

As to its origin Estonian is a Finno-Ugric (Uralic) language. According to a simplified family tree theory, the Estonian language evolved over millennia from Proto-Uralic as a result of its successive branching. One part of Proto-Finno-Ugric speakers migrated from the original homeland to the Baltic Sea. They became speakers of Proto-Finnic or Proto-Finnish. Estonian is a Finnic language.

A black and white photograph of a woman in traditional dress sitting at a spinning wheel against a stone wall. The woman is wearing a light-colored, long-sleeved blouse with a dark vest or apron over it. She has a dark headscarf or bandana. She is looking directly at the camera. The spinning wheel is a large wooden wheel with a smaller wheel on top. The background is a rough stone wall.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R

LIIVI EESTI VADJA SOOME ISURI KARJALA VEPSA

Läänemeresoome murdur Järvet, Tiit-Rein Viitso järgi. **Liivi keel** (A); eesti keel: lõunaest (B), põhjaest (C), idaeest (D), kirde-est (E), ranniku-est (G); **vadja keel** pärisvadja (F), Kukkuzi (J); **soome keel**: läänesoome (H), idasoome (I); **isuri keel** (K); **karjala keel**: põhjakarjala (L), lõunakarjala (M), aunuse (N), pärislöödi (O), Kuudä rve (P); **vepsa keel**: põhjavepsa (Q), pärisvepsa (R).

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