

Permic

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Introduction to Uralic Studies

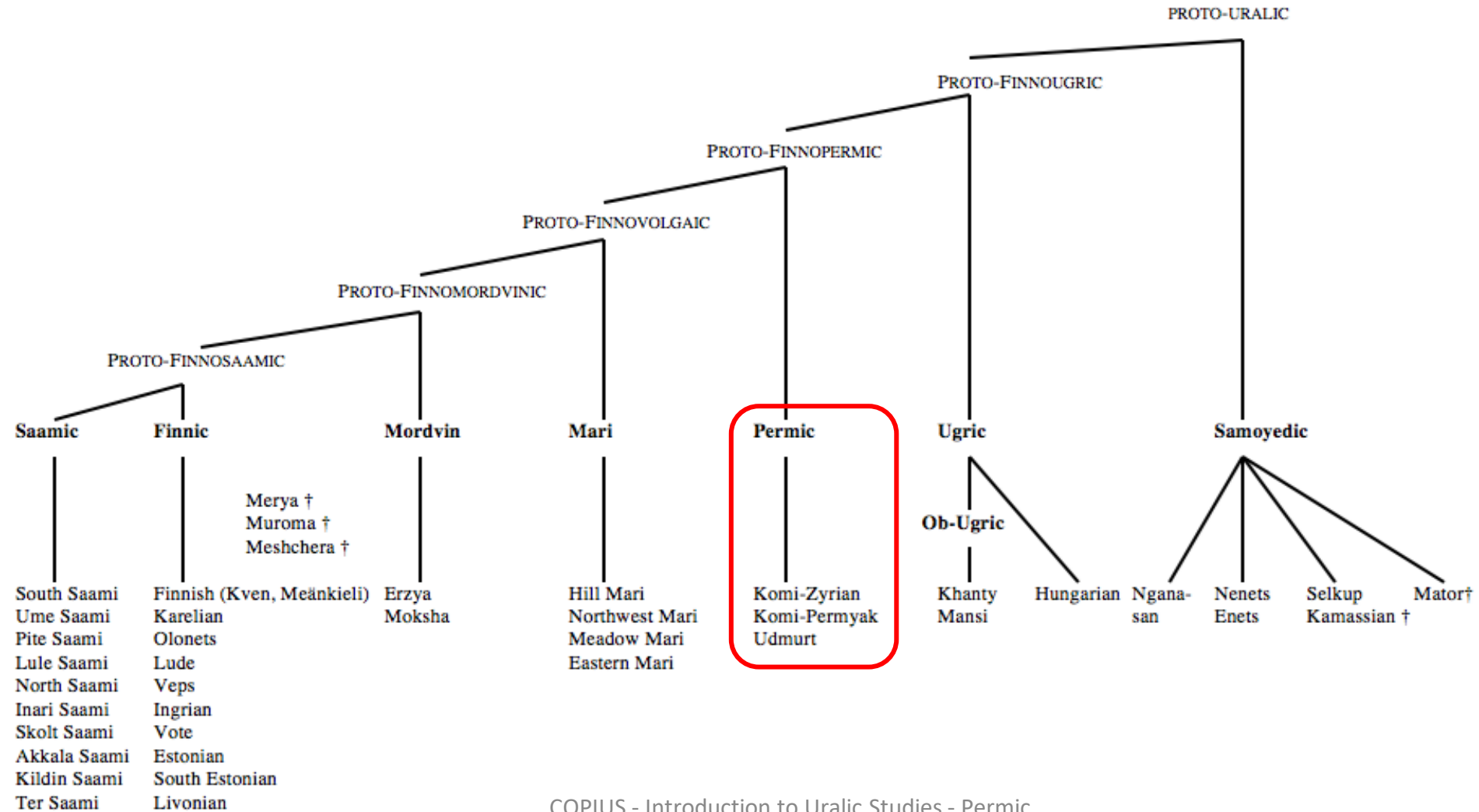
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Last updated 30 November 2021



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Genealogical classification



URALIC LANGUAGES

F Finno-Ugric

FO Baltic-Finnic

- FO1 Finnish
- FO2 Karelian
- FO3 Veps
- FO4 Ingrian
- FO5 Estonian
- FO6 Votic
- FO7 Livonian

