

THE GENITIVE AND LOCATIVE CASES AND THEIR DEVELOPMENT FROM INDO-EUROPEAN TO INDO-ARYAN LANGUAGES

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Introduction :

An attempt has been made in this paper to discuss the genitive/locative cases and their development from Indo-European to Indo-Aryan Languages. The first section of this paper deals with views regarding the function of these cases and their implications for linguistic typology and universals, second section deals with the occurrence of these cases in Indo-European and the third section with their development in Indo-Aryan; the final section includes some important factors connected with these cases and their development.

1. Theoretical background :

The behaviour of genitive/locative cases has been considered as having similar characteristic features by many scholars.¹ They function related to each other and this relation which is mainly based on their syntactic function can be represented by the following sentences.

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|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. (a) The book is on the table. | (locative). |
| (b) John has a book. | (genitive). |
| (c) The book is John's. | (do) |

All these sentences indicate the location of the book. Sentence (1a) refers to the place where the book is located; sentences (1, b & f) refer to the person who possesses the book. Notice that in the locative sentence, the location of book is (-Animate), while in the possessive sentence it is (+ Animate). If we accept locative as the base form and transform it into the possessive, then the location takes the feature (+Animate). They can be called as locationals in considering the apparent relation of these sentences.

1. Devine (1970)
 Lyons, J. (1967)
 Clark, E. V. (1970)