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VERBAL EMPHATIC VOWEL/EXTENDING -a IN TAOIAN

Cases of occurrence and functions of emphatic/extending vowel -a are differentiated by means of diachronic as well as synchronic perspectives.

Compared to the literary language, emphatic vowel -a can be distinguished by its diversity in dialects. It is often found in the dialects of East Georgia and rarely found in the dialects of West Georgia.

Taoian can be distinguished from other dialects by frequent use of emphatic vowel -a; it mainly appears in the literary language and positions similar to other dialects. However, more or less different facts can be observed. It is typical for Taoian to use emphatic vowel -a with verb forms; it occurs with different forms of screeves regardless the person and the number. Detecting the emphatic vowel -a is connected with the structure of the verb. Specifically, it is attached to the verb form if it is monosyllabic. Namely, the verb does not contain sound prefix of preverb; whereas, if such kind of elements are attached to the verb then the emphatic vowel -a will not be detected.

The article analyzes cases of detecting emphatic vowel -a in Taoian in connection with Georgian literary language and other dialects.

The study relies on the material recorded by us in Tao, in 2006-2017. Data of the published Taoian texts are also taken into consideration.