

прилагательное растеряло все свои грамматические категории за исключением категории сравнения.

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## THE ERZYA LANGUAGE. WHO? WHERE? WHEN?

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**Abstract.** The main questions considered in this article were: Who speaks the Erzya language? Where are native speakers located? When was this language born? You will learn about the people called Erzya, about their history and the fight for the right to exist. You will find out who and why are glorified by the Erzya people.

**Keywords:** the Erzya language; Erzya; Mordovia; National language.

Every language carries a baggage of complex implications of identity, development and education. It has the ability to preserve and develop our culture and heritage. There is a linguistic and cultural opinion that many years ago there was a single Mordvin language, a member of the Finno-Ugric group of the Uralic language family, spoken in Mordvinia by all communities of the Mordovians. Later it divided into two major dialects: Erzya, now spoken in the eastern portion of Mordvinia and Moksha, spoken in the west. They are both written and have official status. As I am a speaker of the former, the aim of my work is to tell the readers about my language as a medium of communication and the ethnic group that I identify myself.

First, it is necessary to outline general facts of Erzya history. The ethnonym “Arisa” “Erzya” is first mentioned at the end of the 10th century. The first written evidence of Erzya dates back to the first half of the 18th century. As a written language, Erzya first appeared in print in 1806. Popular literature came to the fore in the late teens and early twenties of the 20th century. Two encyclopedias have been published in the new millennium. Currently Erzya is spoken on an everyday basis in the small Erzya villages of the Volga Region and beyond. According to the statistical data about 300,000 people speak Erzya in the Russian Federation, and about 250,000 live in other countries, particularly in ex-Soviet Central Asia. But there are areas associated with the Erzya-speaking population in Belarus, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Mother tongue is always referencing the language that the child has used from birth and in important and impacting times in the child's life. It is the language that you most commonly speak. Erzya is taught in the first four grades of school, but the problem is whether Erzya is the medium of instruction or merely an elective subject taught outside of the regular school curricula. Being used the most in the rural setting in non-official matters, it is mainly the language of the family, education, market, Church and theatre. However, the number of speakers is gradually decreasing every year, so the Erzya language can be found on the list of languages close to extinction. Something should be done to revive the use of Erzya in the schools, because when children develop their mother tongue, they are simultaneously fostering a whole host of other essential skills, such as critical thinking and literacy skills. He develops the ability to guess the meaning of a word through its context, or to infer meaning by reading between the lines.

The modern Erzya alphabet is the same as for Russian (see figure 1).

**Cyrillic alphabet for Erzya**

А а	Б б	В в	Г г	Д д	Е е	Ё ё	Ж ж
a	b	v	g	d	e	ë/jo	sch
[a]	[b]	[v]	[g]	[d]	[je]	[jo]	[ʒ]
З з	И и	Й й	К к	Л л	М м	Н н	НГ
z	i	j	k	l	m	n	ng
[z]	[i]	[j]	[k]	[l]	[m]	[n]	[ŋ]
О о	П п	Р р	С с	Т т	У у	Ф ф	Х х
o	p	r	s	t	u	f	ch
[o]	[p]	[r]	[s]	[t]	[u]	[f]	[x]
Ц ц	Ч ч	Ш ш	Щ щ	Ъ ъ	Ы ы	Ь ь	Э э
ts/z/cz/tz	tsch/cz	sch/s/sh	schc	"	y	'	e
[ʦ]	[ʧ]	[ʃ]	[ʃʧ]		[i]	[ʲ]	[e]
Ю ю	Я я	ӓ	ә				
ju	ja	æ	ʌe				
[ju]	[ja]	[æ]	[ə]				
<b>Other letters</b>							
Дь	Зь	Ль	Нь	Рь	Сь	Ть	Ць
ɖ	ʒ	ʲ	ɲ	ʀ	ʂ	ʈ	ʧ
[ɖ]	[ʒʲ]	[ʲ]	[ɲʲ]	[ʀʲ]	[ʂʲ]	[ʈʲ]	[ʧʲ]

*Figure 1 – Erzya alphabet*

Sample text in Erzya: Мордовиясо 28 ноябрьнь чистэ карми комсьвейксэце Государственной Собраниянь сессия. Кода мерсть РИА «Инфо-РМ», понедельникстэ депутатонь Государственного собрания заседаниянь советсэ анокстызь повестканть (Source: <http://www.info-rm.com/er/index.php>).

