**Bier- 'give' and *ıl- 'take' as constructional auxiliaries in Taimyr Dolgan: first notes on a system (in decay)**

Florian Siegl ([florian.siegl@gmail.com](mailto:florian.siegl@gmail.com))

Similar to many Turkic languages (and other languages of Eurasia), Taimyr Dolgan – a small endangered Turkic language spoken in Northern Siberia – uses the verbs 'give' *bier-* and 'take' *ıl-* as auxiliary-like verbs for the encoding of subject- and object-oriented benefactivity (=version). Both *bier-* and *ıl-* can also be used as aspectual auxiliary-like verbs and express that an event is either of short duration, considered to be intensive, or terminal/resultative. A certain functional overlap is attested, especially for 'take'. Concerning the internal structure of the monoclausal multi-verbal predicate, *bier-* and *ıl-* function as predicating elements; the lexical verb appears as an anterior converb.

Since neither of the functions (version/aspectuality) can synchronically be assigned to the semantics of 'give' and 'take' anymore – this function is otherwise peripheral, because the dominant use of 'give' and 'take' is predominantly lexical – an analysis of 'give' and 'take' as auxiliaries appears unmotivated. Instead, 'give' and 'take' should be considered constructional auxiliaries [=CAUX]. In contrast to other Turkic Languages of Siberia and Central Asia, the use of *bier-* and *ıl-* as constructional auxiliaries in Taimyr Dolgan is infrequent. It is not attested in the author's field materials and appears infrequently in available textual data. Furthermore, the accumulated data suggests that this system is in decay.

The aims of this talk are therefore two-fold. First, I will sketch the CAUX concept in more detail and contrast its theoretical and explanatory potential with other monoclausal multi-verbal predicates such as Serial Verb and Auxiliary Verb Constructions. Second, I will offer a comprehensive overview of a poorly covered feature of Dolgan grammar, which, so far, has not received any significant coverage in available grammaticographic overviews.