

# Neo-Aramaic Markers of Definiteness and Indefiniteness: A Typological Overview in Areal Perspective

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In Şurayt/Ṭuroyo and North-Eastern varieties proclitic markers of indefiniteness and/or definiteness have developed following the well-known patterns of grammaticalization of the numeral “one” and adnominal demonstratives respectively (De Mulder and Carlier 2021). In the present paper an attempt will be made to map the areal distribution of the markers of definiteness and indefiniteness within the Central and North-Eastern Neo-Aramaic territory, and to describe their uses and functions in a selection of dialects as a system to mark (in)definiteness and other semantic features such as specificity.

Furthermore, we will compare the Neo-Aramaic scenario with the strategies of marking (in)definiteness encountered in the other Semitic, Indoeuropean and Turkish languages spoken in the same area. Due to intense and continuous contact, these systems developed under reciprocal influence, the effects of which have been noted in previous literature (Kapeliuk 2011, Coghill 2020, Procházka 2020, Akkus 2020). This paper will thus be a first step towards a detailed typological assessment of areal contact in this specific domain of syntax.

## Selected References

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