There is a special educational program «The Erzya language for Americans» in Gennadii YouTube (<https://youtu.be/np09XKdS74I>). The rules, pronunciation of letters, words and phrases can be learnt in Erzya lessons.

The Mordvins (also Mordva, Mordvinians) are among the larger indigenous peoples of Russia. 'Erzya' is thought to derive from the Persian: arshan – man. But according to most scientists, the name «Erzya» comes from the Erzya verb «Eryams», meaning «to live». Erzyans are called eternal fighters for freedom and their rights. Throughout history, the Erzya have fought not only for their independence, but also against the imposition of foreign beliefs and traditions. A striking example is their difficult struggle against the Golden Horde in 1237. Unlike their neighbors – moksha, they did not want to recognize the power of the Mongols. Thus, constant clashes turned the people into a serious military force. Many Erzyans participated in the Great Patriotic War, and many left their lives in history as heroes of the Soviet Union.

The Erzyas have a rich cultural heritage that they are especially proud of. Among those well-known historical figures of Erzya, one can name: Stepan Erzya, F. V. Sychkov, R. M. Bepalov etc., who are also known abroad of Mordovia. Among famous writers: F. I. Bezzubova, famous for her folk songs and legends; V. C. Radaev, famous for his poem «Siyazhar», which can be considered the epic of the Erzya people; V. V. Gorbunov is a professor known as the author of the first textbooks and curricula on Erzya literature. They and many other writers develop and promote the Erzya language to the masses.

For all the time, the Erzyas often moved from one place to another, as it has already been mentioned above, it was due to constant attacks and harassment by warlike peoples.

Two Erzya centers of national culture were established in Mordovia: in the village of Nizovka in the Ardatovsky district and the Podlesnaya village of Tavla Kochkurovsky district). The main directions in the field of preserving cultural heritage and developing the cultural potential are: strengthening the material and technical base of cultural objects; attraction and consolidation of talented youth in the republic; development of cultural tourism.

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## **ПРИЧИНЫ АЛГОРИТМА РАСПОЛОЖЕНИЯ РУНИЧЕСКИХ ЗНАКОВ В СТАРШЕМ ФУТАРКЕ**

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**Аннотация.** Письменность древнегерманских племен всегда представляла загадку для современного человека и несла некий магический смысл даже для людей, живущих в XXI веке. Действительно, руническим знакам придавались магические значения, с рунами в первую очередь были связаны различные ритуалы, а как известно, в системе ценностей древних германцев они играли важнейшую роль. Одной из загадок рунической письменности древнегерманских племен являются не только послания, ранее оставленные на оружии, votivных предметах и т.д., но и сам алгоритм расположения рун в старшем футарке. Несмотря на то, что значение каждого из знаков расшифровано и определено, понятийный спектр значений может быть чрезвычайно широким. Кроме того, остается вопрос: на основе какого принципа рунические знаки имеют именно такой алгоритм последовательности в старшем футарке?

**Ключевые слова:** рунические знаки; алгоритм; старший футарк; руны; значение.

Система старшего футарка представляет собой 24-знаковую систему рунической письменности. Данная система названа так по первым шести буквам «рунического алфавита» и представляет собой три эттира (атта), каждый из которых состоит из 8 рунических знаков. Атты посвящены трем божествам скандинавской мифологии: Фрейе (1 атт), Хеймдаллю (2 атт), Тюру (3 атт). Доподлинно неизвестно происхождение и перевод слова атт (эттир). По одной из теорий руническая система является также наглядной системой сотворения мира, где все три эттира соответствуют таким процессам, как акт сотворения мира (подсознательное, эмоции, инстинкты, начало пути) – соответствие 1 эттиру; осознанная деятельность, сам путь и сопровождающиеся им физические явления и деяния – 2 атт; 3 же атт указывает на духовный мир, высший уровень развития человека, иррациональное. В данном случае