

ANNOTATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS
OF ASSOCIATED PROFESSOR Dr. Sc. (higher than Ph. D.)¹,
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submitted for participation in the competition for occupying
the academic position of a “Professor”,
under the Higher education field 2. Humanities, professional direction
2.1. Philology (Bulgarian language (Modern Bulgarian language),
announced in the State Gazette, issue 96/17.11.2023

Kutsarov, Konstantin. *Theoretical Aspects of the Vocative Form in the Bulgarian Language; “Appelativeness” Morphological Category; Plovdiv: Paisiy Hilendarski University Publishing House, 2024.*

The development is motivated by the structural uncertainty of one of the oldest documented grammatical meanings in the Bulgarian language. At the epicenter of the study search is the vocative form, which has experienced all the upheavals and metamorphoses in the naming system over the centuries and has reached us functionally alive and authentic to a large extent. The main task of the scientific work is to present a new vision of the theoretical status of the vocative form as a non-case grammema. We are trying to prove that the vocative possesses a unique nominal semantics, as well as functionality, giving reasons to construct the grammema in an autonomous morphological category.

In order to strengthen the argumentations, a thorough review of the historical development of the vocative form in the years from the 10th century to the present day has been made. We pay special attention to the semantic realizations, types of forms, formal indicators (inflections), as well as types of syntactic uses, including

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substitutions with the so-called general form. We find that the vocative has been functioning as a living and complete grammema in our speech for more than ten centuries. However, its durability does not mean that it does not change over the years. Historically, for example, its formal inventory has evolved, which has significantly shrunk due to the reduction of the vocal system. In the first written monuments, we have seen the following vocative inflections for individual declensions: names with *o*-stem – *E*, with *jo*-stem – *IO* (*'Y*), with *u*-stem – *Y*, with *a*-stem – *O*, with *ja*-stem – *E*, with *i*-stem – *II*. During the Middle Bulgarian linguistic period, nouns with *o*-stem retained *E* vocative morpheme, but forms with vocative *O* were also activated; names with a *jo*-stem keep the vocative *Y*, but strengthened, which is then most often replaced by *O*; the *a*-stem nouns retain their vocative *O* marker; in nouns with a *ja*-stem, the vocative *O* inflection begins dominating, but *E* is also preserved; in nouns with an *i*-stem, the vocative *II* morpheme gradually loses frequency and falls out of use, but some nouns from this formal class acquire the vocative *O* and *E* morphemes. It is impressive that the Bulgarian language uses only vowel phonemes, as grammatical markers for expressing vocativity. Among them, *O* and *E* are the most stable and most frequent in this function. The morpheme *Y* (*'Y*) keeps its limited use, while *II* occurs as a vocative inflection only with the noun “*zocnoδII*” (*God*, vocative form). In our opinion, the grammatical inflectional overload of the six vowel sounds in the modern Bulgarian language has a decisive influence on the reduction of the vocative formal indicators.

The process of formal unification is much clearer in the adjectives. We find out that, from a modern point of view, only *II* (*любимII*, *скънII* (*sweetheart/dear*, vocative forms) functions as a vocative morpheme, which is a remnant of the compound adjective form.

