Kinship: MZ=FZ

In some languages the same kinship term is used for referring to an anchor’s mother’s sister (MZ) as the one used for referring to the father’s sister (FZ). This pattern occurs in Indo-Aryan Alasai Pashai, as can be seen in ‎(1). This term is lexically distinct from the term for ‘mother’.

1. Alasai Pashai [psh(ai)] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| a. | aːjə | ‘mother’ (PSHai-KinKD:002) |
| b. | maːmbiː | ‘mother’s sister’ (PSHai-KinKD:030) |
| c. | maːmbiː | ‘father’s sister’ (PSHai-KinKD:024) |

This pattern also exists in Korangali Pashai. Here, however, the polysemy includes the anchor’s mother, maternal aunts, and paternal aunts, alike, as can be seen in ‎(2).

1. Korangali Pashai [aee(kg)] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| a. | aːi | ‘mother’ (AEEkg-KinAM:002) |
| b. | kaniʃʈiː aːi | ‘mother’s younger sister’ [lit. little mother] (AEEkg-KinAM:032) |
| c. | kaniʃʈiː aːi | ‘father’s younger sister’ [lit. little mother] (AEEkg-KinAM:026) |
| d. | ɖəʃʈiː aːi | ‘mother’s older sister’ [lit. big mother] (AEEkg-KinAM:031) |
| e. | ɖəʃʈiː aːi | ‘father’s older sister’ [lit. big mother] (AEEkg-KinAM:025) |

The feature occurs in approximately a fourth of the sample. It has a distinctly subareal distribution, occurring in a geographical belt stretching from the region’s southwestern corner to the region’s northeastern corner.

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| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 16 | 27 |
| Absent | 41 | 69 |
| Indeterminate | 2 | 4 |