FS Sami languages

- FS1 Western Sami
- FS2 Central Sami
- FS3 Eastern Sami

FU Ugric

- FU1 Hungarian
- FU2 Mansi
- FU3 Khanty

FP Finno-Permian

- FP1 Komi-Zyrian
- FP2 Komi-Permyak
- FP3 Udmurt

FW Finno-Volgaic

- FW1 Mari
- FW2 Mordvinic

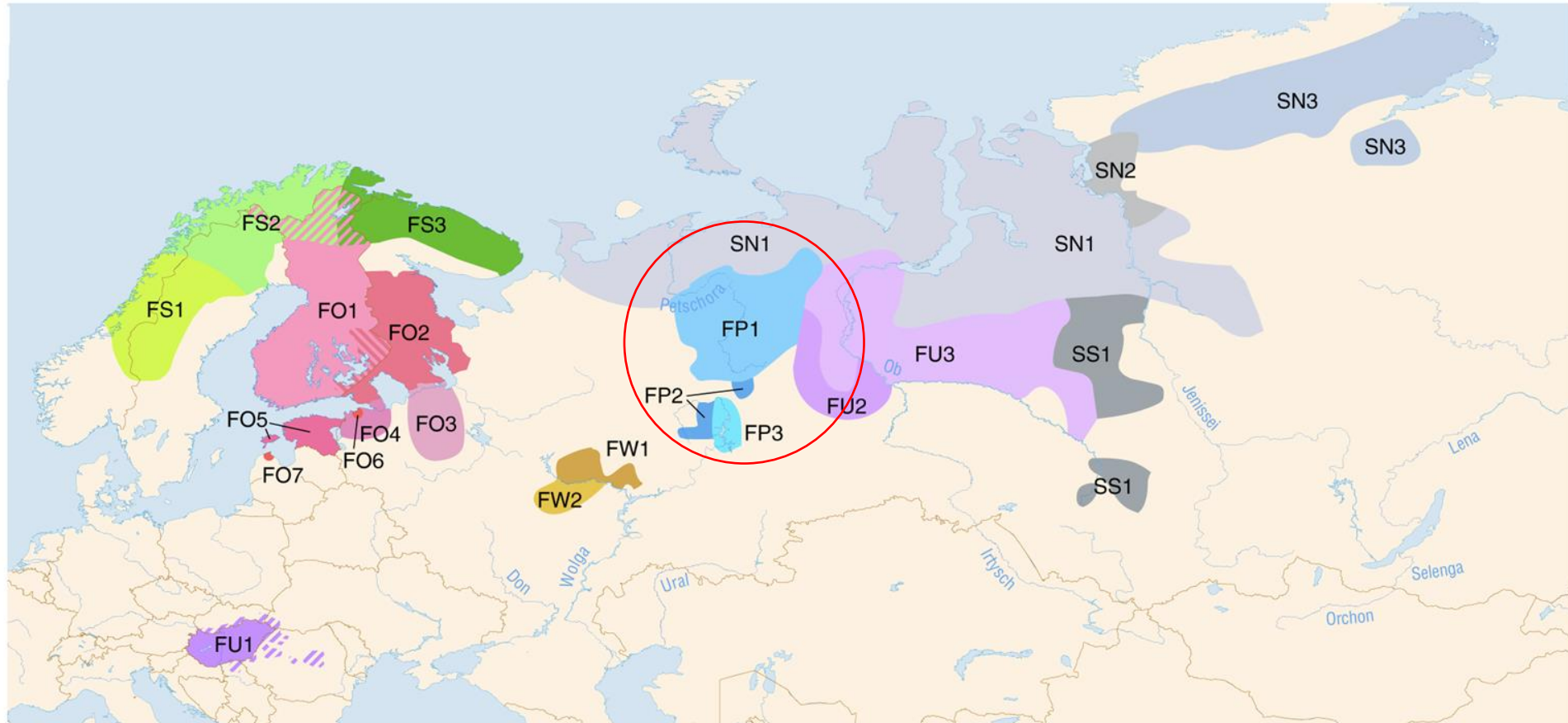
S Samoyedic

SN Northern Samoyedic

- SN1 Nenets
- SN2 Enets
- SN3 Nganasan

SS Southern Samoyedic

- SS1 Selkup



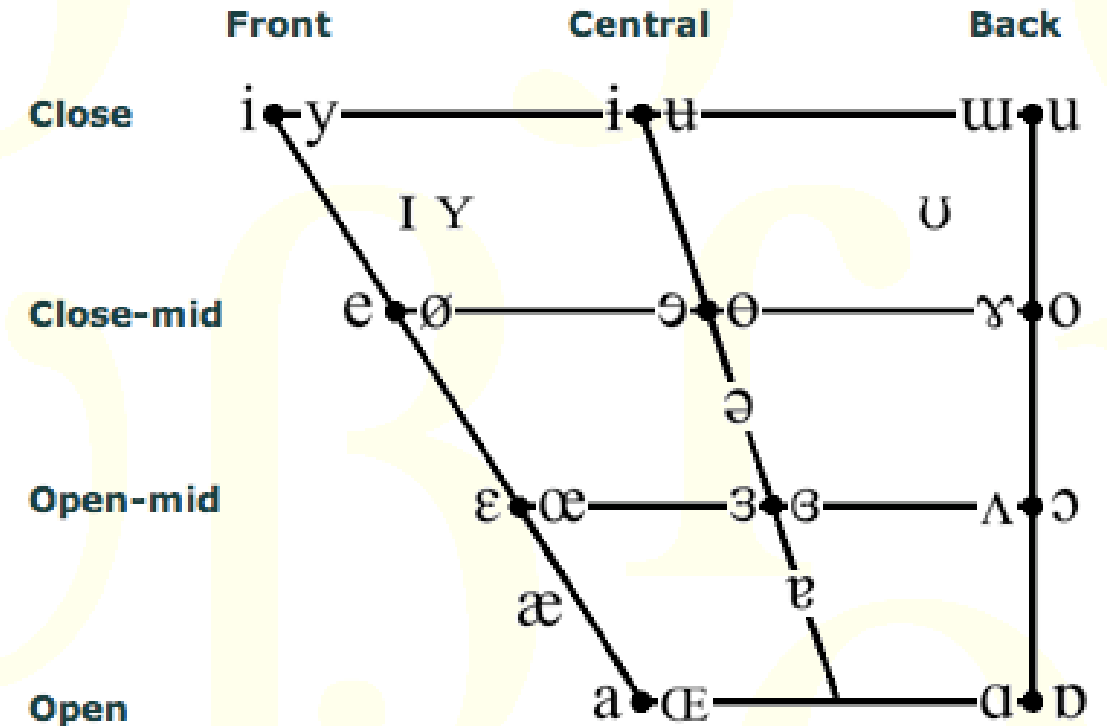
Similarities of the Permic languages

	Komi-Zyrian	Komi-Permyak	Udmurt
Vowels	7	7	7
Consonants	26	26	26
Vocabulary	±80% identical or similar		

Phonology

CONSONANTS					
	Lab.	Alveo.	Postal.	Palatal	Velar
Plosive	p	t		tʰ	k
	b	d		dʰ	g
Nasal	m	n		ɲ	(ŋ)
Affricate			č	č̣	
			ž	ẓ̌	
Fricative	(f)	s	š	ś	(χ)
	v	z	ž	ẓ̌	
Glide				j	
Lat. approx.		l		lʰ	
Vibrant		r			

VOWELS



Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel.

Lexicon

Komi-Zyrian	Komi-Permyak		Udmurt	English
<i>munnj</i>	<i>munnj</i>		<i>mjnijnj</i>	,to go‘
<i>loknj</i>	<i>loknj</i>		<i>ljktijnj</i>	,to come‘
<i>ętik</i>	<i>ętik</i>		<i>odjg</i>	,one‘
<i>kjk</i>	<i>kjk</i>		<i>kjk</i>	,two‘
<i>kuim</i>	<i>kuim</i>		<i>kuiń</i>	,three‘
<i>pemjd</i>	<i>pęmjť</i>		<i>pejmjt</i>	,dark‘
<i>mića</i>	<i>basek</i>		<i>ćeber</i>	,beautiful‘
<i>mortjas</i>		<i>morttez</i>		<i>murtjos</i> ,people‘
<i>ponjm</i>	<i>ponjm</i>		<i>punjimj</i>	,our dog‘

The Komi



The Manpupuner rock formations in the Ural mountains are a symbol of the Komi Republic

Nomenclature

	Endonym	Exonym
Komi	КОМИЯС	-
German	Komi	Syrjänen
English	Komis	Zyrians
Russian	КОМИ	зыряне
Finnish	komit	syrjäanit
Estonian	komid	(sürjakomid)
Hungarian	komik	zürjének
Udmurt	КОМИ	зырянъёс

The Komi Republic

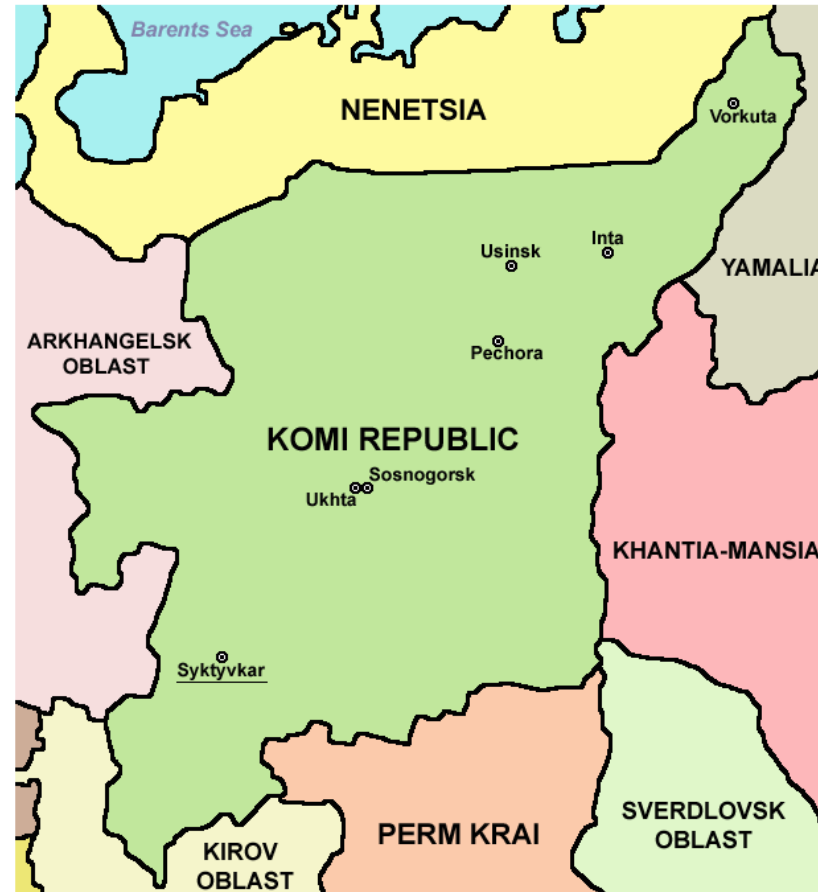
Population: 901 189 (2010)

