

UDC 930.85(4-12)

YU ISSN 0350-7653

SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS
INSTITUTE FOR BALKAN STUDIES

BALCANICA XXXVII

ANNUAL OF THE INSTITUTE FOR BALKAN STUDIES

Editor-in-Chief

DUŠAN T. BATAKOVIĆ

Director of the Institute for Balkan Studies

Editorial Board

FRANCIS CONTE (Paris), DIMITRIJE DJORDJEVIĆ (Santa Barbara),
DJORDJE S. KOSTIĆ, LJUBOMIR MAKSIMOVIĆ, DANICA POPOVIĆ,
BILJANA SIKIMIĆ, ANTHONY-EMIL TACHIAOS (Thessaloniki),
NIKOLA TASIĆ, SVETLANA M. TOLSTAJA (Moscow),
GABRIELLA SCHUBERT (Jena)

BELGRADE
2007



A SMALL DIALECTOLOGICAL ATLAS OF THE BALKAN LANGUAGES

Reviewed by Biljana Sikimić

The project “Small Dialectological Atlas of the Balkan Languages” (hereafter Atlas) has been started by the Institute of Linguistic Studies of the Russian Academy of Science, Saint-Petersburg, in 1996, and since 1999 it has been running in parallel at the Institute of Slavic Philology at Marburg, Germany. The relevant questionnaires (syntactic, lexical and ethnolinguistic) were published in 1996/7. Fieldwork carried out according to these programmes between 1996 and 2002 collected extensive and cross-comparable dialectal material for the (formally, semantically and functionally) unrelated Balkan languages.

Since 1998 collections of papers resulting from the research group’s working meetings have been regularly published in Saint-Petersburg (*SDABL/МДАБЯ–Материалы рабочих совещаний*). Work of the research team has also been presented at several international linguistic conferences, notably at three Balkanological ones, the proceedings of which have already been published: *Актуальные вопросы балканского языкознания* (St Petersburg, 2003: Proceedings of the international conference held in St Petersburg in 2001), *Актуални проблеми на балканското езикознание, Аспекти на изследването на общобалканската лексика* (Sofia 2003: Proceedings of the international conference held in Sofia in 2002), and *Языки и диалекты малых этнических групп на Балканах* (St Petersburg–Munich 2005: Proceedings of the international conference held in St Petersburg in 2004).

Since 2001 the publishing house Biblion Verlag, Munich, has been regularly publishing two series of monographic contributions pertinent to the Atlas: *Materialien zum Südosteuropasprachatlas* and *Studien zum Südosteuropasprachatlas*.

The Small Atlas’s editor in chief is A. N. Sobolev, with H. Schaller, X. Ylli, A. Y. Rusakov and A. N. Sobolev as members of its international editorial board. Three purpose-designed questionnaires by Russian authors have been used: Syntactic (I. I. Voronina, Y. A. Lopashov, A. Y. Rusakov and A. N. Sobolev), Lexical (M. B. Domosiletskaya and A. V. Zhugra) and Ethnolinguistic (A. A. Plotnikova). Fieldwork research has been carried out by an international expert team: V. M. Bara, N. Bogdanović, A. B. Borisova, D. Gegovski, V. Zhobov, V. B. Zaykovskaya, T. V. Zaykovska, Ž. Jozić, M. Jovanović, T. Kahl, G. P. Klepikova, K. Koleva, K. Leluda-Voss, J. A. Lopashov, M. Marković, A. A. Plotnikova, A. Y. Rusakov, I. A. Sedakova, A. N. Sobolev, Z. Topolińska, E. S. Uzeneva and X. Ylli.