It was interesting to trace the views of the Renaissance writers and of the Bulgarian experts on the issues of the case category and of the vocative form. The studies can be divided into two diametrical periods according to the viewpoints of the authors on the issue of interest. The first period began in 1834 (then the grammar of Y. I. Venelin was written) and continued until 1952. The concepts during those years are characterized by the lack of scientific will of the writers to reject case as a living category in the Bulgarian grammatical structure. During the Renaissance, only G. Mirkovich – educated in France, dared to reject the paradigmatic expression of case forms. It is interesting that even after the Liberation the authors could not overcome the stereotype of case presence in the language. The vocative is also determined as one of the case grammemes in the category, although the opinions about its more special nature are also creeping in. In the second period (after 1952), the case is no longer a grammatical feature inextricably linked to the noun. The interpretation of the vocative form is also different. A positive impetus for the conceptual evolution was given by the stormy controversy in the pages of “Bulgarian Language” magazine, where the most prominent Bulgarian linguists participated at the time. Thanks mainly to the theoretical justifications of L. Andreychin, the thesis about the absence of inflectional case expression began to be asserted in our specialized works. Almost simultaneously, the views related to the vocative form, also developed. It continues existing in the paradigmatic structure of the category. However, the perception of its case status is beginning to change. The first definitive conclusions, reached by Konstantin Popov (1953) found that the vocative form was not a case. In the following decades, the thesis was supported by most Bulgarian linguists. However, almost none of them (with few exceptions) made an attempt to look for the new place of the vocative in the grammatical structure, since it is not in the case.

In the last fourth chapter of the exposition, we are trying to fill this gap in the system, based on an innovative description of the formal-semantic appearance of the vocative. We agree with the definitions that the vocative expresses an address, a call to the linguistic addressee. However, we emphasize the fact that content signaling is not conditioned by syntactic relation. The real case grammemes in the language are result of the semantic-syntactic collaboration between two phenomena (most often through a verb), and their formal expression is morphological – through inflections. Only the second circumstance is present in the vocative form. Of course, it is also a carrier of meaning, but it is not conditioned by syntactic relation, despite having its authentic morphological nature of expression. The vocative is a classically grammaticalized meaning within a morphological category that fully signals its semantics within the word form, without needing the “partnership” between the phrase, sentence, or context. Another marked grammeme with a homogeneous meaning in the Bulgarian language does not work. Therefore, the vocative form enters into a binary opposition only with the maximally unmarked basic form of nouns, which in the correlative opposition we determine as a non-vocative form. The category that is formed by the opposition vocativity ~ non-vocativity, we call “appellativeness”. “Appellativeness” is a classical type of morphological category, the meaning of which is inherent only to nouns. Formally, the “appellativeness” category is also signaled by adjectives, but in this part of speech it has a coordinating status. In modern Bulgarian language, the morphemes for vocativity in nouns are the inflections *-E* and *-O* (more rarely *-V*) in the masculine gender, and *-O* and *-E* in the feminine gender; for adjectives – the inflection *-И* - only in the masculine gender. The vocative use is common in the personal nouns (common and proper nouns), but it also occurs in some non-personal ones. In live speech, it is natural to replace the vocative form with its non-vocalic correspondence. In our opinion, in a vocative

context, the marked and unmarked forms are in fruitful competition, enriching the expressive wealth of the Bulgarian language.

The research sets itself mainly theoretical tasks. Conceptual descriptions and citations are limited only to Bulgarian researchers. The functional aspect of the vocative enters into working mode only in the argumentation of the asserted theses.

Kutsarov, Konstantin. *The Bulgarian Lexeme Classes and the Study of the Speech Parts*. Sofia: PH “Kolibri”, 2022. 352 pp. ISBN 978-619-02-1031-3

Building my classification model, I have made several important theoretical updates and justifications. Instead of the term "part of speech", I accept "word classes in language", as more correct, since we are talking about typological segmentation of lexemes. In this sense, those characteristics of the word that it expresses independently, without the need for a context, acquire special significance in taxonomy. Most clearly, these are its morphologically (form-changing) conditioned grammatical meanings, building the corresponding morphological categories. That is why I assign a primary role to the morphological factor in classification of the changeable Bulgarian lexemes. I defend the thesis that a class should unite words with the same formative potential, expressing respectively the same grammemes and morphological categories. As a further condition for distinguishing an autonomous class, I set a requirement that there should be signaling of at least one semantically specific morphological category.