555 963 Russians (65,1%)

202 348 Komi (23,7%)

708 Nenets (0,1%)

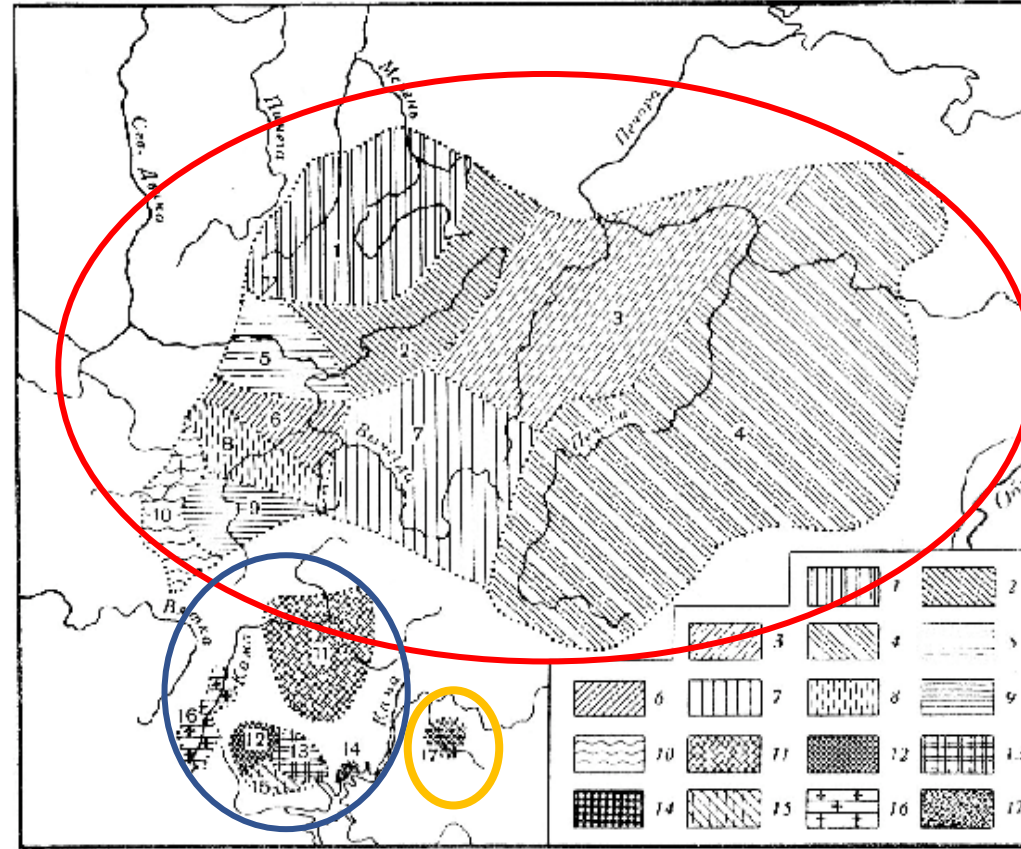
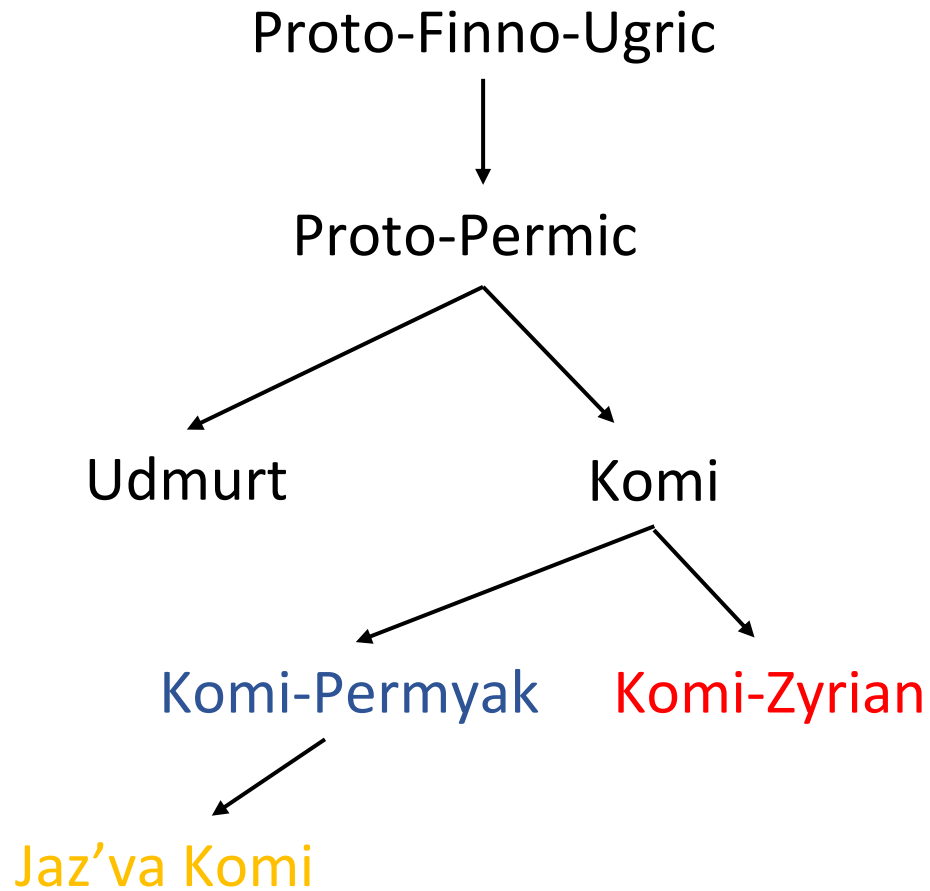
Capital: Syktyvkar



The Komi language(s)

	2002 census	2010 census
• Komi-Zyrian	293 406	324 338
• Ižma Komi	15 607	
• Komi-Permyak	125 235	
• Jažva Komi		

The Komi dialects



(OFUJ 1976: 114)

