

SOME PECULIARITIES OF WORD FORMATION IN SOUTH-WESTERN SPEECH (1)

ABSTRACT

The aim of the presented paper is to study and analyze the peculiarities of word formation in South-Western speech. Having analyzed the issue, we rely on the dialectological texts recorded by us in Tao-Klarjeti during the complex expedition of the Niko Berdenishvili Institute of BSU in 2013-2019. When comparing the forms provided here for illustrative purposes, certainly, we take into account other dialectological records (those of Sh. Putkaradze and others).

As it is known, Georgian language and its dialects are rich in terms of word formation possibilities. From this point of view, the South-Western speech mainly imitates the peculiarities of the word formation of the Georgian language, though there are some specific ways of word building as well. Accordingly, the paper deals with some peculiarities of word formation. Mainly those related to the formation of the names of property and origin, as well as abstract and diminutive forms are discussed.

In South-western speech, the suffix **-ian** is usually the formant of property names, but this formant has another meaning as well. It can also be an expressive form of other content. In particular, it denotes family names taking the plural marker **-t** in this case: **emient**, **miġmient**, **lomient**, etc.

Besides, nouns with the **-ian** suffix are used to denote origin and plural especially when they are represented by the form of double declension Nominative: **nenesani**, **ṭaisani**, **emiasani**, **bibiasani**, etc.

The suffix **-ovan** is not found in the derivation of names of property, although it is actively used to express the forms of the degree of uniformity in adjectives: **thilissishvani**, **čemiṭolvani**, **mḵlavisishelvani**, **muṣṭisishelvani**, etc.

The names of origin in the above-mentioned language area are usually formed by **-ur**, **-el** suffixes. Special attention is paid to the forms of origin with the suffix **-ar** attested in the Upper Machakheli speech: **čhuṭunari**, **čikunari**, **milisari**.

Apart from its usual meaning, the suffix **-oba** of abstract nouns also expresses a plural number in South-Western speech: **mčvaniloba** (greens), **horcoba** (meat (in plural)), **soploba** (villages), etc.

It is also interesting to highlight one word formation found in the Taoan speech. Here, the **-nar (nal)** suffix functions the same way as the plural formant **-eb**: **ḵarnali** (k'arebi - doors), **hevnari** (xevebi - ravines).

Diminutive names rarely occur in South-Western speech. **-a**, **-ak** suffixes function as their formants as in: **čančalaḵi**, **qvelai**, **dergulai**, etc.

The diminutive **-a** suffix is often attached to plant names: **dodopalai**, **šhamai**, **taplababai**, **tiphalai**... It also indicates possession or quality of something: **pirnatelai**, **ḵudčrelai**, **Peḥčakmanai**, **dediperai**, etc.

The illustrated forms clearly show the way the South-Western dialects present an interesting picture, given their word-formation capabilities. Naturally, these capabilities are the same as those of the Georgian literary language, however, certain specificity emerges. In some cases, the derivational affix still maintains the function typical to the old Georgian language. In many cases, affixes occur with the semantic nuance that differs from the function they usually perform in the literary language.

Keywords: Georgian language dialects, Tao-Klarjeti, South-western dialects, word formation, vocabulary.