

**კვაზიერგატიული კონსტრუქციები
ქართული ენის დიალექტებში
QUASI-ERGATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS
IN DIALECTS OF
THE GEORGIAN LANGUAGE**

ციალა ბენდელიანი

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ABSTRACT

The article analyzes quasi-ergative constructions in the dialects of the Georgian language, considering both those within Georgia and those outside its borders. The analysis is based on published dialect materials as well as those obtained personally.

These constructions, spreading in the dialects of Eastern Georgia, were likely not originally typical for these dialects during their early periods; rather, they gradually spread from the western dialects. In this area, there are cases where the law of syntactic analogy is violated. This occurs when a transitive verb is not nearby in the construction with two predicates, and the subject of an intransitive verb is marked in the ergative case.

Analogues of the Megrelian construction “kochik doghuru” can be found in western dialects: the man died (მოკვდა კაცმა), he was in heaven / had eternal rest (ცხონდა), he grew old (დაბერდა). In this case, the semantics does not convey any movement. Nor is there apparent active semantics in this construction. Death, dying, or aging are not acts of volition; rather, the semantics of the verb expressing the subject is related to the movement of the soul or changes in the body. Verbs of this type can be labeled as spiritual-existential type verbs.

The paper discusses the linguistic situation in the South and South-West speech areas of Georgia, focusing on the presence of quasi-ergative and quasi-nominative constructions, as well as the polyfunctionality of the Ergative case marker (“-მან”), and the acquired functions of definiteness-indefiniteness based on the reinterpretation of the functions of ergative and nominative cases in the quasi-ergative construction in the speech of the Muhajirs.

The article discusses the stratified variability of the quasi-ergative construction, exploring how it fluctuates during migrations due to the blending of speech codes.

საკვანძო სიტყვები: ქართული/ქართველური დიალექტოლოგია, ქართული/ქართველური სინტაქსი, კვაზიერგატიული კონსტრუქციები.

Keywords: Georgian/Kartvelian dialectology, Georgian/Kartvelian syntax, quasi-ergative constructions.