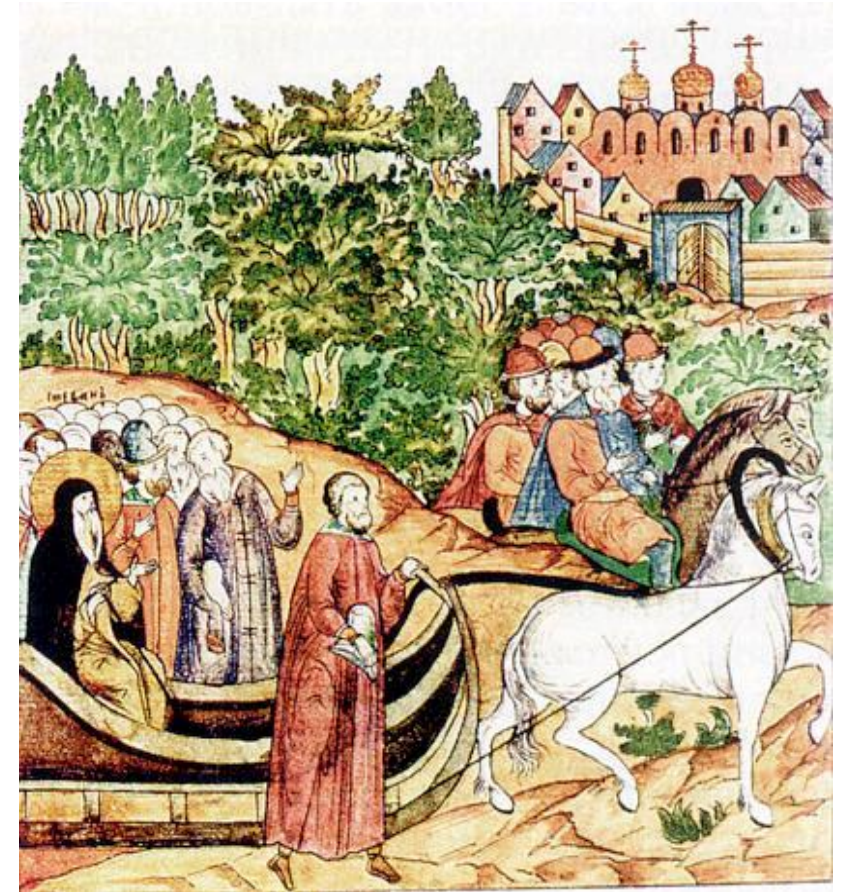
- Zyrian Komi: 1 Udora 2 Vym 3 Ižma 4 Pechora 5 Upper-Vycheгда 6 Middle Vycheгда or Syktyvkar 7 Lower Vycheгда 8 Middle-Sysola 9 Upper-Sysola 10 Luza-Letka
- Permjak Komi: 11 Northern dialect group 12 – 15 Southern dialect groups 12 Kudymkar-Ińva 13 Lower Ińva 14 Oń 15 Nerdva 16 Upper Kama or Zjuzdin 17 Jaz'va Komi

Brief history of the Komi people

- The linguistic unity of the Permic peoples began to break up around the 8th century A.D.
- However, the current territory of the Komi has been inhabited since the the neolit age
- Between ca. 1200-1400 the Komi land belonged to the Novgorod Republic
- During this time the Permyak territory was under Volga Bulgarian influence until the attack of the Golden Horde (1230s)
- contact with the Finnic peoples preceded the Novgorod times

Brief history of the Komi people

- St. Stephen of Perm (1340–1396) christianized the Komi people.
- Driven by true devotion, he translated the New Testament to Komi and established Komi literacy by creating the Old Permic (Abur) alphabet.
- This makes the Komi the second Finno-Ugric nation (after the Hungarians) with written literacy.
- St. Stephen of Perm travelled to Moscow to request a bishop for his new parish (eventually, he was appointed), therefore ties to Moscow strengthened in the area.



The Abur (Anbur?) script

- based on Cyrillic and Greek with the inclusion of Komi *tamgas*
- it was in use till the 17th century, afterwards the Cyrillic script and Russian as the language of prayer took over

z	б	т	д	е	м	ш	з	и	г	к	л	м
an	bur	gai	doi	e	zhoi	dzhoi	zata	dzita	i	koke	lei	menoe
a	b	g	d	e	zh	dzh	z	dz	i	k	l	m
н	в	п	р	с	т	у	ч	ш	шч	ы	еру	
nenoe	vooi	peei	rei	sii	tai	u	chery	shooi	shchooi	yry	yeru	
n	v	p	r	s	t	u	ch	sh	shch	yr	ye	
о	оо	еф	ха	тсиу	вер	yer	yeri	yat	ie	yu	ya	ia
o	oo	f	h	ts	v	ye	ye	ya	ie	yu	ya	ia

Brief history of the Komi people

- The region had a strategical importance as it included the main trespas through the Ural mountains to Siberia
- At the end of the 1400s, silver was found in the region, which made the territory even more valuable.
- The Komi were wholesalers moving between the Baltic Sea region and Siberia: in exchange of Siberian furs, they sold fabrics, materials, alcohol, etc.
- In 1922, the Komi-Zyrian Autonomous Oblast was created, which later in 1936 became the Komi Soviet Autonomous Republic with the capital of Syktyvkar

Brief history of the Komi people

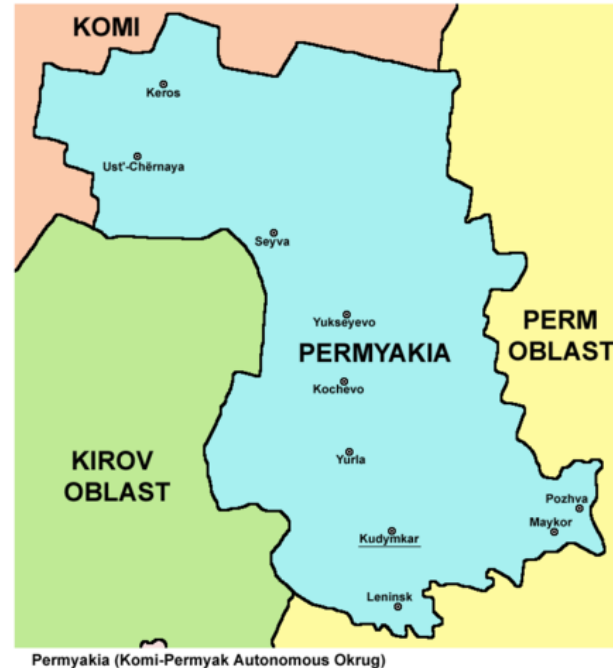
- During the Soviet era, Komi was made an archipelago of prison camps (Gulag): the northern parts of the republic were full of prison camps; the prisoners worked in mines, in the forest industry, in track construction.
- many of the current cities of Komi (e.g. Uhta, Inta, Vorkuta) are originally prison camps
- Prison camps and their infrastructure increased the population of the republic by hundreds of thousands. Therefore the Komi, whose percentage in the republic as 92,2% in 1926, dropped to 23,7% by 2010.



