Postpositional Coding of Location

The strategy for marking a noun phrase as a location was investigated. The positive value of this feature reflects the presence of a marker following the noun phrase, whether clitical or adpositional. In Indo-Aryan Alishang Pashai, this semantic role is coded by postpositions, as shown in (1).

1. Alishang Pashai [glh(ag)] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. | baːlkulan | t͡ʃoːkiː | **ʃəraː** | | niːgiːz. | |  | |  |
|  | boy.pl | [bench | on] | | sit.down.pst.3pl | |  | |  |
|  | ‘The children sat down on the bench.’ (GLHag-ValQuestSF:051) | | | | | | | | |
| b. | kuːnuː | adam-aːn | χaːr | **kut͡ʃaː** | | ʒun | | kət-un. | |
|  | old | man-pl | [city | in] | | life | | do.prs-3pl | |
|  | ‘The old people live in town.’ (GLHag-ValQuestSF:056) | | | | | | | | |

This is a feature of a majority of the sample languages, either as the only explicit marking or in addition to other coding, such as prepositions or suffixes.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 47 |  |
| Absent | 10 |  |
| Indeterminate | 2 |  |