The mapping of dialectal material from twelve survey points representative of the dialects of all genetic subgroups of Balkan languages (Greek, Albanian, Romance and South-Slavic) has been carried out: Otok, Dalmatia, Croatia; Zavala, near Podgorica, Montenegro; Kamenica, near Knjaževac, Serbia; Peštani, Lake Ohrid, FYR Macedonia; Gega, near Petrič, Bulgaria; Gela, Central Rhodopes, Bulgaria; Ravna, Provadia District, Bulgaria; Muhurr, Peshkopeja District, Albania; Leshnjë, Çorovoda District, Albania; two Modern-Greek speaking settlements: Eratira, Kozáni District, and Kastelli, Peloponnesus, Greece; and one Aromanian, Krania/Turia, Grevena area, Greece.

Thus the Atlas includes material for the basic dialects of the unrelated Balkan languages south of the Danube, but it does not include Daco-Romanian dialectal material or data from Megleno-Romanian and Istro-Romanian speeches of South-Danubian Romanian dialects.

1 *Малый диалектологический атлас балканских языков, Пробный выпуск* [Small Dialectological Atlas of Balkan languages. Pilot volume], ed. Andrei N. Sobolev. Studien zum Südosteuropasprachatlas, Band 2. München: Biblion Verlag, 2003. Pp. 357.

The pilot volume of the Atlas (published 2003) maps several ethnolinguistic questions relating to the calendar: the term for St Athanasius' Day (18/31 January); the ornament made from threads for the day of the arrival of spring (1/14 March); St Andrew's Day (30 Nov/13 Dec); and the term for the (leading) figure of the Dodole ritual. Of syntactic topics, 48 questions (nouns, possessive pronoun *svoj*, adjectives,

verbs, phrases, prepositions, simple sentence structure and communication-oriented statement) are illustrated. There follow lexical questions (Maps 48 to 93) relating to nature (geographical appellatives and meteorology) and man (anatomical terms, human features, kinship terms, animal husbandry, beekeeping, diet and the like).

2 *Малый диалектологический атлас балканских языков*, ed. A. N. Sobolev. *Серия лексическая. Том I. Лексика духовной культуры* [Lexical Series. Vol. I. Lexicon of Spiritual Culture]. München, 2005. Pp. 432.

Volume I of the lexical series is devoted to the spiritual culture and, after the pilot volume, is the first integrative result of the Atlas project. It is edited by A. N. Sobolev, who also authored the maps. Material collection is based on the *Ethnolinguistic questionnaire* designed by A. A. Plotnikova. The volume's goal is to make it possible for the collected material to be further interpreted, which is apt to indicate the paths of development taken by the vocabularies of individual Balkan languages, to establish connections in dialectal lexes, and to enable the reconstruction of the formation processes of the Balkan linguistic league. The Atlas primarily addresses synchronic typological issues. It is guided by two main principles: the ideographical description of the Balkan linguistic map of the world and the principle of systemic totality, which involves the study of thematic and lexical-semantic word groups and of the semantic structure of each word in its functional context taken as broadly as possible.

Material collection is based on the onomasiological approach: the names for the same object in different dialects are identified (object, characteristic, action), using the same semantic properties in their

definition and linguistic identification. The presentation of the material includes the project section and subsection, the number of the question, the formulation of the question and all relevant linguistic and extralinguistic data and commentaries. For all examples Latin transcription is used: for Slavic and Greek dialects, the transcription adopted for the Common Slavic dialectological atlas; for Albanian speeches, the transcription adopted in Albanian dialectology; and for Aromanian, the transcription widely adopted in Aromanian studies. Additional information (usually extralinguistic in nature) is contained in commentaries.

Rather than mapping all the existing information (available to the user on the left-hand page), the Atlas only maps those that show the system of similarities and differences between Balkan dialects. It is assumed that any aspect of the form, semantics and function of the phenomenon under scrutiny (the name, time, place of ritual etc.) are eligible for linguistic comparison. Phenomena are interpreted bearing in mind their actual systemic statuses within individual cultures. The maps consistently reflect cases of contamination of various realia in the folkloric mind.

