L.V. Khokhlova Moscow University

Syntax of Russian and Hindi Poetry (comparative analysis)

The purpose of this paper is to analyze word order rules and the controlling properties of arguments in order to reveal universal syntactic rules that are valid in all styles of Modern Hindi and Russian and 'restricted' rules that may be applied only to a particular register. The issue of word order and word order flexibility within the basic pattern form the basis for traditional typology. The relative order of the sentential elements (S,O,V), the ordering of noun and adjective, and so on underlie many language universals. It has been shown by many linguists that Hindi, along with the majority of other South Asian languages, occupies an intermediate position on the continuum of word order freedom (T. Mohanan 1990; 1994), (Butt 1995) etc. The prototypical (canonical, unmarked) word order is SOV. Though the language belongs to the analytic type (the index of synthesis is 1,74 ~ 1,82 (Zakharyin 1965)), its word order is considered relatively free (T. Mohanan 1994). Russian has the proto-typical word order SVO and is usually described as free word order language.

The paper establishes some constraints on scrambling possibilities in Hindi and Russian that can be claimed to be universal as well as scrambling possibilities typical only for Hindi or Russian poetical syntax. It will be shown also that in comparison with prose, both Hindi and Russian poetry allows more NPs to control conjunctive participles.