

**EXPRESSING ADVERBIAL CASE
IN TAOIAN DIALECT
OF THE GEORGIAN LANGUAGE**

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ABSTRACT

The adverbial case in the speech of the Georgians of Tao is mainly formed by the allomorphs that are characteristic of the Georgian literary language and the dialects. However, the frequency of their occurrence is rather different. The -a suffix is the most common one, to which in some cases -i/-y is added. The occurrences of the variants that include d/t consonant (-ad/-at/-d/-t) are relatively rare. It is noteworthy that as an alternative to the adverbial case, the forms of the nominative case or postpositional forms (-ze, -baaze/barze) are quite frequently represented, which are less common in other dialects. The adverbial case forms primarily manifest manner and purpose, while the expression of time and place is relatively uncommon. Almost no occurrences of translative and sequential functions have been attested.

We believe, the above-mentioned facts refer to the weakening of the position of the adverbial case in the Taoian dialect which could be explained by the influence of the Turkish language; there is no adverbial case in Turkish, mainly the nominative or dative forms are applied to express the relevant content. The use of the nominative case or postpositional forms as having the adverbial function is not uncommon in Georgian either, however, its activation in those constructions where the adverbial case is established in Georgian, should have been driven by close contact with the Turkish language. This is evidenced by the data of Laz, the Kartvelian subsystem functioning within the sphere of Turkish. Currently, there is no adverbial case in Laz (its function is performed by the nominative case), though historically it should have occurred here.

In terms of expressing the adverbial case, the Taoian dialect exhibits common Georgian tendencies, on the one hand, and those changes that emerge as a result of bilingualism, on the other.

Keywords: Georgian dialectology, Taoian dialect, formation of nominals, adverbial case.