As a distinctive feature worth of being mapped, any linguistic or ethnographic feature (time, place, function) may be chosen. As the authors have given up the idea of making “pure genre” maps, the Atlas includes (in addition to purely linguistic: lexical, motivational, grammatical) combined linguistic and ethnographic maps as well as a number of purely ethnographic maps (e.g. the presence of a specific ritual dish, rite, belief). Not even the linguistic maps are “pure genre” as they often combine information about different linguistic levels. Some maps show similarities and differences in naming, lexeme phonetics, semantics, nominational motivations etc. There are also maps that combine such data with those from different linguistic levels, including phonetics and grammar, but with no etymological pretensions. In some cases, information other than the one planned is mapped (e.g. “first days of August” map), which is dictated by the material collected. It seems sensible to agree with the authors’ assumption that the material collected from a larger number of points may have led to a different feature for mapping (form, motivation, semantics) from the one chosen: the maps reflect the potentials offered by the collected fieldwork material and should not be seen as absolute.

This volume contains 191 maps, those relating to the calendar cycle accounting for nearly a half of the total number, only three covering agricultural, harvest customs, a single map covering animal husbandry (“first milk”), about ten mapping the birth of a child, about thirty wedding and prenuptial customs, about twenty death customs and, finally, some thirty maps covering demonology and folk magic. This disproportion in the mapped realia between calendar and life cycle customs is likely to become more balanced with the publication of the second lexical volume, for which the material is collected according to the *Lexical questionnaire*.

A significant part of spiritual culture remains uncovered by either the Lexical or the Ethnolinguistic questionnaires (children’s games, animals, plants, traditional medicine, crafts), although it is the customs and beliefs from this area that are much less religion-related.

The ethnolinguistic volume also contains material that has remained unmapped because it is either insufficient for such a purpose or shows lexical distribution according to genetic groups of Balkan languages. The Atlas does take into account the balkanological principle to treat a phenomenon as a Balkanism when it is registered in at least two linguistically unrelated languages and, accordingly, the linguistically grouped division is not mapped, but another, no less known, division is mapped nonetheless, that into Christians (and mostly Orthodox) and Muslims (especially conspicuous in the “calendar” portion of maps; moreover, explicit Christian symbols were sought for, such as, for example, the unmapped “name for the Christmas bread with Christian symbolism”).

Interpretation of the maps is left to the users of the Atlas. In that, their firmest point of support is the fact that the material is collected at the same time and in the same way, although the question remains open as to whether the data recorded are always authentic or perhaps reconstructed from the participants’ memories. It is expected that the necessary broader context of the mapped realia will be provided by the monographs on the sites surveyed.

The interdisciplinary approach of the first volume enhances its usefulness, the range of potential users being quite wide: in addition to linguists of various specializations, the Atlas may be useful to folklorists, ethnographers and anthropologists. But, just like the following, grammatical, volume, it has a serious limitation: the use of Russian as a metalanguage considerably narrows the range of its potential users.

3 *Малый диалектологический атлас балканских языков*, ed. Andrei N. Sobolev. *Серия грамматическая с преимущественным вниманием к структуре балканославянских языков. Том I. Категории имени существительного* [Grammatical Series with Emphasis on Balkan Languages Structure. Vol. I. Noun Categories]. *Materialien zum Südosteuropasprachatlas*. Herausgegeben von Helmut Schaller und Andrej Sobolev, Band 3. München: Biblion Verlag, 2005. Pp. 277.

Volume I of the grammatical series (with 127 maps) is devoted to the grammatical categories in Balkan languages usually marked in nouns (gender, number, case, and (in)definiteness). A single Balkan language or dialect with a given category grammaticalized and marked in noun form (the classical case is inflexion often syncretically containing indicators of different categories) is enough. Such cases are considered prototypical, and it is they that serve to establish the core of the category content, and as *tertium comparationis* in cross-linguistic comparison of phenomena, i.e. in studying syntactically free means of expressing grammatical meanings of the categories. The categories studied in this volume may also be studied within the framework of sentence grammar, but data systematization according to the function of separate forms better suits the purposes of the Atlas.

