IMPACT OF THE NON-SLAVIC BALKAN LANGUAGES ON SPEECH AND FOLK POETRY OF GORA

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ABSTRACT

Based on its many structural features, the Gorani dialect belongs to Balkan linguistic association. Some features have joined this dialect as a result of linguistic and ethnic mixtures present in the southeastern part of Balkan peninsula. Romanic, Turkish and Greek languages have influenced a lot the creation of the Balkan linguistic association. Balkan languages show a lot of parallel features in phonetics, morphology, syntax and vocabulary.

Key words: *Gora, Gorani dialect, Balkan language association, onomastics, Turkish language, Albanian language, Greek language, Aromanian language.*

INTRODUCTION

Study of the current state of Gora speech directs us to the historical processes and social movements which caused changes in many languages at Balkan peninsula. Movement of population was present at Balkan territory since ancient time, which created conditions for linguistic contact and interference. Romanic, Turkish and Greek languages have influenced a lot the creation of the Balkan linguistic association.

Balkan languages show a lot of parallel features in phonetics, morphology, syntax and vocabulary.

Due to the population movement, the Gorani dialect was always exposed to the influence of almost all Balkan languages. Many Gorani people has, because of the cattle breeding and trade needs, used several languages at the same time. Beside their own language, many men have spoken Turkish, Albanian, Aromanian and Greek language too, which resulted to having many loanwords in Gora dialect from these languages.

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Number of calques, undertaken from Balkan languages, is visible too, which, based on its „depth structure“, bringmove up the Gora dialect closer to Balkan languages, primarily to those having Romanic basis.

Balkan structural changes in Gorani dialect and neighbouring Slavic dialects have most probably occurred by the slavic language impact on a part of Roman population, maybe partly of Albanian as well, before XIV century.

Numerosity of calques in Balkan languages testify the very intensive relation among them and confirms the accuracy of the population, which during the explanation of phonological and grammatical appearance in them, gives important place to interlingual contact in Balkan environment. It often happens that the words and, especially, phraseological expressions given internal form, are found in all languages (or in several languages) of Balkan environment.

CONTACT WITH ALBANIAN LANGUAGE

Contacts of Gorani dialect with Albanian language are long for centuries. Influence of Albanian language to Gora dialect is not well researched, and vice versa. It is normal that these influences are bigger in the places allocated at the boundary towards the Albanian settlements. The influence of the Albanian language is especially stronger in Gora part which is under the administration of Albania for almost a century and where the interpersonal and family contacts are more frequent.

In Kosovo part of Gora, the loanwords in the lexicon from Albanian language are very few, but the influence in phonetics, syntax and phraseology is significant, which might be a subject to research. Several words from Albanian language are being used in Gorani dialect, such as: *besa* („given word“), *nusa* („bride“) *kënaç* (< *kënaq* – „satisfy“), *baljoš* („spotty man“), *bojdzakesto* („of a better blood“), *čupa* („sheep without horns“),

grika („cove“), *ljaljo* („father“ Kru Ši Gl)² and some other words.

Some phraseological calques in Gorani dialect developed based on Albanian model: *na glava ot devet godine* = „on the top of nine years“, *nemalje ljep duša da vrtet* = „they didn't have bread to keep their soul“, *nemaj strah* = „don't be afraid“, *usta/ruka da ti kaže* = „lucky your mouth /hand“, *besa da vrzeme*.

The influence of Albanian language in the national poetry of Gora belonging to Kosovo part is insignificant. Only few lexemes are being used:

„Zimbiljo nuse ubava“ (Hasani, 1987, p. 43) / „če vrzeme, Omer, tvrda besa“ (Hasani, 1987, p. 162).

In the collections of the folk songs and stories that Nazif Dokle was collecting in the Albanian part of Gora, and which emerged after the introduction of Albanian government, the influence was more significant:

„Dalj *filore*, naša dejko, *tetyječare* / *tetyječare*, naša dejko, elj *unike*?!“ (Dokle, 2000, p. 299)

„Naša država *lirija* ni dala“ (Dokle, 440), / „Ja som *roja*, more, ot planina“ (Dokle, 2000, p. 446);

I ja gi sakam muškarci da mi bidet vendosur (alb. „odlučan“) Ore, Ama *krahasim* (alb. „u poređenju“) so drugete Ore, a me *kuptuješ*? (alb. „shvataš“), Veljet se *prmiršualo* (alb. „popravilo“) Ore, Mije ot Šišteec i Borje *pondruše* (alb. „drugačije“) zborime Za, Mu pišaf *se* dejka negova ide po loši putoj (Dokle, 2003).

