Lexical and Grammatical Changes of the Words Created by Ismail Kadare



Linguistics

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Abstract

In this paper is given a clear picture of the new words that Kadare creates. It is almost impossible to include all new words that he creates, because they are many, but we will explain the way how he creates them, where does he receive parts to form the words, as well as which prefixes and suffixes he uses mostly. Also in this paper are presented the types of words that he creates and lexico-grammatical changes that occur during the creation of a new word. All these are presented with examples taken from his works

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During the last century the science of linguistics and in particular Albanian language have undergone various valuable developments, although there is plenty of room for research in this field.

Morphology is a subbranch of linguistics and a branch of grammar which deals with wordformation and the various modifications of words. In particular this research aims to study the formation of new words, the way they are formed and their meaning, in particular analysing the new words formed by Ismail Kadare.

The newly created words by Kadare have not been studied so far. The most known scholar Tefik Caushi, who has studied Kadare's works, has managed to write a dictionary of new words, that Kadare had introduced into his works, without explaining their meaning, whereas Natasha Sotiti has written a dictionary of typical Kadarean words. However there is no study on the wordformation of those new words.

Below, we treat in short the way these Kadarean words are formed, elements and means of formation of these words. We have based this study on Jani Thomai's studies, that is on his book 'Lexicology of the Albanian language', which deals with wordformation in the Albanian language.

A newly created word gets a new meaning different from its root. The meaning of the root of the newly created word is the stem, semantic root, which denotes the meaning of the word being formed, similar to the meaning of another word, which derives from the same base word. But, during the wordformation process the semantic movements have their own physionomy because various dimensions (variables) are involved then. They have their own specific functions

which have an impact on the semantics of the newly created word and another lexical category is created as well.

Below samples of means that Kadare uses during the formation of new words are shown:

- a) Wordformation theme (the root), which in itself contains the meaning of the new word or its main constituent. The essence of its meaning or of its main constituents is retained and is part of the meaning of the newly created word, for example: the word ''flijimtar'' has its root ''flijim'', whereas Kadare has created a new word by adding the suffix –tar. The meaning of this word is determined by the root, for example, the meaning of the word flijimtar is determined by the root flijim (sacrifice) and its new meaning is immolator. We can see that one part of the meaning is determined by the root, although the wordformation lexeme, that is the suffix in this case, takes the other part of the meaning. And, in this case it means a person who did the action that is contained in the root.
- b) The means of the wordformation, that is the suffixes cause significant modifications to the semantic root (the meaning of the root of the newly created word). The suffix causes semantic modifications, modifications of the lexical-grammatical categories (part of speech), to the superficial elements etc. For istance, the word zbulesë derives from the verb zbuloj+ the suffix esë. The newly created word is a noun that means: something new, something unknown before, which is being discovered through research.
- c) The lexical-grammatical category which has the value of a format (suffix) because it is sufficient in the process of forming a new lexical unit, which carries a new meaning and lexical grammatical features for example, from the word varrim- funeral, burying of a dead man, the word varrim-tar is created. It means a person who takes part in a funeral; a person who buries a dead man, etc.

All these variables take part in the formation of new words, therefore in the new meanings as well, however the weight that these variables have in the process of wordformation and the newly created forms are not the same; the root of the word that is used in forming new words carries the bigger weight in the newly formed word, the suffix makes various modifications, the lexical grammatical category brings more modifications in the meaning. The meaning of the newly formed word is a result of an interaction of these variables (Thomai, p. 120).

After joining the wordformation elements the new word derives and takes the new meaning, however many modifications happen in its formation and its meaning, which in continuation will be explained.

a) The specific lexical meaning changes, otherwise there would not be any newly formed word, for instance from the word arbër,-i (the name of the Albanians in the medieval),the word

(verb) arbëroj is formed (speak about the major concerns of Arberia). Kuvendonin, or more exactly arbërorin, as some people were saying sometimes pensively and sometimes in fervor, V.1. The modification of the lexical meaning is the most important movement during wordformation process, which in fact is the aim of the wordformation process.

- b) Lexial-grammatical meaning may change; for example from the noun humnerë (a deep craggy hole, abyss, on the edge of the abyss), Kadare has formed the verb humneroj (throw in abyss; wipe out from the earth\s surface. 'E kanë goditur dhe e kanë humneruar në ndonjë skaj të qiellit'.(They have knocked him down and they have thrown him in a remote abbys). Reference: Stinë e mërzitshme në Olimp (A Sad Season in Olympus) nga Kadare.
- c) A semantic element may undergo changes, emotional or stylish feature (character) ,etc. These movements are usually carried out by suffixes as well; for example from the noun bythë the word bythec-i is formed (incapable, incompetent person, a person without any previos knowledge: E din si e kanë qejf Xhelon, sidomos ca bythecë të rinj. /Spiritus/. Homosexual.), the noun byths-i (homosexual, hard-hearted, asshole!/ Kështjella (Fortress) /; then the adjective bythëbutë (A lazy person, an idler; a person who is not used to work Sheh ç,na bëjnëkëta horr e bythëbutë?/ (Do you see what these roughs and idlers do to us? and Tri këngë (Three songs)/; the adjective bythëpambuk (a person who has grown up in wealthiness and is not used to face challenges in life; e person who avoids hard work. Ai thoshte pak a shumë se ata mikroborgjezë bythëpambuksa ishin tmerruar nga lufta e klasave. (He was more or less saying that micro bourgeois people were terrified by the war between classes. / Jeta e Lulit/ Luli's life..
- d) Specific elements of the content may undergo changes, for instance, in the process of wordformation a new value derives from the category: for example: ëndërr (dream) plus the suffix –tar makes the word ëndërrtar (dreamer). The word ëndërrtar (dreamer) denotes a person who dreams, so the noun ëndërr (dream) denotes the person. However, besides this, it contains the meaning of the action që sheh (who dreams). Therefore, it contains an element of the action which is a feature of the verb. This kind of modification is done by the suffix -tar.

