | *kallõ* (*ka’llõ*) | *kaḷḍi* (*ka’ḷḍi*) |
| dative | *kalān* | *kalādõn* |
| illative | *kallõz* (*ka’llõz*) | *kaḷži* (*ka’ḷži*) |
| inessive | *kalās* | *kaḷšši* (*ka’ḷšši*) |
| elative | *kalāst* | *kaḷšti* (*ka’ḷšti* ) |
| translative/ comitative | *kalāks* | *kalādõks* |

(forms in brackets show the glottal stop, which is not indicated in the standard Livonian orthography)

# Typical features of Salis Livonian († 1868)

Adessive instead of dative: *tuo minnel väta* ‘bring me water’
(Courland: *tūo minnõn vietā*)

Comitative in *-k*: *lapsk* ‘with the child’

Translative in *-ks*: *lapseks* ‘(becoming) a child’

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