Examples shows the adjustment of the Albanian words into morphological system of Gorani dialect. In the verb *kuptuješ* (alb. < *kuptoj* – „understand“, „comprehend“) the ending *-uješ* is Gorani ending for 2. person of the present tense singular, in the verb *prmiršualo* (alb. < *përmirsoj* – „fix“, „improve“) ending *-ualo* is ending of the participle working for the neuter, while in the word *pondruše* (alb. < *ndryshe* – „different“) *-po* it is prefix for comparative contributions.

2 Abbreviations for Gora villages: Ba ... *Bačka*, Br ... *Brod*, Vr ... *Vraništa*, Gl ... *Globočica*, Di ... *Dikance*, Dr ... *Dragaš*, ZP ... *Zljiplotok*, Krs ... *Krstec*, Kru ... *Kruševo*, Ku ... *Kukaljane*, Le ... *Lještane*, Lju ... *Ljubošta*, Ml ... *Mljike*, Or ... *Orčuša*, Rad ... *Radeša*, Rap ... *Rapča*, Re ... *Resteljica*, Bo ... *Borje*, Ore ... *Orešek*, Org. ... *Orgosta*, Za ... *Zapod*, Je ... *Jelovjane*, Ur ... *Urvič*, Pa ... *Pakiša*.

There are many other similar examples, because Albanian language is being used in the communication out of the family and in all other state institutions.

The influence of Albanian language is noticeable in few toponyms as well:

Arber Or, *Bériša* Di, *Gurél'*-češma, *Gúrel'*, *Džónoec* Re, *Dinóf*-potok Kru, *Gúra* Zl, *Kiša*, *Pišec* Bo, *Kiša*, *Vau Dámes* Oč.

CONTACT WITH TURKISH LANGUAGE

Turkish language had great influence on lexicon and on structure of Gorani dialect as well. The vocabulary we refer to the term *turcizam*, there is also a large number of words of Arabic and Persian origin. During the long period of about five centuries, the Turkish language had a dominant position and was a language with special prestige in the whole Balkan peninsula. Especially the men in Gora have used the Turkish language, because it was a mean of communication on a wide territory.

The men in Gora have used until late, even many decades after the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, many sequence (phrases, sayings, proverbs) in Turkish language and afterwards were translating the same into their own native dialect. By that, among other things, they were showing their belonging to the higher, aristocratic layer.

Turcism was best kept in the national heritage of Gora, because song and a story best preserve the „language environment“ where they begin.

The collection of Harun Hasani is the book of songs which contains a lot of turcism, while the collections of Nazif Dokle have less, because there are more „female songs“, and it is known that the men speech was reached with foreign words:

„Ne je ljuta zmija, mila nane, tok' je *karasevda*':

sevdinite oči, mila nane, *stambolske* *fildžani*,

sevdinite kosme – *fidan* od *bosiljok*, *sevdinoto* čelo – *altan ajmalija*.“ (Hasani, 1987, p. 89.).

The novels book of Ramadan Redžepari contains the biggest number of turcism, because the recorder is an expert in Turkish language, so he „recorder“ most of the novels based on his remembrance or persons who were speaking both languages parallelly:

„Imaf jen Goranin, ošof na *gurbri*, bljizu, vo Prizren. Otvorif jena *ašćinica*, praif *češiti jemeci*: *grah*, *čorba*, *dolma*, *piljaf*, *jahnija*, *musaka*, *elj-basan tava*, *sutljijaš*, *kazanbidi*, *maljebije*, *halve* i... *Dučan* imaf, *ama* rabota nemať.“ (Redžepari and Čekmedže, 2005)

Formative suffixes are taken from Turkish language *-ja*, *-džija*, *-lak/lok/lək*, *-az*, *-aš*. However, these suffixes are also used for creation of single words which are not of Turkish origin. So, with the suffix *-džija* domestic words have been created: *koljepkádžija*, *grozjádžija* *goljémdžija* („thumb“), *mljekádžija*, *prsténdžija*, *svirládžija*, *lórdžija*, *strujádžija* („collector“) etc.

