

Izafet vs non-Izafet genitive patterns in non-related languages

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Abstract

The paper deals with the analysis of the specifically marked genitive construction – the izafet – in non-related languages, comparing it with the non-izafet genitive patterns found in the languages of different structure. The phenomenon of izafet is considered typical to Iranian (Persian), Afroasiatic (Arabic), Turkic (Tatar), and Uralic (Udmurt) languages, i.e. in languages with more or less agglutinating morphology. However, we do register non-izafet genitive patterns in some other languages (English, Japanese, Russian, Swahili), representing different language families, which possess the patterns similar to izafet or slightly/radically different. The degree of izafet/ non-izafet characteristics of the languages under study is revealed on the basis of the genitive phrase (GP) models.

Key words: izafet, genitive construction, possessiveness, GP model, Arabic, English, Japanese, Persian, Russian, Swahili, Tatar, Udmurt

Introduction

According to linguistic encyclopedia (1990, 1998), the izafet genitive pattern is typical to Semitic, Turkic, some Iranian and other languages. In Arabic this phenomenon – *idafa* – denotes a construct state in which a noun modifies another noun in a genitive construction, which was highlighted by Khalidov (1981), Grande (1998). According to Khalidov, the Arabs call this construction as *idafa* that similar to Latin status constructus. That was the reason he used the term *izafet* in his research that was popular in Iranian studies and Turcology (Khalidov, 1981: 117). Being typical of Semitic languages the *idafa* construction presents a nominal phrase with a hierarchical relation where the modifying noun – the possessor – in the genitive case marking the head noun – the thing possessed and forms a relationship of possession or belonging. All but the first member take the genitive case. Heath (2015) analyzes archaic Moroccan Arabic D-possessives *di*, *d-* and *dya-* that reflect Latin *de* and pronominal combinations thereof, and states that it must be dated to the language-shift period.

In Persian and Farsi, this construction is called *ezafe*, denoting a grammatical particle or even a pronoun between the words it connects. The grammatical term *ezafe* is borrowed from the Arabic concept of *idafa*, where it denotes a genitive construction between two or more nouns, expressed using case endings. This structure has been studied by many scholars such as Clair Tisdall (1902), Homayunfarrokhi (1960), Mo'in (1962), Palmer (1971), Samiani (1983), Karimi and Brame (1986), Rubinchick (2001), Guilani, Yasin and Kim Hua (2012). According to Guilani, Mohd Yasin, Kim Hua “the *ezafe* is not limited to Persian; it can also be traced in some other languages with roughly similar functions” (Mingazova & Shangaraeva, 2014: 29).

The izafet in the Uralic languages has been analyzed by Honti L. (2008) and Künnap A. (2009). Honti L. pointed out that “the Uralic structure indicated on the possessum (as well) and called by many as izafet, a term borrowed from Turcology, has been explained by some as the impact of neighboring Turkic languages. However ... this is likely to be the outcome of a spontaneous internal development from the age of the Uralic protolanguage. There ... genetic links between ... the Uralic languages using the so-called izafet and Turkic languages, but these constructions evolved autonomously in the mentioned language families. (Honti, 2008: 161). Künnap A.

wrote that “it is necessary to consider the so-called Turkic II *izafet* construction, in which case the attribute consists of the nominative form (mainly with the possessive suffix) (Künnap, 2009: 119). Rédei K. mentions the so-called *izafet* constructions among intra- and extra-linguistic innovations in Udmurt as “engendered by the impact of the neighboring Turko-Tataric languages. Similar developments in the Komi, Mari, and Mordvin languages are pointed out” (Rédei, 2009: 36). The *izafet* construction in Tatar as similar to a genitive *ezafê* in Persian has been mentioned in Mingazova and Shangaraeva’s research (Mingazova & Shangaraeva, 2014). Öztürk and Taylan (2016) investigate the syntax and semantics of possessive constructions at the phrasal level in Turkish, namely, genitive-possessive constructions (GP), possessive free genitives (PFG) and possessive compounds (PC). They define that semantically the constructions fall into two types based on the argument–modifier relation of the possessor to the possessee. Genitives in GPs are argumental, while the ones in PFGs are modifiers. The relation established between the two nouns in GPs and PCs relies on the lexical properties of the head noun.

