Prepositional Coding of Goal

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

1. Wakhi, Pakistan [wbl(p)] (Iranian)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | ja | ðaj-e | sinduq-ve | **tra** | bozor | jut. |
|  | that | man-obl | box-obl.pl | [to | market] | take.pst |
|  | ‘The man carried the boxes to the market.’ (WBLp-ValQuestAK:038) | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| b. | ʂiliɖʐin | **tra** | bozor | reɣd-e. |  |  |
|  | woman | [to | market] | go.pst-3sg |  |  |
|  | ‘The woman went to the market.’ (WBLp-ValQuestAK:054) | | | | | |

This is minority feature and limited to a few of the Iranian languages in the north. In those languages it is sometimes occurring in addition to other coding, such as suffixing or a postposition.

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| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 7 | 12 |
| Absent | 52 | 88 |
| Indeterminate | 0 | 0 |