Kinship: Parent Compound

Terms referring to one’s parents were investigated. In some languages, this is expressed though a compound involving the lexemes ‘mother’ and ‘father’, either instead of or in addition to a distinct ‘parent(s)’ lexeme. The relative order of those elements is described by another feature (Kinship: M-F Compound). Indo-Aryan Kundal Shahi uses this type of compound, as can be seen in ‎(1). Typically the two roots are juxtaposed, as in Kundal Shahi, but explicitly conjoining elements occur, too.

1. Kundal Shahi [shd] (Indo-Aryan)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| a. | meːl maːl | ‘parents’ (SHD-KinGQ:003) |
| b. | meːl | ‘mother’ (SHD- KinGQ:002) |
| c. | maːl | ‘father’ (SHD- KinGQ:001) |

The feature is a majority pattern in the region, occurring across the region, in languages of all six phyla.

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| Feature value | # of varieties displaying it | % |
| Present | 48 | 81 |
| Absent | 10 | 17 |
| Indeterminate | 1 | 2 |