The English genitive has been studied from different perspectives. Taylor (1994) analyzed certain aspects of prenominal possessives in English emphasizing that the consideration of the discourse function of the construction leads to the prediction that the possessor nominal will be high in topicality, whilst the possessee nominal will generally denote a highly non-topical entity. Bernstein and Tortora (2005) distinguished between the two instances of word-final *-s* characterizing English possessive forms: (i) the pronominal final *-s* of *his* and (ii) the full-DP final *'s* of *Mary's* and argued that the pronouns are morphologically complex, consisting of a nominative pronoun (*he, you*) and the endings *'s* or *'r*, which correspond to the copular forms *is* and *are* (*he's, you're*) and they are not real possessive markers, but rather, singular/plural copulas, which together with the nominative pronoun yield a possessive pronominal form (*his, your*). Peters and Westerståhl (2013) analyze possessives’ meaning, by examining a wide range of English examples and delineate a rich class of paradigmatic possessives having crosslinguistic interest, exploiting characteristic semantic properties. They state that all involve implicit or explicit quantification over possessed entities and apply the proposed semantics to the issues of the definiteness of possessives, negation of possessives, partitives and prenominal possessives, postnominal possessives and complements of relational nouns, freedom of the possessive relation, and the semantic relationship between pre- and postnominal possessives. Tratz and Hovy (2013) highlight the creation of a semantic relation inventory covering the use of *'s* from the computational linguistics perspectives. Rauth (2014) focuses his attention on the development of both the German *s*-plural and the pronominal genitive pointing out that English group genitives presumably have been grammaticalized from Middle English *his*-genitives, and pronominal genitives including personal names in both languages originate from possessive constructions as well. Lowe (2016) analyzes the English possessive marker *'s* and argues that it synchronically displays properties of both clitic and affix, rather than only one or the other or something halfway between and shows that it is possible to model the dual clitic/affix status of the possessive in the framework of Lexical-Functional Grammar, and that this model is capable of accounting for the full range of constructions in which the possessive marker appears. This also has consequences for questions of English noun phrase syntax, and issues of categoriality and degrammaticalization. Lowe states that the possessive marker *'s* has been the subject of considerable debate: Zwicky (1987), Lapointe (1990), Miller (1991), and recently Payne (2009) analyze it as an ‘edge affix’, i.e. an affix that appears at the end of syntactic phrases rather than at the end of words, the others analyze it rather as a clitic. Lorenz (2016) in his research defines ‘possession’, according to Langacker, as a category that is ‘both universal and fundamental’ that

may appear to be self-explanatory, but eludes a straightforward definition. He continues that “when we speak of ‘possession’ in everyday life, we usually mean things owned, but the linguistic concept clearly is more general than that. Things we ‘have’ or that are ‘ours’ include such diverse entities...” and presents Langacker’s list of eighteen relations that a possessive construction may express.

Thus, we can see that the whole genitive case-phenomenon is analyzed deductively through its aspects while we suggest some typologically related universal classification of genitive patterns in some non-related languages. possess typical izafet genitive patterns. Our work is based on the assumption that non-izafet genitive patterns may be regarded as similar or different to some extent from the izafet patterns. Consequently, the paper aims at comparing izafet genitive patterns traditionally pointed out in Semitic (synthetic inflectional Arabic), Iranian (analytical inflectional Persian), Turkic (synthetic agglutinating Tatar), and Uralic (synthetic agglutinating Udmurt) languages with the non-izafet genitive constructions in Indo-European: Russian (synthetic inflectional) and English (analytical inflectional); Altaic Japanese (analytical agglutinating); Bantu Swahili (analytical agglutinating), which we consider to be similar to some extent or different to/from the izafet languages (in terms of genitive patterns).