a bird's eye view of Vorkuta during WW2

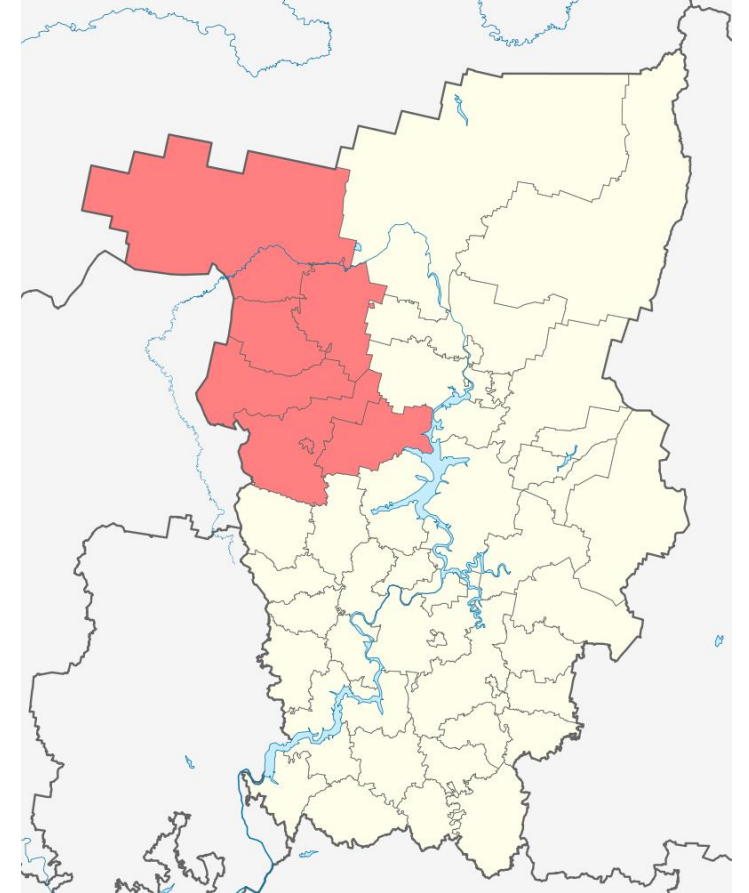
The Komi-Permyak Autonomous Okrug

- In 1925, the Komi-Permyak National (from 1977 onwards: Autonomous) Okrug was established under the governance of Perm Oblast
- The capital was Kudymkar



The Komi-Permyak Autonomous Okrug

- In 1992, the okrug became its own federal entity with the Permyaks being the ethnic majority (59% as opposed to the 38% or Russians in 2002)
- As the result of a referendum held in 2003, the Okrug was merged into the Perm Krai in 2005.



The Komi-Permyak people

- Number: 94 000
- Speakers: 63 000 (2010)
- In 1984, this number was 152 000 / 106 000

- There are no Permyak-speaking schools and media
- There is one theater and a pedagogical college in collaboration with the Udmurt State University

Northern (Izhma) Komi folk costume



Komi-Permyak folk costume



Komi lifestyle

- In addition to trading, between the Baltic Sea regions and the Ural mountains, the Komi were hunters (especially for fur) and fishers
- In the North, reindeer husbandry
- In the South, livestock farming (and agriculture?)

Komi folklore

- epic stories, probably with Russian and Nenets influence, can be found
- *Komi Narodnyj Epos* was published in 1987. It is a collection of songs from the Tundra region, telling about tribal conflicts
- laments
- improvisational song, especially in the North

Komi culture

- The founder of Komi literature was Ivan Kuratov (1839–1875), poet and translator
- He was a civil servant throughout Russia, his works were not found until the 1920s
- Viktor Savin (1888–1943) wrote poems, stories and plays, and founded the Komi national theater in 1930



Ivan
Kuratov



Viktor Savin

Komi culture

- the periodic [Vojvyv kodzuv](#) first got published in 1926
- the newspaper [Komi mu](#) publishes since 1918
- [Ćuškanzi](#) is a satirical newspaper
- *Bikiń* is for children
- [Radio Jurqan](#) is the Komi radio

Komi social media

[Komi Jenköla](#) has over 4000 subscribers, posts about Komi culture and history

[Shmoń Zhoń](#) is a humor and meme page and has over 2700 subscribers.

[Komi blogjyś](#) lists and shares content from over 30 Komi language blogs.

[Mi Komi](#) is a community page with over 3000 subscribers

[As kyv dor](#) has over 2300 subscribers, shares Komi language news and cultural content.

[Śorni basni](#) is a cultural and community site with over 6700 subscribers.

Main grammatical features of Komi

- Phonology: there is no vowel length distinction (only in particular dialects), voiced-voiceless opposition
- Morphology:
 - nominal declension: number (2), case (17), person (3)
 - verbal conjugation: tense (6), mood (2)
- Syntax: strong Russian influence
- Lexicon: a large influx of loanwords from Russian and Nenets (reindeer herding terminology), also from Veps

Komi dialects

The general classification of the Komi dialects is based on the various realizations of the sound *l* in the final syllable:

	,breath'	,breathless'	,must'	,doesn't have to'
<i>l</i> remains	<i>lol</i>	<i>loltęg</i>	<i>kolę</i>	<i>oz kol</i>
<i>l</i> > <i>v</i> /_C, <i>v</i> /_#	<i>lov</i>	<i>lovtęg</i>	<i>kolę</i>	<i>oz kov</i>
<i>l</i> = <i>l</i> /_V, > \emptyset	<i>lō</i>	<i>lōtęg</i>	<i>kolę</i>	<i>oz kō</i>
<i>l</i> > <i>v</i> , (<i>w</i>)	<i>vov</i>	<i>vovtęg</i>	<i>kovę</i>	<i>oz kov</i>

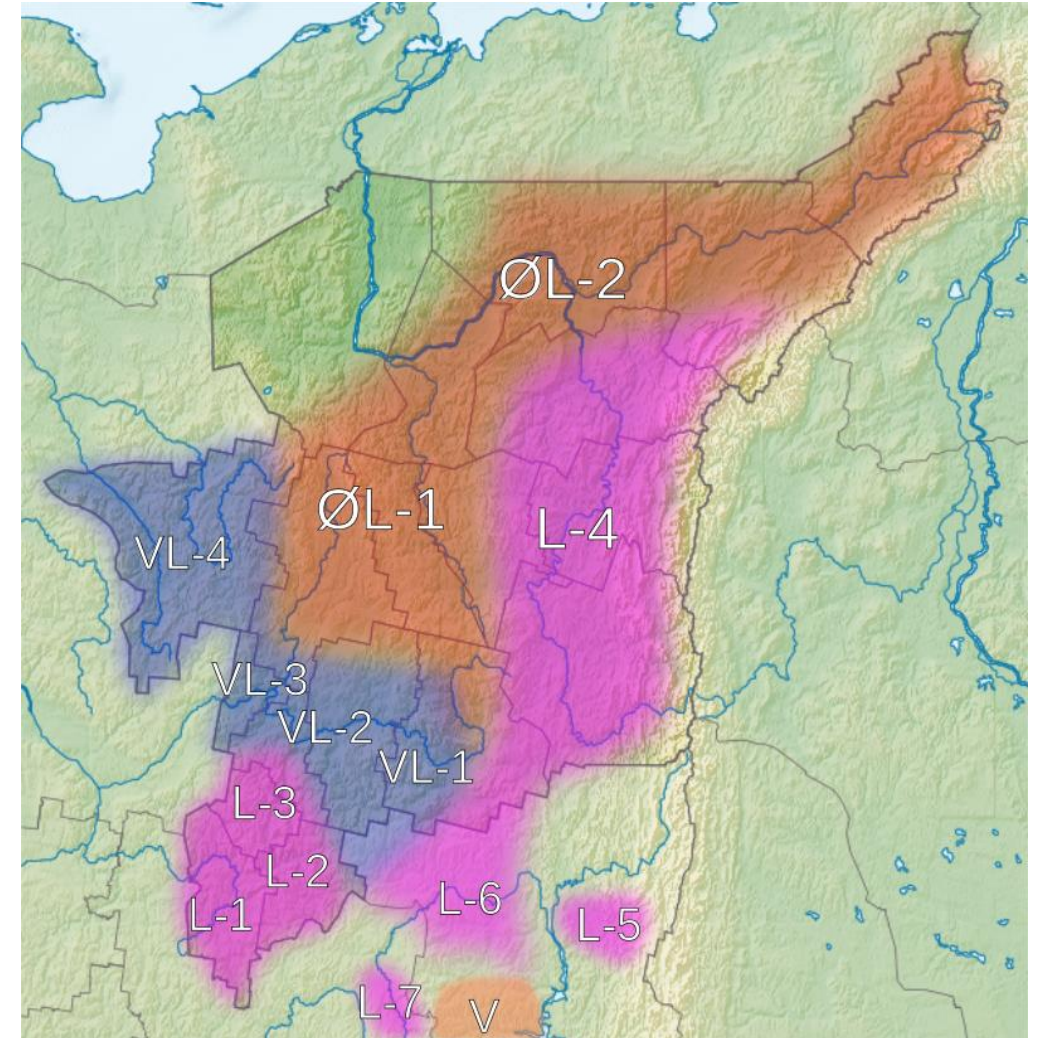
Komi dialects

a) *l*-dialects (*vɛl* 'horse', 2Sg. *vɛl-ʝd*): Luza-Letka, Upper and Middle Sysola, Pechora, Northern Permyak, Jaz'va Komi

