

## Hinuq-Russian language contact

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Hinuq is a Nakh-Daghestanian language with around 600 speakers. It has been in contact with the surrounding languages Tsez, Bezhta, Georgian, and Avar for many centuries. Nowadays Russian is the most important second language for Hinuq speakers. In my talk I will explore the influence of Russian on Hinuq in the lexicon and the syntax.

Russian is usually assumed to have free word order, but with an underlying SVO structure. Nakh-Daghestanian languages also have free word order, but SOV is clearly most frequent. If Russian influence on Hinuq has grown over the last 50 years, one expects to find significantly more clauses with SVO structure in modern Hinuq texts than in old Hinuq texts (cf. Skopeteas 2012 for similar findings in another Caucasian language). For my study, I will compare published narratives collected in the 1940es and 1950es (Lomtadze 1963, Imnajšvili 1963, Bokarev 1967) with narratives from young Hinuq speakers (11-27 years old).

Concerning the lexicon I will focus on the replacement of Avar loans by newer Russian borrowings and on the morphosyntactic properties of Hinuq light verb constructions that contain Avar or Russian loans.

### References

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