Different levels of the grammatical structure of Balkan languages are presented: word formation and inflexion, morphosyntax, syntax, interaction of grammatical and lexical meanings. In line with the project's general goal, neither has this volume any pretensions to an exhaustive typological description of grammatical similarities and differences between Balkan languages. The maps are selected in such a way as to show areal patterns in the distribution of linguistic parallels. Some maps show phenomena that are not explicitly envisaged by the

questionnaire. It should be emphasized that the Atlas, as a final result, fully maintains the systemic totality of description and offers much broader information than that traditionally studied by Balkan linguistics, whereby this discipline is introduced onto a fresh research level principle in both quantitative and qualitative terms. Some common Balkan phenomena which show no dialectal differences are also mapped. Priority in mapping is given to areally relevant or new facts. The user will find the use made more difficult by tersely formulated commentaries and the examples that are not translated into Russian as a metalanguage. For lack of space, the examples are not placed in a broader context. Dialectal phenomena are not contrasted with literary language norm. The user is expected to have at least passive knowledge of Russian, but also of Balkan languages in their standard forms, as well as the basics of Balkan linguistics and some Balkan languages, dialects included.

The material published in this volume is quite autonomous in relation to the questionnaire designed some ten years ago and it reflects the team's improved view of issues addressed by Balkan linguistics, which may be seen also from the independent numbering of maps and their titles, while the left-hand pages show the number of the question from the questionnaire and its formulation.

4 M. Bara, T. Kahl, A. N. Sobolev, *Die südaromunische Mundart von Turia (Pindos), Syntax, Lexic, Ethnolinguistik, Texte*. Materialien zum Südosteuropasprachatlas. Herausgegeben von Helmut Schaller und Andrej Sobolev, Band IV. München: Biblion Verlag, 2005. Pp. 489 + CD.

Of the monographs devoted to individual survey points covered by the Atlas project, four have been published: *Bolgarskij širokolykskij govor* (2001), *Albanskij toskijskij govor sela Leshnja* (2002), *Albanskij gegskij govor sela Muhurr* (2003) and the co-authored monograph on the South-Aromanian speech from the village Turia or Krania in the Pindus, northern Greece (2005).

Field survey of the Aromanian village of Turia was carried out in September 2002 by an international team: Maria Bara, Thede Kahl and Andrei N. Sobolev. Pindic Aromanian speeches, which have not been monographically described so far, belong to the southern group of Aromanian. The speech shows a high degree of structural variation at all levels, so a single informant exhibits a large number of phonetic, morphological, syntactic and lexical variants. A powerful influence of Greek should be noted. The villagers' being fully bilingual, the survey was conducted both in Aromanian and in Modern Greek.

A particular transcription system, accepted in Romanian and Aromanian dialectology, is employed and supplemented with additional symbols: apostrophe marking stresses, colon to indicate lengths and exponentially incomplete sound realization, nonsyllabic *i* marked as *ĩ* (in Turia there is no phonological distinctions between the vocals *i* and *ă*, and unstressed *e* > *i*; *o* > *u*).

The only way to collect syntactic data within a short span of time is to have the informant translate the example from the questionnaire into the dialect. The pre-designed phrases illustrating the questions from the syntactic portion of the Atlas project were uttered to the inform-

ant in Greek, less frequently in Aromanian, and so the monograph shows the offered Greek patterns in parallel with the Aromanian equivalents received. As the offered grammatical structure exerts a powerful impact, the Aromanian syntactic examples are additionally compared with the material from longer texts. The syntactic questionnaire being for the most part designed on the basis of Balkan Slavic linguistic material, it contains many questions that are irrelevant to the grammatical structure of Aromanian because they fail to include specific grammatical categories (such as, for example, prepositional articles). This Slavic basis of the questionnaire is also responsible for omitting questions concerning a number of phenomena characteristic of the grammatical structure of Aromanian. Even so, the published material fully maintains the structure of the questionnaire employed in the already published monographs. The Turia material is included into the volume of the Atlas devoted to noun categories in the Balkan languages.

