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## **COLLECTIVE PORTRAIT OF SELEMDZHA EVENKS' SPEECH (PHONETIC ASPECT)**

### **Abstract**

The article describes phonetic features of the language of the Amur Evenks in the framework of the theory of speech portrait as a combination of language and speech properties common for the community members united in terms of national and geographical affiliation. The article presents the phonetic portrait of Selemdzha Evenks' speech. We divided Selemdzha Evenks into two groups: those who compactly live in Ivanovskoye village (Selemdzhinsky district, Amur Region) and those of Kaŋai kin who nomad in their hunting territory (Mazanovsky district, Amur Region). We found certain heterogeneity of the Selemdzha Evenks' speech, although the differences turned out small. Oral Selemdzha Evenks speech has a-like accent as a characteristic feature of the Eastern dialect group. Kaŋai kin most actively use their national language in daily communication. Kaŋai representatives preserve apical articulation of /t/, /d/, /dʲ/, /n/, /nʲ/ and practice flat dental articulation of /s/ («lisps»). Strong Russian-Evenki language interference can be clearly seen in velarization of sonorant /l/, coexistence of voiceless plosive palatalized apical [tʲ] and voiceless palatalized affricate [tʃʲ] as allophones of the phoneme /tʃ/. Yakut-Evenki language interference affected all our subjects in terms of strong lip-rounding of back vowels /u/, /u:/, /o/, /o:/. F1 and F2 measurements of long and short vowels demonstrated their difference in quality – the result not found in previous studies. Acoustic analysis also demonstrated the lack of originally present aspiration in realization patterns of voiceless plosive consonants. The main feature to distinguish between voiceless-voiced pairs /p-/b/, /t-/d/ /k-/g/ was vocal chords off-on pattern.

**Keywords:** phonetic speech portrait, linguistic personality, Selemdzha local accent of the Evenki language, vowels, consonants, acoustic properties.

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