

## **Adpositions in Macro-Jê: a panoramic view**

Andrey Nikulin (Univ. Goiás)

The Macro-Jê language family is one of the largest universally recognized genetic units in South America. Most Macro-Jê languages are head-final and employ postpositions rather than prepositions, though there are exceptions. In some branches of Macro-Jê, postpositions are used to flag core arguments of verbs, including the ergative and the nominative postpositions. However, only a few postpositions have been reconstructed for Proto-Macro-Jê, possibly due to the fact that the comparative studies of Macro-Jê are still incipient. This contribution is an attempt at establishing the sources of postpositions that have not been etymologized so far. It is proposed that most Macro-Jê branches show no evidence for a nominal origin of adpositions (except a few branches such as Chiquitano), and that a few Proto-Macro-Jê adpositions persist in the daughter languages as fossilized parts of adverbial expressions.