



Fields and Caves: Semantic Transitions in the Cultural Lexicon of a Mountain Region: case of Kullui

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Himachali (Western Pahari)



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- By Grierson: Jaunsari, Sirmauri, Baghati, Kyonthli group, Sutlej group, Kullu group, Mandi group, Chambeali, Bhadrawahi group



Research project on Kullui: 2014-2024

<https://pahari-languages.ru>
<https://kullui-corpus.info>



Etymology sources

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Housing and storage

Kullui	OIA
<i>darṭ^ha</i> 'grain storage closet'	<i>daratha</i> 'cave'
<i>gomp^ha</i> 'a small window in ancient houses'	* <i>gupphā</i> 'cave'
<i>k^hobru</i> 'storage niche'	* <i>khōppa</i> 'hole'



Kullui

drug^h 'closet or box for keeping grain'


dzugli 'cave'

dzugla 'tunnel'

OIA

durgá 'impassable', 'difficult passage, danger' (through Mandeali)

durgá 'impassable', 'difficult passage, danger'



Terrace field: outer border

Kullui	OIA
<i>bewri</i> 'outer/lower border of the terrace field'	* <i>vētuka-</i> 'cane, reed' or * <i>vēḍu</i> 'reed, bamboo'
<i>biṛ</i> 'outer/lower border of the terrace field'	<i>bīla/vila-</i> /* <i>vira-</i> 'cave, hole, pit, opening' or * <i>vēḍu</i> 'reed, bamboo'
<i>dzangli</i> 'outer/lower border of the terrace field' (also command to an ox)	<i>jāngala</i> 'arid, sparingly grown with trees' 'desert region'

Terrace field: inner border

Kullui

OIA

d^hek 'fence fortifying terrace field', 'inner/higher border of terrace field'

**dhēkka-* 'lump'

b^het 'inner/higher border of the terrace field'

**bhētṭa-* 'mound'

b^heti 'inner/higher border of the terrace field' (also command to an ox)



Beas river flow orientation

Derivation

udzira, dzetfa 'Manali inhabitant'

Etymology

udz 'top', *udze* 'atop'

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pɔtu 'woolen plaid worn by women'

bumni 'buckle of *pɔtu* consisting of two pins and some chains between them'



Derivation	Source
<i>ʃlau</i> ‘pins of <i>bumṇi</i> ’	Kullui <i>ʃlai</i> ‘knitting pin’
<i>bun-</i> ‘weave’	OIA <i>*vunāti</i> ‘weaves’
<i>bunṭi</i> ‘knitted ornament on the cloths’	<i>*bun-</i> ‘knit’
<i>b^haṇaga</i> ‘thread between pins of <i>bumṇi</i> , as it was earlier’	Proto-Kullui <i>*bun-</i> ‘knit’+ <i>d^haga</i> ‘thread’
<i>bumṇi</i> ‘buckle of <i>pɔṭu</i> ’	Proto-Kullui <i>*bunṇa</i> ‘knitting’

thank you!