According to these data, the languages studied represent the specific izafet/ non-izafet morphological characteristics that are summarized in Table 1:

Table1. Izafet/ non-izafet morphological characteristics of the languages studied

	inflectional	agglutinative
analytical	Persian English	Swahili Japanese
synthetic	Arabic Russian	Tatar Udmurt

Following the Minimalist theory of A. Radford (2009) we in our research describe the genitive construction as a phrase that is formed by a binary merger operation which combines two constituents together to form a larger constituent. In accordance with this theory, we represent all possible models of the genitive phrase (GP) in the languages under study. The head of the phrase being the thing possessed forms a relationship of possession or belonging and determines grammatical properties of its complement. As a result, the basic two GP models regardless of the type of languages are presented with the goal of developing a theory of Universal GP model in further research.

The basic two GP models regardless of the type of languages are:



All the languages of the world are either head-first or head-last languages. Taking it into consideration two basic models could be elaborated: one for head-first languages (most Indo-European inflectional languages) and one for head-last languages (agglutinative Turkic languages, etc.).

However, we hypothesize that the languages considered may demonstrate mixed GPs or even unconventional GP properties.

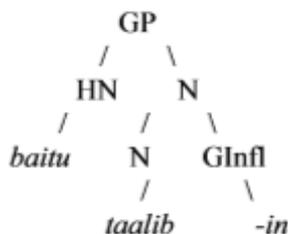
Materials and Methods

Izafet genitive patterns

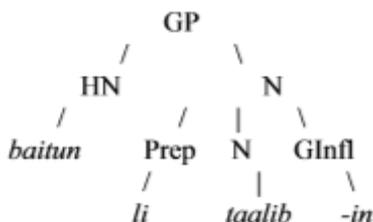
The izafet genitive patterns are typical to Iranian, Afroasiatic, Turkic, and Uralic languages, i.e., in languages with more or less agglutinating morphology that are presented by Persian, Arabic, Tatar and Udmurt in our research. We start our analysis of izafet genitive patterns with the Arabic *idafa* as we suppose that the term *idafa* with its meaning ‘addition’ was the source for the terms *izafet*, *ezafe* and others borrowed by other izafet languages. According to linguists, the Arabic *idafa* or *izafet* is one of the three grammatical states of nouns in Arabic. The head noun is always grammatically indefinite (without the definite article or nunation (a final *-n*) and can be semantically definite if the following noun is definite, e.g., *baitu taalibin* “a (the) house of a student,” *baitu attaalibi* “the house of the student”. The modifying noun is in the genitive case. All but the head noun take the genitive case. Furthermore, nothing (except a demonstrative determiner) can appear between the two nouns in this construction; if an adjective modifier is the first noun, it appears after the second noun, e.g.: *baitu taalibin dzadidun* “a new house of a student” (Grande, 1998). According to Khalidov, izafet construction is a closely connected syntactic structure and more than two constituents of the GP doesn’t correspond to stylistic norms of the language and leads to the use of the prepositions *li* (for), *min* (from), *fi* (in), *bi* (at) between the head noun and the following noun that always takes the genitive case (Khalidov, 1981: 119).

So, the Arabic *idafa* is used in the following main ways with the Arabic GP models which have two main constituents: the head noun (HN) being in preposition and the following noun (N) modified with the genitive inflection (GInfl) or preceded by the preposition or the following conjugate possessive pronoun (PPro):

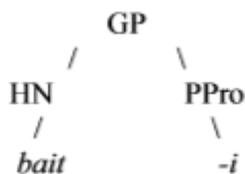
1. head noun (HN) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl): *baitu taalibin* “a (the) house of a student”:



2. head noun (HN) + preposition (Prep) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl): *baitun li taalibin* “a (the) house of a student”:



3. head noun (HN) + possessive pronoun (PPro): *baiti* “my house”:



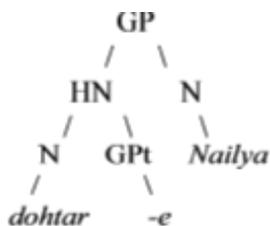
As for the Iranian *ezafe*, it denotes a grammatical particle (or even a pronoun) that in the Persian language consists of the unstressed vowel *-e-* or *-i-* (*-ye-* or *-yi* after vowels) between different parts of speech it connects.