Based on the above mentioned ways of modifications the new words created by Kadare can be devided into: derivatives, free morpheme compounds and bound morpheme compounds.

New words can also be formed by adding a suffix to the 'front words (base words)' or by lexical-grammatical inflections. For example: grykajë derives from the word grykë and the suffix –ajë, which is frequently used by Kadare to form new words, like mullarthi/ mullar + -th/, etc.Words that are formed by adding suffixes fall into the category of derivatives, like fitimshëm-/ the noun fitim+ the suffix –shëm/, thashethemnajë / the noun thashethem(e)+ suffix najë/,vagëllimthi-/the abstract noun vagëllim + the suffix-thi, etc.

However, derivatives can also be some words that do not change the form by suffixation, but through lexical-gramatical inflections, for example: the adjective fytyrëqelqët (glassy face) can be very easily converted into a noun by dropping the last two letters 'ët'and adding the suffix 'i', in which case the word fytyrëqelq-i is formed and the meaning of this word is a person whose face is polished (slippery) like glass. As regards the derivatives Kadare has formed a lot of them.

We have to stress that suffixation is more common that prefixation. Prefixes that we come accross in Kadare's words are: ç-, zh-,sh-, bashkë-, kundër-, para-, pas-, tej-, mbi-, nën-, ndër-, për-, stër-, pa-, mos-, jo-. The most common suffixes in Kadare's words are as follows: -je, -esë, -imë, -im,-i, -(ë)ri, -(ë)si, -(ë)s, eshë, -ues, -ar, -tar, -or,-ore, -tor, -an, -ak, -acak, or,-ore, -tor, -tore, -të, -an, -anë, -najë, -ajë, -th-, -z(ë), -ak, -isht.

Free morpheme compounds are the category of words that Kadare feels more comfortable using and therefore has formed plenty of them. Free morpheme compounds are formed by one or more roots (themes) for example. kryeëndër / derives from two meaningful roots, krye+and ëndërr/, then popullngrënës-/. In the previous case, the words consisted of two meaningful roots popull and ngrënës, however in this case there is one noun and one adjective, popull (noun) and ngrënës(adjective), whereas in the first case there were two meaningful nouns. Furthermore, the word hijendritshëm(i) /is an adjective which derives from the noun hije and the adjective ndritshëm; then the word bisedëvrarës/ derives from the noun bisedë and the adjective vrasës/,etc. Whereas there is another category of compound words in Albanian which are called bound morpheme compounds (fjalët e përngjitura) - compound words derive from two or more words which, when they get linked, form a new word with a specific meaning different from the meaning of its constituents, such as thashetheme (thash-e-them – two verbs (I said, I say) and a linking word – e (and)), mëdyshaset, asditasnatë, pikllimtare, asjetasvdekje, etc.

Compositions formed by Kadare are divided into:

- a) Free morpheme compositions (përcaktore) that consist of two members which determine one another or in some cases the first word determines the second one, such as.: baltëhedhës, bejtethurës, diellkanosje etc.
- b) Free morpheme compositions (këpujore) that consist of two equivalent conjoint words: such as: hyjanjeri, hoxhaprift etc. There are not many such words in either the Albanian language or in the newly formed words by Kadare.

Studying the words based on their formation is very important in understanding the structure of the words, their forms as well as the content, from their semantic point of view and for grouping words into paradigms according to categorial meaning.

The Albanian language uses suffixes and articles as a means to form new words (Thomai, page 146). Kadare has used both of these two means in forming new words as well as for reviving old words, for example the word djerrinë is an old Albanian word, which derives from the word djerr, a regional geg dialect word, with the suffix –inë. The writer revives this word so it can be introduced again into the Albanian dictionary, but now its meaning has positive effects such as the adjective fajshëm (i), a word which is frequently used in the geg dialect, now treated by the structure of the standard language. The suffixes can be linked with the root directly or indirectly through an intermediate root. The suffix has a direct connection with the theme (root) when the root itself is used as a producer of themes (roots) for example qelqnajë- with qelq (the root) which is directly connected to the suffix –najë. Kadare forms words that are not directly connected to the root, for example the adjective mbijetshëm (i). The wordformation prefix – mbi does not get connected directly to the name jetë, but to the word jetshëm (i), mbi + jetshëm (i).

Kadare's newly created words belong to three categories of words: words with suffixes, free morphemes compounds (fjalë të përbëra) and bound morpheme compounds (fjalë të përngjitura). However, there are more words in the category of words with suffixes although there is a considerable number of words with prefixes too. Secondly, there are the free morpheme compounds, whereas the bound morpheme compounds hold the third place in usage.

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