The second part of the monograph contains a lexicon according to the questionnaire designed for the Atlas: nature (geographical terms, meteorology), man (anatomical terms, human features, family and family etiquette, speech etiquette), man's work activities (cattle-breeding, poultry keeping, beekeeping, crops – corn, vegetable gardening – onion), and diet (foods, drinks, dairy products). The lexical material is presented in tables, a table containing all the questions from the Lexical questionnaire, even those to which there is no recorded answer.

The examples perfunctorily illustrate code switching mechanisms between Greek and Aromanian, but in accord-

ance with the concept of the Atlas, code switching is not marked (e.g. italic, or a different alphabet), nor are the examples translated into Russian, metalanguage of the monograph and of the Atlas as a whole. Ethnolinguistic material is presented in the form of thematic wholes following the sequence of the Ethnolinguistic questionnaire, but there are no data about nonexistent or unrecorded realia of the spiritual culture, which are plentiful. This, however, is unnecessary given that the Turia material is already included in the Ethnolinguistic volume of the Atlas. Ethnolinguistic entries have the form of brief ethnographic descriptions (in Russian) with key Aromanian terms in italic within the text or in parenthesis.

An appendix at the end of the study offers the dialectological transcripts of texts, with thematic subtitles but without marking survey questions. Ten excerpts from the texts are audibly available on the accompanying CD. The study includes a selection from the relevant bibliography.

The whole series of monographic volumes of the Atlas has received an en-

couraging response in the scholarly community world-wide and has already found application in contributions in the field of Balkan studies. Reviews of some volumes resulting from the Atlas project have been published in specialized periodicals such as *Zeitschrift für Balkanologie*, *Zeitschrift für Slawistik*, *Slavic and East European Journal*, *Acta universitatis Nicolai Copernici*, *Studia slavica*, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, *Lingua Posnaniensis*, *Balkanistica*, *Südosteuropa-Mitteilungen*, *Dialectologia et Geolinguistica*, *OLA: Materialy i issledovanija*, and in reference journals from the Balkans such as *Rodopi*, *B'lgarski ezik*, *Balkanica*, *Srpski jezik*, *Lingvističke aktuelnosti*, *Svet reči*.

The exact scholarly significance of the SDABL is quite difficult to appraise at this moment. Apart from its undoubtedly remarkable scholarly and technical achievement, the SDABL is an undertaking which has succeeded in bringing Balkan scholars together round a single topic and in linking them with Europe's eminent scholarly institutions.

DEVELOPMENT OF ETHNIC STRUCTURE IN THE BANAT 1890–1992
(POPULATION: HUNGARY/ROMANIA/YUGOSLAVIA). ED. BY THEDE KAHL AND PETER JORDAN. MAPS BY HORST FÖRSTER AND JOSEF WOLF. TEXT BY JOSEF WOLF. VIENNA: AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE OF EAST AND SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN STUDIES, 2004. ONE ACCOMPANYING TEXT AND 4 COLOURED MAPS 73 × 60 CM.

Reviewed by Annemarie Sorescu Marinković

The Atlas of Eastern and Southeastern Europe is a map series published periodically since 1989 which offers up-to-date information on topics of demographic and economic relevance in central, eastern and southeastern Europe and aims to provide researchers, specialists and the interested public with background information on current events and advances. *Development of Ethnic Structure in the Banat 1890–1992* is edited by the Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies

in Vienna within this series. It consists of four maps and an extensive accompanying text authored by the historian Josef Wolf (Institute of Danube-Swabian History and Regional Studies, Tübingen), which explains the settlement history and intercultural web of relationships characterizing this multiethnic region. The compiling of the present series of maps is the result of the regional research projects undertaken by the Institute of Danube-Swabian History and Regional Studies in