Originally, in Old Persian, nouns had case endings, just like every other early Indo-European language (such as Latin, Greek, and Proto-Germanic). A genitive construction would have looked much like an Arabic *idafa* construct, with the first noun being in the nominative case, and the second being in the genitive case, as in Arabic. However, over time, a relative pronoun such as *tya* or *hya* (meaning ‘which’) began to be interposed between the first element and its genitive attribute.

W. St. Clair Tisdall states that the modern Persian *ezafe* stems from this relative pronoun *which*, which in Eastern Iranian languages (Avestan) was *yo* or *yat*. Pahlavi (Middle Persian) shortened it to *-ī-*, and after noun case endings passed out of usage, this relative pronoun *which* (pronounced [e] in New Persian), became a genitive ‘construct’ marker. Thus the phrase *mard-e-hub* really means “man *who* (is) good” rather than “good man.” However, rather than translating it as “which,” as its etymological origin suggests, a more accurate translation for the New Persian use of *ezafe* would be a linking genitive/attributive “of,” or no translation in the case of adjectives (Clair Tisdall, 1902).

As Rubinchick (2001) and other linguists stated, the *ezafe* as a grammatical particle is generally not indicated in writing. That is why all *ezafe* patterns could be considered typical. The use of the Persian *ezafe* is much wider than the Arabic *idafa*, and in contrast to it, its modifying word can be expressed not only by nouns but also by pronouns, adjectives, ordinal numerals, etc. as seen in the following *ezafe* patterns. Respectively, the Persian GP could represent the following models with the head being in preposition with genitive particle (GPt) and modifying nominal words (noun (N), possessive pronoun (PPro) or adjective (A) or ordinal numeral (Num):

1. head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + noun (N): *dohtar-e Nailya* “Nailya’s daughter”:



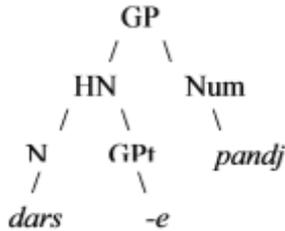
2. head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + possessive pronoun (PPro): *dohtar-e man* “my daughter”:



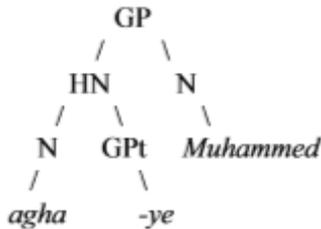
3. head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + adjective (A): *hohar-e bozorg* “the big sister”:



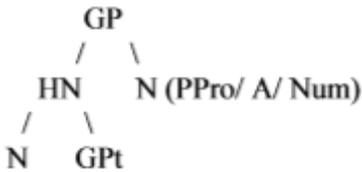
4. head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + ordinal numeral (Num): *dars-e pandj* “lesson five”:



5. given name/title (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + family name (N): *agha-ye Muhammed* “Mr. Muhammed”:



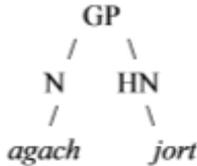
So, the Persian GP could represent the following typical model:



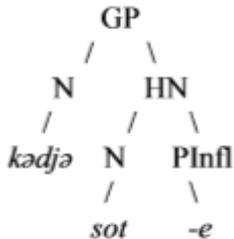
The izafet in Turkic languages, which have historically borrowed many phrases from Persian, is traced back to Ottoman Turkish that made extensive use of this structure, borrowing it from Persian, but it is transcribed in Turkic languages as *-i* or *ı* rather than *-e*.

