Dissertation Information

Title: The History of the Genitive in Swedish. A Case Study in Degrammaticalization

Author: Muriel Norde

Email: click here to access email

Homepage: http://www.murielnorde.com/

Institution: University of Amsterdam, Scandinavian Languages and Literature

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Abstract: Degrammaticalization, the shift from a more grammatical to a less grammatical status, appears to be extremely rare. Yet a clear example of degrammaticalization is found in several contemporary Germanic languages, viz the s-genitive. The s-genitive (as in English the queen of England's power), is most suitably analysed as a phrase-final clitic, but unlike other clitics it does not derive from a lexical item, but from an inflectional ending.

This study presents a survey of the rise of the s-genitive in one language, namely Swedish. Covering a period of more than 700 years (from the beginning of the Runic Swedish period until the influential 1541 bible translation), it is concerned with both phonological, morphological and syntactic aspects of the Swedish genitive. From the historical data presented in this book, it becomes evident that -s, initially only the genitive singular of masculine and neuter ([i]a-stems, was first re-analysed as a phrase marker before it spread to other declensions.

The book also provides a discussion of both internal and external factors that are usually held responsible for the loss of inflectional morphology in the continental Scandinavian languages, as well as a contrastive survey of possessive constructions in Germanic.
Degrammaticalization, the shift from a more grammatical to a less grammatical status, appears to be extremely rare. Yet a clear example of degrammaticalization is found in several contemporary Germanic languages, viz the s-genitive. The s-genitive (as in English the queen of...) This study presents a survey of the rise of the s-genitive in one language, namely Swedish. Covering a period of more than 700 years (from the beginning of the Runic Swedish period until the influential 1541 bible translation), it is concerned with both phonological, morphological and syntactic aspects of the Swedish genitive. A Case Study in Degrammaticalization [doctoral dissertation], 1997. Vakgroep Skandinavische taal- en letterkunde, Amsterdam. Lars-Olof Delsing (a1). (a1). Institutionen för nordiska språk, Lund University Helgonabacken 14, S-223 62, Lund, Sweden. E-mail: Lars-Olof.Delsing@nordlund.lu.se. Degrammaticalization in scandinavian. Muriel Norde University of Groningen Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, January 24 th, 2007. Outline. Definitions and other theoretical preliminaries The status of degrammaticalization Case studies in degrammaticalization overview the... Definitions and other theoretical preliminaries The status of degrammaticalization Case studies in degrammaticalization overview the s-genitive. Copyright Complaint Adult Content Flag as Inappropriate. I am the owner, or an agent authorized to act on behalf of the owner, of the copyrighted work described. The history of the Swedish s-genitive. Norde 2006: three stages. Stage 1: word-marking inflection.