When forming the taxonomic working base, I do not neglect working criteria such as logical-semantic and syntactic. According to the first one, words are defined as denotative and non-denotative, words-names, words-signs, signs of words signs, replacement words, etc. According to the syntactic criterion, lexemes from one part

of speech must have identical syntactic functions. This factor assumes a leading role in the classification of invariable words.

Kutsarov, Konstantin. *Futurity in the Bulgarian Language*. Plovdiv: Paisiy Hilendarski University Publishing House, 2010. 176 pp. ISBN 978-954-423-569-7

The work aims to unify, describe and illustrate the means of expressing futurity in the modern Bulgarian language, using the theory of functional-semantic grammar. One main aspect of temporality has been examined – the microfield of futurity in whose core are the future tense forms. In this sense, the greatest attention is paid to the Future Tense grammeme, which in the modern Bulgarian language is expressed by the forms containing the indicators of futurity – “*shte*” or “*nyama*” particles.

Kutsarov, Konstantin. *The Lexemic Class of the Numeral According to the Morphological Taxonomic Principle*. // In: *Scientific works of Paisiy Hilendarski Plovdiv University*, Ch. 57, vol. 1, Sat. A. Philology Plovdiv: PH „Paisiy Hilendarski“, 2019, pp. 91 – 98. ISSN 0861-0029

Bulgarian linguistics states that the class of the numerical combines two types of numerical lexemes – numerical and ordinal, which have different form changes. Such coexistence contradicts the morphological taxonomic principle, according to which a part of speech should combine words with a homogeneous paradigm and identical grammatical features. The morphological epicrisis made in this scientific work shows that it is more correct to divide the lexemes with quantitative semantics into three lexemic classes – numerals, nouns, and adjectives.

Kutsarov, Konstantin. The Concept of Speech Parts by Lev Vladimirovich Shcherba. // In: *Bulgarian linguistic readings: Materials from the international conference on the occasion of the 130th anniversary of “St. Kliment Ohridski” Sofia University, November 19 – 20, 2018. Sofia: Slavic Philology Faculty, “St. Kliment Ohridski” Sofia University, 2019, pp. 186 - 193. ISBN 978-619-7433-31-9*

The Peterburg academician Lev Vladimirovich Shcherba is a student of Jan Baudouin de Courtenay and a follower of his scientific research in the field of phonetics and phonology. However, the interests of Shcherba extend much more widely – general linguistics, Russian language, Slavic languages, French language, psycholinguistics, lexicology, lexicography etc. In his research field is also found the fundamental question of the parts of speech. The scholar considers that the classes of words cannot be the same in different languages, and each of them should be treated as unique structure. In this sense, a priority task in the classification is to find the exact “principles of divisions” (*principium divisionis*). Such "external expressions" of the speech parts according to the researcher are: the different types of word variability, prefixes, suffixes, endings, phrase accents, intonation, word order, special auxiliary words, syntactic connection, etc. Having in mind these signs, Shcherba presents an original divisive system of words in the Russian language, in which we find a number of successful solutions. However, it raises serious objections as it appears that the author is inconsistent in applying the criteria set by him.

Kutsarov, Konstantin. A Theory of Word Division and a Classification of Parts of Speech in the 1982 Russian Academic. // In: *Scientific works of Paisiy Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Ch. 58, vol. 1, Sat. A. Philology; Plovdiv: PH „Paisiy Hilendarski“, 2020, pp. 191 – 199. ISSN 0861-0029*

The two-volume Russian academic grammar of the Russian Language Institute of the Academy of Sciences is the culmination of research of a pleiad of researchers after the end of Vinogradov's creative period. The present paper descriptively and analytically focuses on the study of parts of speech in the grammar. Four taxonomic features are identified through which ten parts of speech are differentiated and characterized. The classification primarily involves the morphological level of language, inflection and the generation of morphological categories in particular. Strictly and reasonably complying with morphological criteria, the authors of the grammar also propose certain non-traditional taxonomic solutions, discussed in the paper.

Participant in the competition:.....

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