The Izafet construction in Tatar is a syntactic and / or phonological unit like the *ezafe* in the Persian language. This construction can be of the following types with the Tatar GP models with its head noun (HN) in postposition with or without Possessive inflection (PInfl) and preceding noun in Nominative case or noun/ pronoun in Possessive case (PC inflection):

1. noun (N) + head noun (HN) without inflections: *agach jort* “wooden house = wood + house”:



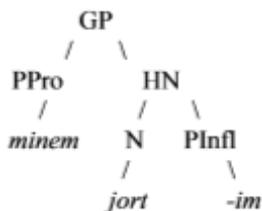
2. noun (N) + head noun (HN) with the Possessive inflection (PInfl) of the third person singular *-y/ -e/ -ty/ -te* in the second component: *kədjə sote* “goat’s milk = goat + milk + its” where the noun *sot* “milk” has the Possessive inflection *-e*: *sote*:



3. noun (N) + head noun (HN) with the inflection of the Possessive case (PCInfl) *-nyñ/ -neñ* in the first component and the Possessive inflection (PInfl) of the third person singular *-y/ -e/ -ty/ -te* in the second component: *jortnyñ hudjasy* “the owner of the house = house + of + owner + its” where the noun *jort* “the house” is in the Possessive case: *jortnyñ*, and the word *hudja* “the owner” has the Possessive inflection: *hudjasy* (Mingazova, Shangaraeva, 2014: 29-30):

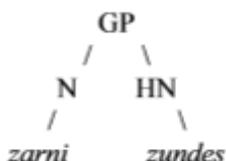


4. possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl): *minem jortim* "house":

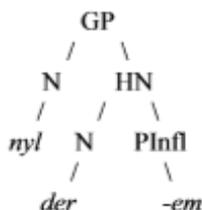


The so-called *izafet* in Udmurt is a genitive-possessive construction presenting a nominal phrase with a hierarchical relation where the noun – the possessor – in the genitive case marking the noun – the thing possessed with the Possessive inflection and forms a relationship of possession or belonging. Honti L. explained as the impact of neighbouring Turkic languages. (Honti, 2008: 161). Rédei K. mentions the *izafet* constructions among intra- and extra-linguistic innovations in Udmurt (Rédei, 2009: 36). We can allocate the following types of the Udmurt *izafet* construction with the Udmurt GP models similar to the Tatar GP models:

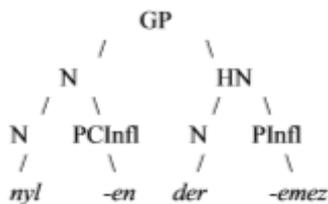
1. noun (N) + head noun (HN) without inflections: *zarni zundes* "golden ring = gold + ring":



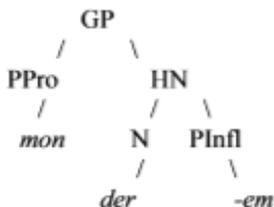
2. noun (N) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl): *nyl derem* "a girl's dress":



3. noun (N) + possessive case (PCInfl) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl): *nyllen deremez* “the girl’s dress = girl + of + dress + her”:



4. possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl): *mon derem* “my dress”:



Generally, the *izafet* languages represent the main GP model with the head noun being in preposition in inflectional languages (Arabic and Persian) and in postposition in agglutinative languages (Tatar and Udmurt).

Non-izafet genitive patterns

We register non-*izafet* genitive patterns in some other languages (English, Japanese, Russian, Swahili), representing different language families, which possess the patterns similar to *izafet* or slightly/radically different.