a) *l*~*v*-dialects (*vɛv* 'horse': 2Sg. *vɛl-ʝd*): Upper and Lower Vycheгда, Syktyvkar, Udora

a) *l*~ \emptyset -dialects (*vɛ̄* 'horse': 2Sg. *vɛl-ʝd*): Vym', Izhma

a) *v*-dialect (*vɛv* 'horse', 2Sg. *vɛv-ʝd*): Southern Permyak



Das Altkomi

Die Übersetzungstätigkeit Stefans hatte die Bekehrung der Komi als Ziel in der Zeit als die russische Kolonisation ein größeres Ausmaß nahm.

Obwohl die meisten Graphemen auf griechischen und kyrillischen Zeichen basiert waren, wurden die so geschrieben, dass sie die eckigen Erscheinung hatten von den *pasjas*, altkomi Zeichen die Eigentum oder magische Symbolen repräsentieren.

Das Altkomi

Die *abur*-Schrift:

24 Graphemen, obwohl das Nieder-Vyčegda Dialekt des Komi damals 35 Phoneme hatte

Schreibweise: *mze iss ske* (*mezeše isus kristose*) ‚O Herr Jesus Christus‘

abur-Zeichen hatten auch numerische Bedeutung

Verwendung als Geheimschrift

Das Altkomi

Morphologie:

burvist'alem ‚Evangelium‘ < *bur* ‚gut‘ + *vist'alem* ‚was gesagt wurde‘
vgl. gr. *euangelion* ‚gute Nachricht‘

vejtlan ‚Taufe‘ < *vej-* ‚sinken‘ + *-t-* (kaus. suff.) + *-l-* (temp. suff.)
+ *-an* (partiz.) ‚das Taufen von etwas/jemanden für eine kurze Zeit‘
vgl. gr. *baptizo* ‚tauchen, tränken‘

Das Altkomi

Syntax (Beispiel: zweiter Buch Mose, Exodus, Kap. 33)

altkomi *ędzeş vodziŋ čęmleŋ siŋeŋ* ‚in seiner Hütte Tür‘
Tür vor.INE Hütte.GEN er.GEN

russ. *pred dver'mi hramu jego*
vor Tür.INSTR Tempel.GEN er.GEN

mod. komi *si čęm ędzeş vodziŋ*
er.NOM Zelt.NOM Tür vor.INE

Das Altkomi

Morphologie:

Altsyrjänisch

Russisch

bjd kutiś <

vseđeržitel' ‚Allerhalter, Gott‘

mortaśnj <

očelovečit'sja ‚sich in einen Menschen verwandeln‘

borda ideg

arkhangel ‚Erzengel‘

Nur 16 direkte Entlehnungen im Altkomi: *i* ‚und‘, *kheruvim* ‚Cherubim‘

The Udmurts

Nomenclature

	Endonym	Exonym
Udmurt	удмуртъёс	ВОТЯКЪЁС
German	Udmurten	Wotjaken
English	Udmurts	Votyaks
Russian	удмурты	ВОТЯКИ
Finnish	udmurtit	votjakit
Estonian	udmurdid	votjakid
Hungarian	udmurtok	votjákok
Komi	удмуртъяс	ВОТЯКЪЯС
Mari	удмурт-влак	одо-влак
Tatar	удмуртлар	арлар
Chuvash	удмуртсем	вутяксем

The Udmurt Republic

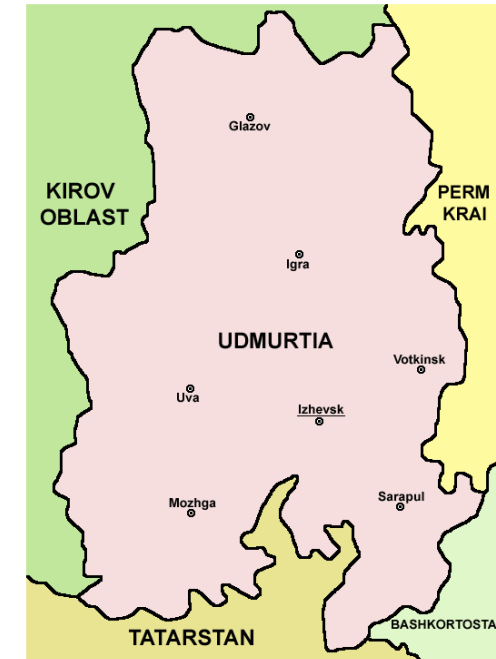
Population: 1 521 410 (2010)

912 539 Russians (62,2%)

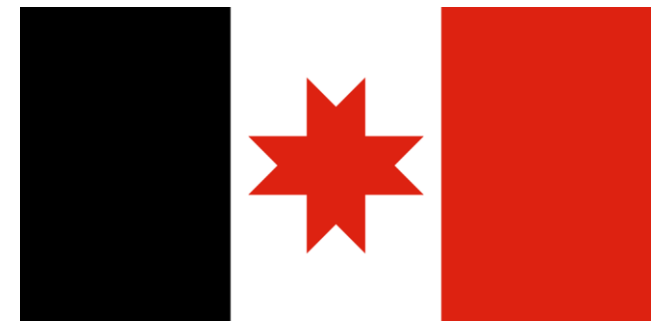
410 584 Udmurts (28,0%)

98 831 Tatars (6,7%)

Capital: Izhevsk



Udmurt Republic



The Udmurt language (population / speakers)

	2002 census	2010 census
• Udmurt	636 906 / 293 406 (72%)	552 299 / 219 205 (58,7)
• Besermyan	3 122 / ?	2 201 / ?