Suffix *-sa* is represented only in the verbs of Greek origin, while suffixes *-isa* and *-osa*, through the verbs with Greek base, went over to the examples with Turkish basis. That is how we have a big number of these kind of verbs which are being used in Gora dialect and the national poetry of Gora:

Ázdisa, *bitisa*, *artérisa*, *bəktisa*, *bástisa*, *béndisa*, *denétisa*, *dokúndisa*, *kandérisa*, *kaskándisa*, *davrándisa*, *kəzdisa*, *kándisa*, *kúrdisa*, *záptisa*, *bázdisa*, *kurtálisa*, *rahátlisa*, *sájdisa*, *səklétisa*, *šástisa*, *šístisa*, *siktérisa*, *čátisa*, *újdisa*, *se táptisa*, *siktírisa*, *défetisa*, *bójosa*, *bátisa*, *útisa* i dr.

However, with suffix *-osa* individual domestic words are being created: *k'rvjosa*, *črvjosa*, *jádosa*, *zídosa*, *gnjídosa*, *h'rdosa*.

There is big number of toponyms in Gora where turcism is present:

Ađiin-kajnak, *Crnó-dere*, *Čárdak*, *Čátma*, *Čučiná-češma*, *Kájnci*, *Séir* Br, *Kársija* Rap Org, *Téferič* Krs, Bo, *Suó-dere*, *Vákaf* Kru, *Ávlja* Le, *Še^hová-češma* Ml, *Nizamská-češma*, *Turskí-put* Rad, *Askerskó-dere*, *Fúrna*, *Júruka*, *Juručke-gróbišća*, *Kapí-češma*, *Kadínica*, *Kadín-kamen*, *Kúla*, *Kurtóica*, *Mrámor*, *Túl'be* Re, *Vákof* Vr, *Káldrma*, *Kašla*, *Terdziin-kamen* Bo, *Fíšek* Za.

CONTACT WITH GREEK LANGUAGE

Contacts of Gorani dialect with Greek language are specific. Until the collapse of the Ottoman Empire many Gorani farmers during the winter months use to take their flocks to Thessaloniki, Janjina and other places in Greece. In addition, many Gorani had their own craft shops in many Greek towns: Thessaloniki, Kavala, Janjina etc. Therefore, a coin called *násolun* was created in Brod, which encompasses work in Diasporas (*gurbet, pečalba*).

A considerable number of verbs with the ending *-sa* is of Greek origin:

Prókopsa („succeed in life“) *stása* („arrive“, „mature“), *párosa* („leave“, „abandon“), *píkosa, zapíkosa* („notice“), *prépsa* („resemble“), *mađosa* („fascinate“), *vápsa/vápca* („color, paint“), *(h)áro-sa* („fascinate“), *vítosa* („brake your neck“), *ógrejsa* („trample on the poor“), *prša* („rush“), *árniša* („delay“), *déksa* („suffer“, „endure“), *bolájeći* (< spolaj, „god helps“, „Inšalah“).

Many words, some directly and some through the Turkish language entered Gora dialect from the Greek language, particularly in Gora folk poetry:

Pálav („stupid“, „fool“), *pálanca* („large scale“), *prófirka* („a side dish“, „desert“), *félija* („piece“, „steak“), *šájka* („nail“), *štírka* („sterile sheep“), *pízma* („hatred“), *kókalo* („bone“), *dřman* („rare sieve“), *pljít* („adobe“), *dímije, efëndija*.

Very characteristic particles present in Gorani dialect and its poetry *more/ore, mori/ori* as well as succinctly forms of *bre/be* are adopted from the Greek language. Particles *diko* is also parallelly used. All these particles are occurring in the verbal folk poetry. Ad very frequent outcry *aro* („my misfortune“) is taken from the Greek language.