The English genitive has been studied from different perspectives. Bernstein and Tortora (2005) developed an analysis of the internal structure of English possessive forms that draws on their morphological properties and offered a novel analysis of possessive forms in English distinguishing between the two instances of word-final morphemes characterizing English possessive forms: 1. the pronominal final -s or -r (his book, their book) and 2. the full DP final -s (John’s book). Tratz and Hovy (2013) highlight the creation of a semantic relation inventory covering the use of ’s, an inter-annotator agreement and annotate a large collection of possessives according to the relations. Rauth (2014) points out that English group genitives presumably have been grammaticalized from Middle English his-genitives, and pronominal genitives including personal names in both languages originate from possessive constructions as well. Lorenz, (2016) defining ‘possession’ according to Langacker as a category that is ‘both universal and fundamental,’ enumerates the Langacker’s lists of eighteen relations that a possessive construction may express. With respect to the possessor, the possessee may be:

1. something owned (*his Porsche*);
2. a relative (*your aunt*);
3. a part (*my knee*);
4. an unowned possession (*the baby’s crib*);
5. something manipulated (*her rook*);
6. an associated individual (*our waiter*);

7. a larger assembly (*their group*);
8. something at one's disposal (*my office*);
9. a physical quality (*his height*);
10. a mental quality (*her equanimity*);
11. a permanent location (*our neighborhood*);
12. a transient location (*my spot*);
13. a situation (*your predicament*);
14. an action carried out (*Oswald's assassination*);
15. an action undergone (*Kennedy's assassination*);
16. something selected (*your candidate*);
17. something fulfilling a certain function (*our bus*);
18. something hosted (*the dog's fleas*).

As it is clear, all the relations of possessive constructions represent the similar genitive patterns that are described later.

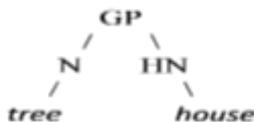
The English genitive has a typical izafet noun + noun pattern as in *apple pie*, *gypsum board*, etc. Another type of English genitive is noun attributive + genitive suffix 's + noun: *student's result*, which reveals, unlike the Arabic izafet, the prepositional location of the possessor (student), though, like the Arabic izafet, has a noun suffix. As Lowe (2016) defines 's as the possessive (often called the 'genitive') marker. He states that determiner phrase (DP) is the only functional phrasal category that dominates noun phrases (NP). Alongside with complex proposals regarding noun phrase syntax: Kayne (1993, 1994) proposes that possessive 's appears in the head of an IP that dominates the possessed NP and is itself dominated by DP. For den Dikken (1998), the possessive appears in the head of FP, while for Bernstein and Tortora (2005) possessive 's appears in the head of AgrP; both these projections, like Kayne's IP, appear between the possessed NP and DP. The shared feature in all these analyses is that possessive 's heads a functional phrase that dominates the possessed NP. He concludes that there should be admitted a model in which the possessive can be both clitic and affix, rather than assuming it has a single consistent status, even one that lies somewhere between the prototypical categories of clitic and affix.

English as well possesses prepositional genitive phrases namely noun + preposition + noun: *a photo of my friend*.

In Old English, there are such phrases as *John, his book* which could be the starting point and thus the underlying phrase here: genitive pronoun + noun, still keeping the head-first construction.

In general, the English genitive construction is of the following types:

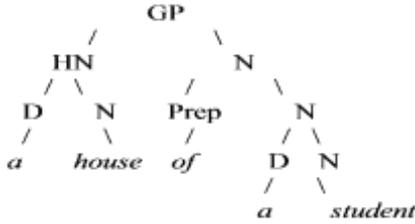
1. noun (N) + head noun (HN): *tree house* with its GP model:



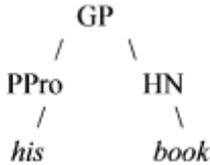
2. noun (N) + genitive suffix (GS) + head noun (HN): *student's house* and its GP model:



3. head noun (HN) + preposition (Prep) + noun (N): *a house of a student* with the following GP model:

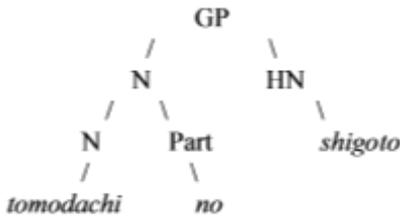


4. possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN): *his book* and the GP model is as follows:

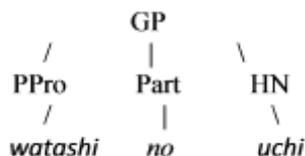


The Japanese language demonstrates the analytical particle genitive patterns with the following GP models:

1. head noun (HN) + particle (Part) + noun (N): *tomodachi no shigoto* “my friend’s work”:

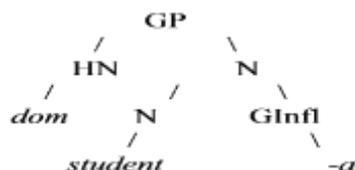


2. possessive pronoun (PPro) + particle (Part) + head noun (HN): *watashi no uchi* “my house”:

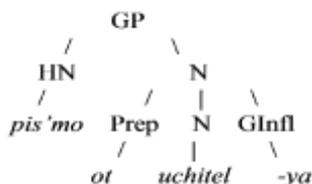


The Russian language demonstrates the same genitive pattern as the Arabic idafa; it is noun + noun + genitive inflection pattern: *kniga uchitelya* (teacher’s book). This genitive pattern may be accompanied by a preposition: *pismo ot moyego druga* (a letter from my friend). Another type of the genitive pattern is similar to the Persian ezafe construction, but unlike the Persian particle, Russian *e/o* is synthetic: *kogtetočka* (a pad for cat’s claws), *zveroferma* (an animal farm). There is as well the noun + noun type in the Russian language (4): *khit parad* (music chart), *rock kontsert* (rock concert). So, the following genitive construction types and the Russian GP that is formed by the head noun (HN) in pre- or postposition and modifying noun (N) forming a larger constituent are revealed:

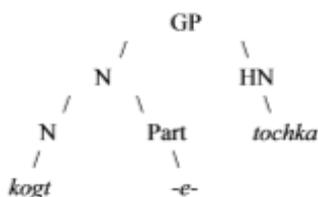
1. head noun (HN) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl): *dom studenta* “student’s house”:



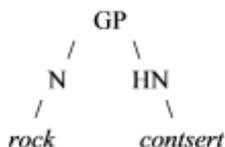
2. head noun (HN) + preposition (Prep) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl): *pis'mo ot uchitelya* “a letter from a teacher”:



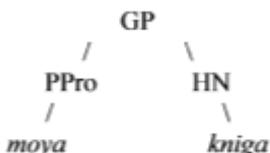
3. noun (N) + particle (Part) + head noun (HN): *kogtetočka* “a pad for cat’s claws”:



4. noun (N) + head noun (HN): *rock kontsert* “rock concert”:

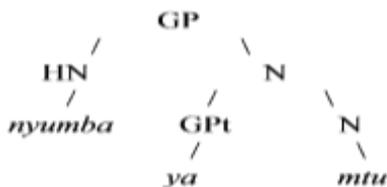


5. possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN): *moya kniga* “my book”:

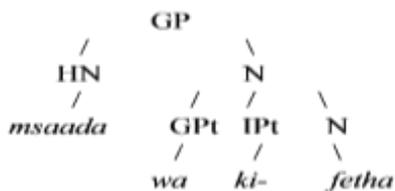


According to Gromova, Okhotina (1995) and Myachina (1960), the genitive construction in Swahili is expressed using the possessive particle *-a* that varies depending on the class of the possessor and connects the head noun – the thing possessed – and the possessor. The genitive construction is of the following types with the Swahili GP having the model of the head noun (HN) in a preposition and the following word (N/ Ad/ PPro) with the genitive particle (GPt) and with or without infinitive particle *ki-* (IPt):

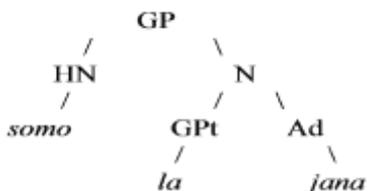
1. head noun (HN) + *-a* (GPt) + noun (N): *nyumba ya mtu* “a man’s house”:



