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GREENLANDIC DIALECT CLASSIFICATION

Language code: ISO 639-1: kl, ISO 639-2: kal

Abstract

Geographically not strictly part of Europe, Greenland is still part of the Danish Kingdom. Consequently, Greenlandic is a language spoken in (geopolitical) Europe. The dialects and sub-dialects of Greenlandic Eskaleut, which form part of a wider language continuum that stretches across the Arctic coastal regions from North Alaska to East Greenland are described. There are three main Greenlandic dialects – West Greenlandic (Kalaallisut), East Greenlandic (Tunumiisut) and Polar Eskimo (Inuktun), but only one official written language (Kalaallisut), which is the language of literature, the media, the church and higher education. The majority of the population speaks Central West Greenlandic. The dialect classification is based exclusively on linguistic (mainly phonological) grounds.

Keywords: dialects, diglossia, Kalaallisut, Polar Eskimo, East Greenlandic

SUMIORPALUUMMIT KALAALLISUUMIT KLASSIFIKATION

Abstract

Kalaallit Nunaat Europap nunataanut ilaangikkaluarluni Qallunaat kunneqarfiannut ilaavoq. Tamaattumik (geopolitikki eqqarsaatigalugu) Europami kalaallisut atugaapput. Naggueqatigiinni Eskaleutini sumiorpaluutit Kalaallisuunut ilaasut taakkulu sumiorpaluutaat, Sikuiuitsup Avannarliup sineriaani Alaskamit Kalaallit Nunaanni tunumut oqaaserineqarlutik siaruarsimasut allaaserineqarput. Kalaallisut pingasunik immikkoortunik sumiorpaluuteqarpoq – Kalaallisut/Kitaamiusut – Tunumiusut kiisalu Inuktun, avanersuarminusut, kisianni Kalaallisut ataatsimik allattaaseqarput, atuakkiani, tusagassiutini, oqaluffimmi kiisalu atuarfeqarfinni atorneqartumik. Sumiorpaluutit taamaallaat oqaasilerineq (pingaartumik nipisiuinermi) aallaavigalugu agguarneqarput.

Keywords: Sumiorpaluutit, diglossi, Kalaallisut, Avanersuarmitut, Tunumiisut