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Gurindji Kriol and Light Warlpiri

The morphology of possessives in two emergent languages, Gurindji Kriol and Light Warlpiri, differs from that of their source traditional languages, Gurindji and Warlpiri. Both traditional languages have an alienable / inalienable possession distinction for part-whole relations. Gurindji Kriol and Light Warlpiri show the system at different points along a continuum of change: in Light Warlpiri the distinction is variably present; only the alienable system operates in Gurindji Kriol. The paper traces the morphological changes from the traditional to the emergent languages and discusses how these may reflect changes in world view.