The Udmurt dialects

Besermyan

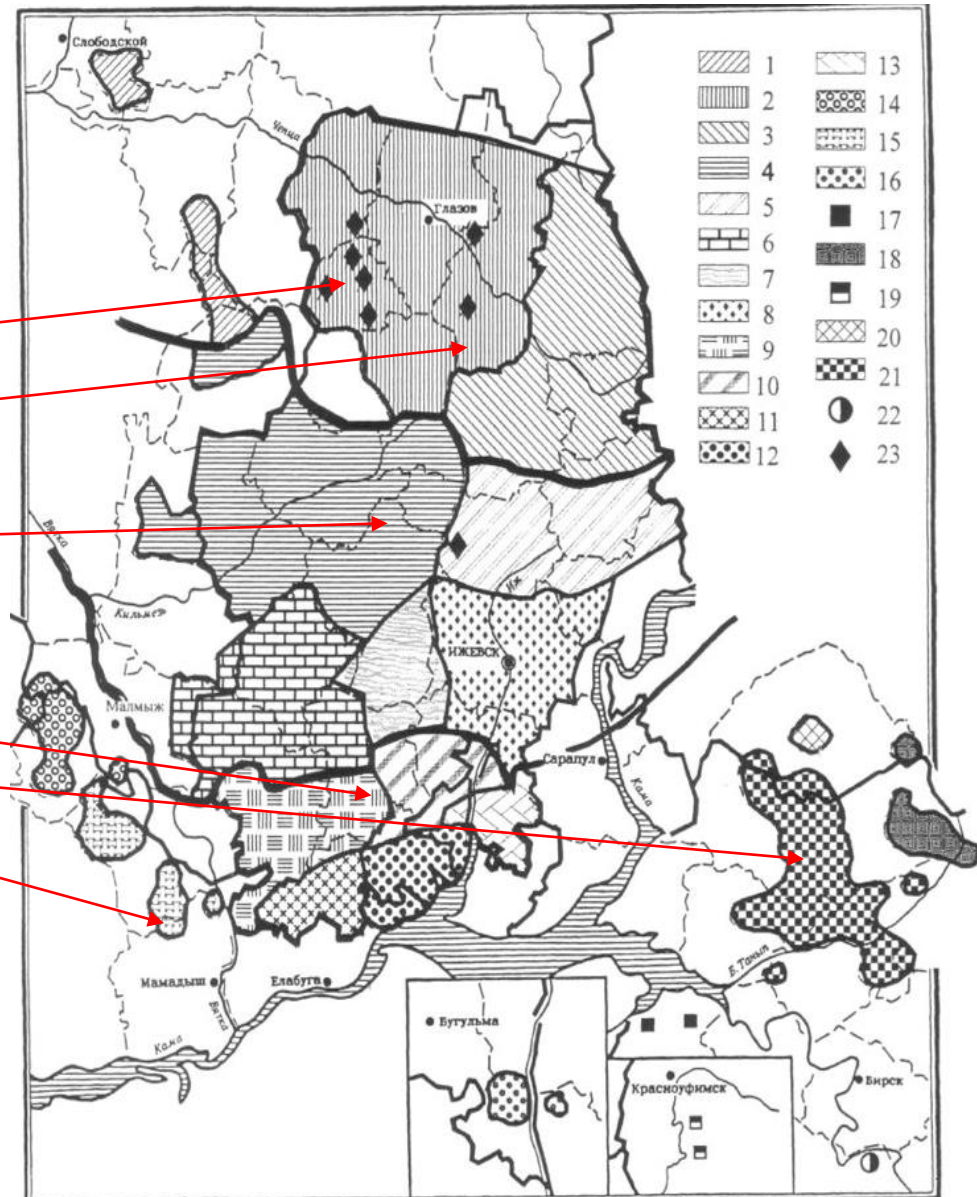
Northern dialect

Central dialect

Southern dialect

Peripheral dialect(s?)

Most of the dialectal differences are in phonetics and in the lexicon, only a few in morphology or syntax.



Source: Nasibullin, R. Š. 2000: Udmurtskie dialekty – ideal'nyj objekt dlja lingvogeografičeskix issledovanij. *Studia geographiam linguarum pertinentia. Eesti keele instituudi toimetused* 6. Tallinn. S. 73.

Brief history of the Udmurt people

- The earliest attestations of the ancestors of Udmurts are from 8-3rd century B.C., hence the Ananyino Culture at the confluence of the Volga and the Kama
- By the beginning of the 2nd millennium, the Udmurts of Vyatka, Cheptsya, Arsk and Kama developed a distinct cultural image.
- It was during this period that the Udmurts were listed for the first time in historical sources (such as?).
- Russian immigration started in the 12th century to the Northern Udmurt territories.
- In the 12-13th century, the Southern Udmurts were taxpayers to the Volga Bulgar empire.
- According to records, by 1230 these Udmurts were taxpayers of the Tatars.

Branching of the archaeological cultures

Ananyino culture			
Glyadenovo culture		Pyanobor culture	
Vanvzdino culture	Lomovatovo culture	Polom culture	Mazunino Culture(?)
Vym culture	Rodanovo culture	Cheptsa culture	Bakhmutin Culture(?)
Komi-Zyrians	Komi-Permyaks	Northern Udmurts(?)	Southern Udmurts(?)*

*This lineage is disputed. It is possible that the entire Udmurt population is descended from the Cheptsa culture.

Brief history of the Udmurt people

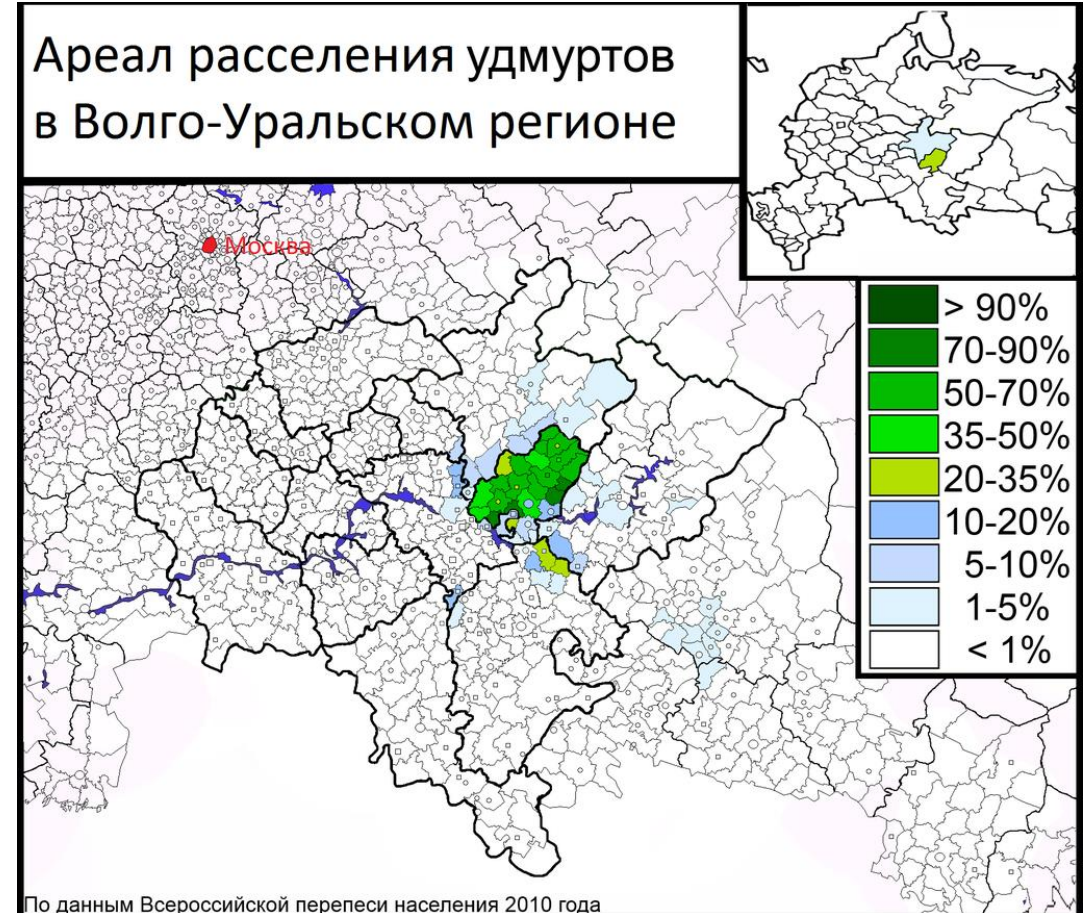
- From the 14th century, the Northern Udmurts were subjects to the Vyatka Territory.
- The territory was incorporated into the Grand Duchy of Moscow by the the end of the century.
- The majority of Udmurts were Tatar subjects when Ivan the Terrible besieged Kazan in 1552. The Udmurts, along with the Meadow Mari, Chuvash and Mordvins, fought alongside the Tatars and suffered great losses.
- The Udmurts became Russian subjects, which brought along heavy taxation and forced Christianization.

