Occurrence of Recipient=Patient (Secondary Object Construction)

The occurrence of a secondary object construction was investigated, that is: whether the recipient of a ditransitive verb is treated like the patient of a mono-transitive verb, whereas the theme is given a different treatment. In Gojri of Pakistan, as seen in (1), the patient in the mono-transitive clause (1a) is coded with the postpositional dative clitic *=naː*, which is the same coding as the recipient in the ditransitive clause (1b) receives, whereas the theme occurs without any explicit case marking.

1. Gojri, Pakistan [gju(p)] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | dʑəɳaː=neː | duɕməɳ=naː | ɖənɖaː | naːl | maːr-ij-uː |
|  | [man.obl=erg] | [enemy=dat] | club | with | kill-pfv-msg |
|  | A | P |  |  |  |
|  | ‘The man killed his enemy with a club.’ (GJUp-Val-RN:026) | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| b. | gədri-jãː=neː | apɳ-aː | ustaːd=naː | fuːʈuː | das-ij-aː |  |
|  | [girl.obl.pl=erg] | [refl-obl.msg | teacher=dat] | [picture] | show-pfv-mpl |  |
|  | A | R |  | T |  |  |
|  | ‘The girls showed pictures to the teacher.’ (GJUp-Val-RN:035) | | | | | |

This feature was evidenced in a minority of the languages in the sample, although for a fair number of the languages the evidence was non-conclusive as far as the present data set is concerned.

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| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 13 | 22 |
| Absent | 32 | 54 |
| Indeterminate | 14 | 24 |