

**ABOUT THE VERB AND NON-VERB VALUE OF THE
SECOND LIMB OF THE PHRASE MBAROVA SË FOLURI
(I AM FINISHED OF TALKING) AND U LODHA SË FOLURI
(I AM EXHAUSTED OF TALKING)
IN ALBANIAN LANGUAGE**

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Abstract

The affinity of Albanian Language for creating periphrastic (analytical) forms of verbs date from early on. Except the analytical forms of the past tense (kam punuar, kisha punuar, pata punuar-worked, have worked, had been working), of future tense (do të punoj-I will work) which are considered definitely as dating from the pre-written period of Albanian Language, it has also created some unmodified (non inflective) analytical forms, like the infinitive (me punu, për të punuar- work, to work), gerundive (duke punuar-working), negative (pa punuar - not working). These forms since Buzuku are demonstrated by a variety of meanings and grammatical functions. Albanian during its historical phase has also created some other non-inflective forms, most of which were not able to take on most of the grammatical meanings and functions of the verb, such are forms of me të ardhur, një të ardhur which are mainly used in the function of tense. But, Albanian during the historical period created also some semi-free compound words with objective rapport (mbarova së foluri - I am finished of talking) and with causative rapport (u lodha së foluri, plasa së qari - I got tired of talking, I got exhausted of crying) in which the categorial affiliation of the second element in various studies has been treated with questionable noun or verbal values. These values will be addressed within the content of this paper.

Keywords: The compound word/phrase with the objective rapport mbarova së foluri, the compound word/phrase with causative rapport u lodha së foluri, syntax noun rapports and features, syntax verb rapports, de-substantivise/ation, denominalised (denominalisation of nouns into verbs), verbing (become a verb).

Fundamental Problems

Compound words which will be examined appear with a few controversial issues. These compound words are built by two segments, of which the first part is a verb usually of the past tense and the second is a neutral noun participle in the singular indefinite ablative case. The second element, namely the neutral noun participle today is not used outside compound words of this type. Therefore, this element according to some scholars, since in this built-up has gained any verbal feature has been treated as an element with verbal values, indeed as a second hand infinitive. Such an opinion was expressed by M. A. Gabinski in the work “Voznikovenie infinitive kak vtoricny ballkanski jazykovej process”, in which he dedicated a whole chapter to this limb to prove its verbal value²⁰. Even F. Agalliu in the paper “*Sa rasa ka gjuha shqipe*” in SF 1980/3 p.162 (“How many cases does Albanian Language have”) has accepted the verbal value of this element (*së foluri*) but without expounding the arguments in favor of this view. The opinion that this element has taken verb features and has become de-substantivised is defended also by M. Çeliku²¹, who categorizes it as an ablative form of the gerund. The arguments of Gabinski to prove the verbal value and the denominalisation of this element within this type of compound words are: a) the use of this form in functions that in today’s Albanian are not expressed with the ablative without prepositions, like the object of function (*mbarova së foluri*-I am finished of talking) and the causal one (*u lodha së foluri* - I got tired of talking); b) the inability to use this form in the definite form, in plural, to become substituted with the feminine form of this noun, as well as the inability of replacing this form with a verbal noun suffix (noun of action); c) loss of ability of this form to be determined by an adjective or noun into gender, ie. the loss of ability of the nominal links. Besides these, several other arguments are submitted on the grounds of which the element *së foluri* of this phrase has become verbalized, thus has obtained these verb features: a) can be formed

²⁰ Shaban Demiraj: “Gramatika historike e gjuhës shqipe” (“Historical Grammar of the Albanian Language”), Prishtinë, 1988, p.996.

²¹ Mehmet Çeliku: “Format e pashtjelluara të foljes në gjuhën e sotme shqipe” (“Unmodified forms of the verb in today’s Albanian Language”), Tiranë, 2000, p. 133.

from any verb; b) the preceding article *së* differentiates it from the noun participle in the ablative case which today appears with the article *të* (*të folurit* - the spoken), c) it can be used with the pronoun particle *u* of the passive conjugation and d) the form *së pasuri qenë* - *by having been* can be created to express the past tense, if required, as well as foresees the opportunity that this form has a prospect of further development in Albanian.

All these arguments according to Shaban Demiraj²², were not sufficient that the form in examination becomes verbalized (becomes a verb) and denominalises (de-substantivise). According to Demiraj, from all these arguments, only the one by which the form *së bëri-having done* can obtain a direct object and very rarely an indirect one, and can be determined by various complements (although noun participles have this feature also), appear as a syntactic feature characteristic for the verb, but not so for the infinitival value as Gabinski treats it. Gabinski's other arguments prove the archaic character of compound words in examination but not the value of the verb. By examining the theoretical side of the construction/composition of these phrases, Shaban Demiraj²³ comes to the right conclusions that we are not dealing with de-substantivising and verbing this form. The theoretical side of these compound words shows that the component element of these forms subjugate to some restrictions as by lexical character as well as by grammatical character. The second element can express object relations (*mbarova së foluri* - I am finished of talking) or causal (*u lodha së foluri*-I am tired of speaking). In both cases the second limb plays the primary role in the general comprehension of these compound words, whereas the first limb serves as an aspectual verb. It has to be emphasized that the preceding article *së* of the second element is not used with neutral noun participles anymore outside of these compound words. This element can only be used in the ablative form of the indefinite singular with the case ending *-i*, which is characteristic for nouns. But, this element being a verbal noun preserves the meaning of the initial verb and for this reason can also be supplemented with an object, an occurrence that occurs rarely and only in the language of some writers, commonly according to practical research it is found

²² Shaban Demiraj: "Gramatika historike e gjuhës shqipe" ("Historical Grammar of the Albanian Language"), Prishtinë, 1988, p. 999.