„So kogo bilo, *mori* nane, koj go *mađosa*, / nanice, koj go *arosa*. (Hasani, 1987, p. 412),

„režilj ée te napraj, Fato *be* éerko, pa ée te *parosa*“ (Hasani, 1987, p. 188),

Some toponyms indicate contacts with Greek language:

Grko'ec Le, *Grčkó-trlo* Ši, *Gramatniko'ec*, *Grkinica* Gl, *Grčké-rupe* Re, *Mávra*, *Strátorje*.

CONTACT WITH ROMANI LANGUAGES

Contacts with Romani languages, especially with the Aromanian language, are confirmed in the structure of Gorani dialect, or in phonetics, morphology and syntax. However, the influence of Aromanian language is not neglected in vocabulary, and significant presence is confirmed in toponymy and patronymic. Situation is similar in the folk poetry of Gora.

For determination of substrata and superstrata in Gorani dialect of big importance would be analysis of livestock, agriculture and botanical vocabulary with observance of Slavic and non-Slavic in this language layer.

There is the most presence influence of Aromanian language, since around Gora there are predominantly pastoral areas of Vlach type: Galičica, Bistra, Korab and Šar-Mountain.

Lekseme that we present are only small part which we consider to have aromanian origin:

Káprulja/kápurlja („wood for roof“, „lath“), *pórta* („gate“), *mándža* („dish“), *drósulj* („snivel“), *mřsulj* („snivel“), *drópulj* („unkempt man“), *dáda* („mother“), *džúndžulje* („brat“), *báte* („father“), *skút* („bosom“), *pálavra* („story“, „fuss“), *đinder* („sort of grass“), *čáfulj* („haircut“), *čúnga* („bump“), *čékulj* („top“), *čópur* („source“, „waterfall“), *kúp* („stack“), *kókor* („hair“, „haircut“), *túmba* („hill“), *čúčulj* („crowd“), *rúlek* („baby“), *báč* („alderman of the cast“), *fíčor* („assistant to the cast“), *árgač* („part of the cast where cattle stays“), *bárdžav* („stained“) i dr.

„So meke kruše gađaje / Belo mi krpče *bardžaje*,“ (Dokle, 2000, p. 243)

„so muški *rulek* v' narače“ (Hasani, 1987, p. 258).

And place names below are only a small part of the under-researched roman (aromanian) heritage in Gora area:

Váaška, Vlaški-potok, Vlaške-ljívade, Đúrđejca, Páraspor Vr, Vla(h)ínica, Berova vodénica Bo, Strátorje Zl Gl Kru, Mávra Zl Br, Róša Br Zl, Kózmina, Bárbula, Túmba Kru, Viljan Vr Dr, Románice, Radúnica Lju, Gol'ém-argač, Rádika Re, Bogdánica Rad, Pléote, Lúciño Di, Páraspor Rap, Vlání-sad, Bógdiče, Júlica Cr, Vráca Re, Kórije, Lóticka, Dršófora, Ševrótime Org, Drbúloec, Lámbur Za, Štédim, Šarbánica, Kacúlji-ca Br, Grdóv-dof Pa, Maráčalas Or, Dérmula Ko, Šúla Oč, Prípuzen Krs, Árgač, Páraspur Ši. Then, the names of many settlements in Gora have Roman roots: *Órgosta, Drágaš, Krákošta, Órcúša, Pákiša, Šišteec, Óčikle.*

CONCLUSION

Multiplicity of words and calques which simultaneously appears in many Balkan languages testifies about very intense relationship between them and strengthens the validity of population that, in explaining phonological and grammatical appearance in them gives significant place in the Balkan inter-language center. It often happens that the words and, especially phrasal expressions given in the internal forms are found in each language (or multilingual) Balkan area.

In such cases it is not easy to determine which language is used as a source of borrowing, although it is clear that the Greek and later Turkish language left the most traces in modeling Balkan vocabulary. As for the Gora dialect and folk poetry, we should emphasize major influence of Turkish, Greek, Aromanian and Albanian languages, because these are the languages with which it often came in contact. Many words, especially calques taken from these languages present a literal translation.

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