Brief history of the Udmurt people

- In 1760, Count Shuvalov built a dam and ironworks on river Izh, which brought along the birth of the new city (now capital of Udmurtia), Izhevsk.
- By the 19th century, the region became an industrial hub. This provided an influx of Russian workers as well as infrastructural development such as railways and boat lines, ending the isolation of the Udmurts.
- The Udmurts remained mostly villagers, living in large families (*bölyak*).
- Although Orthodox Christians on the surface, many Udmurts kept worshipping their own gods, especially in the south.
- The infamous Multan lawsuit took place in 1892-96. Seven Udmurt peasants were accused of ritual murder. With the intercession of renowned academics such as G. J. Vereshchagin, the peasants were acquitted.

Brief history of the Udmurt people

- Unlike the Mari and Mordvins, the hardships did not prompt mass migration among the Udmurt people.
- As a result, most Udmurts today still live in one coherent block.
- However, some formerly Udmurt regions (such as Arsk, now in Tatarstan) were deserted.



Brief history of the Udmurt people

- By the turn of the 20th century, similarly to other nations in the region, the theological seminar of Kazan functioned as an hub for young Udmurt intellectuals.
- In 1915, the first Udmurt language newspaper was published.
- The October Revolution sparked an unprecedented cultural takeoff: schools were opened, ABC books were printed, literacy spread rapidly, in 1931 the Udmurt State University was founded
- 1920: Udmurt Autonomous Territory → 1934 Udmurt ASSR → 1991 Udmurt Republic
- The Udmurt cultural and scientific development was crushed by the Great Purge of 1936-37: all the prominent poets, writers and educators were killed.
- During the 20-21st century, Udmurtia continues being an industrial centre.

Udmurt folklore

- Turkic languages have had a profound effect on Udmurt both linguistically and culturally.
- As a Turkic influence, there is no epica among Udmurts, only lyrical genres
- Udmurts are a singing and dancing nation.
- The Udmurt ensemble Buranovskiye Babushki gained world recognition when finishing second at the 2012 Eurovision Song Contest. Their song *Party for Everybody* has lyrics in a mix of Udmurt and English.

Udmurt folk costume



Northern Udmurt costume is heavily inspired by Russian, red and white being the main colours.



Southern Udmurt costume is influenced by Turkic neighbours. Red, black and bright, checkered patterns are characteristic to this region.

Udmurt literature

- Gerd Kuzebay was the most important Udmurt poet and educator. He wrote several poems and also translated literature to Udmurt and gathered folklore material. He fell victim of Stalin's terror in 1937.
- Ashalchi Oki was the first and most important female poet. In 1933 she stopped creating to avoid persecution and worked all her life as an eye surgeon.



Ashalchi Oki (Akilina Vekshina) (1898-1973)



Gerd Kuzebay (Kuz'ma Chaynikov) (1896-1937)

Udmurts now

- The proximity to one another and the relative unity of the Udmurt people helps them in both political and cultural self-representation.
- The success of Buranovskiye Babushki indicated a cultural revival in the 2010s.
- Udmurt-language music became popular with artists as Shoner Paul, Bogdan Anfinogenov, Silent Woo Gore, Ivan Belosludsev, Nikolay Anisimov...
- Udmurt folk costume elements became fashionable through the works of Polina Kubistá and Darali Leli.
- Youth clubs such as Shundykar were founded, with regular Udmurt-language quiz nights, stand-up events and concerts.
- In 2014, Stariy Bygy became the first Finno-Ugric Capital of Culture. Based on the success of the program, the annual festival Byg-Byg was created.

Grammatical features of the Udmurt language

Phonologie: keine distinktive Vokalquantität, Reihe von palatale Konsonanten, Affrikaten, Opposition stimmlos/stimmhaft

Morphologie: agglutinierend

Nomina: Zahl (2), Kasus (15), Person (3)

Verba: Tempora (12), Modi (4)

Syntax: starker Einfluss des Tatarischen

Wortschatz: viele Lehnwörter aus dem Tatarischen, vor allem in südlichen Dialekten, im Norden mehr russische Lehnwörter

The Udmurt tense system

Present	<i>mjn-išk-o</i>	,I go'	
Future	<i>mjn-o</i>	,I will go'	
1. Past Tense (Imperfective)	<i>mjn-i</i>	,I went'	
2. Past Tense (Perfective)	<i>mjn-išk-em</i>	,ich bin (offensichtlich) gegangen'	
synthetic tenses			
evidentiality			
Imperfect Past 1	<i>mjn-išk-o val</i>	,ich war am gehen' (Präsens + <i>val</i>)	
Imperfect Past 2	<i>mjn-išk-o vjlem</i>	,ich war (offensichtlich) am gehen' (Präsens + <i>vjlem</i>)	
Habitual Past 1	<i>mjno val</i>	,ich bin immer gegangen' (Futur + <i>val</i>)	
Habitual Past 2	<i>mjno vjlem</i>	,ich bin (offensichtlich) immer gegangen' (Futur + <i>vjlem</i>)	
Aktionale Vorvergangenheit 1	<i>mjni val</i>	,ich war gerade am gehen gewesen [als du kamst]' (1. Prät. + <i>val</i>)	
Aktionale Vorvergangenheit 2	<i>mjni vjlem</i>	,ich war (offens.) gerade am gehen gewesen [als du kamst]' (1. Prät. + <i>vjlem</i>)	
Resultative Vorvergangenheit 1	<i>mjniškem val</i>	,ich war weggegangen [als du kamst]' (2. Prät. (Perfekt) + <i>val</i>)	
Resultative Vorvergangenheit 2	<i>mjniškem vjlem</i>	,ich war (offens.) weggegangen [als du kamst]' (2. Prät. (Perfekt) + <i>vjlem</i>)	
analytic (periphrastic) tenses			

The Udmurt tense system

Habitual?

Background?

,ich schrieb'	Beobachtung?	Inferenz?	Beobachtung?	Inferenz?	Beobachtung?	Inferenz?
Türkisch	yazdım	yazmışım				
Tatarisch	jɔzdym	jɔzvanmyn	jɔza ide	jɔza buɫvan	jɔzvan ide	jɔzvan buɫvan
Tschuwaschisch	ɕwɪrtəm	ɕwɪrnə	-	-	-	-
Marisch	βozɣɣm	βozenam	βozem ɣle	βozem ulmaɟ	βozenam ɣle	βozenam ulmaɟ
Udmurtisch	gozjaj	gozjaɕkem	gozjaɕko val	gozjaɕko viɫem	gozjam val	gozjam viɫem

Partizip/Gerundium (+Person)

andere Form + sein.PST

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