²³ Shaban Demiraj: "Rreth disa problemeve të paskajores në gjuhën shqipe", SF, 1969/1, p. 111.

in Jakov Xoxa's writing, for example...*s`kishte pushuar së rëni* dhomës kënd më kënd_ - Eng: *...he didn't stop by pacing the room corner to corner.* (Lumi i vdekur - The Dead River III, p. 136) ...kur *mbaroi* Ndoni *së rrëfyeri* ato që ngjanë me rosat në grurë,...*Leksi zuri kokën me duar* - Eng: *...when Ndoni ended (of) telling that which happened with the ducks in the wheatfield...Leksi held his head with his hands* (part II,p.94). We come across this type of compound words in other writers as well but with a lesser distribution. Gjithë atë ditë njerëzit nuk *pushuan së mbledhuri* gjithfarë materialesh. Eng: *All that day people did not stop from collecting various materials.* (Shefqet Musaraj, Para agimit-Before Dawn, II, p. 515) Thus, as we can see both parts of the compound words where the type *së bëri* is used, are comprehensively as well as grammatically closely linked with one another by forming a single predicative unit. Therefore it is concluded that in these semi free compound words both parts will be subjected to some limitations with a lexical and grammatical character. The limitations with a grammatical character mainly deal with the limb, which in the phrases with an object relation is a terminative verb like *mbaroi, pushoi* - *finished, stopped-ended* and others of this type, whereas in phrases with causal rapport, the first limb is a verb which signifies *të lodhur, të mekur, të plasur, të këputur* Eng: *tired, faint, bursting (neg: of anger, sadness etc), being exhausted* (the last three in a hyperbolic meaning) all belonging to the past tense. In both of the phrases, as can be seen, the second part plays the main role which is subjected to some limitations with a grammatical character, by being used only in the ablative case of the indefinite in singular, with the relictual article *së*, without preposition, as well as losing the syntax connection for the noun because it can not be preceded or followed by a determinant. These compound words have been used with the same restrictions in the Albanian of the older authors of the west (Buzuku, Bogdani, Budi) as well as in the Albanian Language of today. 4 Shaban Demiraj: "Rreth disa problemeve të paskajores në gjuhen shqipe", ('Around some of the problems of the infinitive in the Albanian Language') SF, 1969/1, pg. 111. For example. E ata *tue mos pushuom së pyetuni*,aj u ndreq...Eng: *And them not stopping of questioning, he straightened himself...* (Buzuku, p. 167). Shërbëtoret *e lanë së rrafuni* e prej shtyllet e xgidhnë...Eng: *The servants stopped from beating him and from the pillar unbound him...* (Bogdani, Çeta e

profetëve- Band of Prophets II, p. 111). The form *së foluri* used in these phrases, despite some verbal features that were mentioned can not be argued as a de-substantivised element and verbalized (become a verb) precisely of the inability to be substituted with a feminine noun or prefix verbal nouns of action. That which makes the verbal value of the element *së foluri* the more non-feasible is its inability to take a direct or indirect object expressed with the deaccented personal pronoun forms, which is a characteristic feature for the infinitive, as well as the inability of the use of this form with the opposing active-passive which also is a feature of the unmodified verbal-derivational forms. The form *së foluri* very rarely encounters with a similar value to that of the gerund, for eg *po gjithë jetën e tij prej burri e kish quar së menduari botën, së vrari e së preri së djeguri e së rrahuri...* Eng: But all his life as a man he passed by thinking (about) the world, by killing and slaughtering by burning and beating (Dh. Shuteriqi, Çlirimtarët - Liberators II, p. 344). But this use remains rare and has no potential to develop further because in the construction of this type the gerund is more naturally used and in today's Albanian such a construction is very rare.

Conclusion

By everything as noted above based on the arguments raised by various scholars, especially those of Prof Sh. Demiraj, we can conclude that the second limb of the compound words that were addressed in this paper did not take verbal syntax values and the noun did not become de-substantivised in the context of these compound words. These compound words are used rarely in the spoken and written Albanian Language, but always with limited object reports, for eg *mbarova së foluri* and with causal reports *u lodha së foluri*.

References

1. Mehmet Çeliku: “*Format e pashtjelluara të foljes në gjuhën e sotme shqipe*” (“Unmodified forms of the verb in today’s Albanian Language”), Tiranë, 2000.
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3. Shaban Demiraj: “*Rreth disa problemeve të paskajores në gjuhën shqipe*”, SF, 1969/1, Tiranë, 1969.