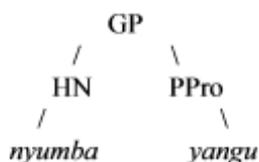
2. head noun (HN) + *-a* (GPt) + *ki-* (IPt) + noun (N): *msaada wa kifetha* “financial aid”:



3. head noun (HN) + *-a* (GPt) + adverb (Ad): *somo la jana* “yesterday’s lesson”:



4. head noun (HN) + possessive pronoun (PPro): *nyumba yangu* “my house”:



Thus, the non-izafet languages under study represent the main GP model with the head noun being in preposition in agglutinative languages (Swahili and Japanese) and either in post- or preposition in inflectional languages (English and Russian).

Results

Basing on the analysis of izafet genitive and non-izafet genitive patterns in the languages studied it has become clear that there are different genitive patterns in the given languages which are similar to the izafet patterns or rather different from them. The obtained data of genitive patterns in the languages studied are given in the Tables 2 and 3 according to the number of the patterns:

Table 2. Examples of Genitive Patterns in the izafet languages

Arabic	Tatar	Udmurt	Persian
A1 head noun (HN) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl)	T1 noun (N) + head noun (HN) without inflections	U1 noun (N) + head noun (HN) without inflections	P1 head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + noun (N)
A2 head noun (HN) + preposition (Prep) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl)	T2 noun (N) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl)	U2 noun (N) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl)	P2 head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + possessive pronoun (PPro)
A3 head noun (HN) + possessive pronoun (PPro)	T3 noun (N) + possessive case (PCInfl) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl)	U3 noun (N) + possessive case (PCInfl) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl)	P3 head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + adjective (A)
	T4 possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl)	U4 possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN) + possessive inflection (PInfl)	P4 head noun (HN) + genitive particle (GPt) + ordinal numeral (Num)
			P5 given name/title + genitive particle (GPt) + family name

Table 3. Examples of Genitive Patterns in the non-izafet languages

Japanese	Swahili	English	Russian
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J1 head noun (HN) + particle (Part) + noun (N)	S1 head noun (HN) + -a (GPt) + noun (N)	E1 noun (N) + head noun (HN)	R1 head noun (HN) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl)
J2 possessive pronoun (PPro) + particle (Part) + head noun (HN)	S2 head noun (HN) + -a (GPt) + ki- (IPt) + noun (N)	E2 noun (N) + genitive suffix (GS) + head noun (HN)	R2 head noun (HN) + preposition (Prep) + noun (N) + genitive inflection (GInfl)
	S3 head noun (HN) + -a (GPt) + adverb (Ad)	E3 head noun (HN) + preposition (Prep) + noun (N)	R3 noun (N) + particle (Part) + head noun (HN)
	S4 head noun (HN) + possessive pronoun (PPro)	E4 possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN)	R4 noun (N) + head noun (HN)
			R5 possessive pronoun (PPro) + head noun (HN)

Conclusion

The paper represents the attempt to highlight the phenomenon of genitive pattern namely the *izafet* in non-related languages, comparing it with the non-*izafet* genitive patterns found in the languages of different structure. The contrastive analysis has revealed the degree of *izafet*/non-*izafet* characteristics in the languages studied according to the morphological distribution of the genitive patterns:

Scheme 1. The degree of *izafet*/non-*izafet* characteristics

Persian	Tatar/Udmurt	Arabic	Russian	Swahili
English	Japanese			

So, all the languages of the world are either head-first or head-last languages. However, our investigation clearly shows that the languages under consideration demonstrate mixed GPs, which, by all means, enriches the conventional view that there are head-first languages (most Indo-European inflectional languages) and head-last languages (agglutinative Turkic languages, etc.).

The basic two GP models regardless of the type of languages are presented with the idea of developing a theory of Universal GP model in further research.

Further investigations of the category of possessiveness in general and genitive patterns, in particular, may be conducted not only in the nominal domain but in the verbal, adverbial, numerical, etc. domains as well.

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