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About some Aromanian-Albanian parallelisms in nominal and verbal system
(Areal Linguistic approach)

According to Weigand's (1891) and Capidan's (1932) basic classification, the Aromanian dialects are divided into these subgroups: the North, which includes the Grammos and other Albanian groups, the South group – comprising the Pindus group which includes the dialect of the Olympus Aromanians, and the distinctive Farsherot Aromanians dialect. However, today we cannot distinguish Aromanian dialects strictly on the basis of their geographical location but we should also take into consideration their family groups. The migrations of the Aromanians throughout the Balkan started at the second half of the XVIII century and continued until the first half of the XX century. In this period in the places that were inhabited by the Aromanians more layers and different family groups have appeared.

Farsherots represent a separate group of Aromanians that were mostly shepherds.

Their historical provenience is the area around the town of Frasheri in central Albania. It is believed that their actual origins are from mountainous region of Pindus (Capidan 1932). Towards the middle of the XIX century, a large group of Aromanians Farsherots settled in the Ohrid-Struga region. They settled in the villages of the Upper and Lower Belitsa, and a certain number settled also in the villages of Vevchani, Vishni, Podgorci and Labunishta. A large group of the Farsherots is still living in Albania and parts of Greece. When speaking about the Aromanian Ohrid dialect, we shall be mostly concentrated on the dialect of the Aromanian - Farsherot because of the fact that they are represented in a large number in the Ohrid-Struga region, and because their dialect contains several Balkan linguistic features not found in any other Aromanian dialects.

Some Albanian language features have been soundly incorporated into Farsherot language system. Because of their specifically conservative way of living, they managed to keep those language features that make this dialect different from other Aromanian dialects. In that respect their dialect shows certain Albanian properties. Some of these characteristics were later activated in an innovative processes resulting with approximation of the Farsherot dialect to the Macedonian dialect of the region. The same is true with the admirative mood that prof. V. Friedman has discovered in the Farsherot dialect during our common field research in 1992 (see Friedman: 1996, 1998).

Aromanian Farsherots came to the Ohrid-Struga region in Macedonia before some 150 years from the region of Muzekia in Albania. That is why their dialect shows certain Albanian properties (in the verbal system mainly).

The two cases of mutual interference (or Albanian influence) will be explained: simplification of the definite article form and admirative mood.

As a result of the interference, another feature of this dialect also became apparent - the simplification of its nominal inflectional system.

Here are some examples of the simplification of the definite article form:

1. The developments in the nominal system of the Farsheroti dialect show some Albanian influence. The main parallelism in the Farsheroti nominal system is the simplification of the definite article form: (see <Table 1)

Other Aromanian dialects have the desinence (definite article) **-lu** after nouns with endings **-C^u** , **-V_u** , **-CV** ;

But only Farsheroti Aromanian has the desinence **-u** after nouns with endings **-C^u** , **-CC_u** , **-Că** , **-V_u** , **-C^uV** ;

other Aromanian dialects		Farsheroti Aromanian dialect	
<u>non def.</u>	<u>definite</u>	<u>non def.</u>	<u>definite</u>
p'reftu	p'reft <u>lu</u>	p'reft	p'reftu
pom ^u	pom <u>lu</u>	pom	pomu
băr'bat ^u	băr'bat <u>lu</u>	băr'bat	băr'batu
pă'rumbu	pă'rumb <u>lu</u>	pă'rumb	pă'rumbu
'žungu	'žung <u>lu</u>	'žung	'žungu
kăsă'bă	kăsă'bă <u>lu</u>	kăsă'bă	kăsă'bău

Those examples relate to Albanian masculine nouns with endings in **-k** , **-g** , **-h** , and stressed syllable:

<u>Albanian:</u>	<u>Farsheroti Aromanian:</u>
masculine	
mik - miku	pork - porku
shok - shoku	korb - korbu
zog - zogu	puł - pu <u>lu</u>
krah - krahu	an - anu
bari - bariu	anži - anži <u>u</u>
njeri - njeriu	băfčă - băfčă <u>u</u>
ka - kau	bo <u>u</u> - bou

In the case of feminine nouns we can speak about similarities not only between Farsheroti Aromanian and Albanian, but also between Aromanian and Albanian in general. It concerns the opposition definiteness-nondefiniteness of the feminine nouns with endings in **-ă** in Aromanian, and **-ë** in Albanian: (T2)

<u>Albanian:</u>	<u>Farsheroti Aromanian:</u>
feminine	
vajzë - vajza	< девојка > fetă - feta
nënë - nëna	< мајка > dadă - dada
derë - dera	< врата > portă - porta

orë - ora	< саат, час >	oră - ora
dorë - dora	< рака >	măną - măna
frikë - frika	< страв >	frikă - frika

This doesn't mean that phonetic similarities represent direct interference between two languages, but in global frames we can see one tendency of simplification of the opposition definiteness-nondefiniteness in Farsheroti Aromanian, which shows some similarities with Albanian.

2.

Farsheroti dialect shows also certain differences from other Aromanian dialects in the expression of the so called admirative mood. This is one of the most interesting phenomenon in a verbal system and is uncommon for other Aromanian dialects and known to the Meglenoromanian only (but with different realization) .

This type of the admirative mood in the Farsheroti dialect was firstly discovered by prof. V. Friedman during our common field research in 1992 in Ohrid area (see Friedman: 1996, 1998).

The Farsheroti Aromanian (Ohrid) dialect partially took the forms for the admirative from Albanian (where there exists an entire system of admirative) and it adapted it to its own linguistic system. Such forms appear neither in the other Aromanian dialects, nor in Romanian. In the Farsheroti Aromanian dialect the admirative is formed by adding the particle "ka" to the participle of the main verb. "Ka" in reality represents the form of the third person present tense of the Albanian auxiliary verb "kam". This particle is fossilized in Aromanian and is not inflected according to person and number. The admirative constructions in the Aromanian Ohrid dialect appear in the present tense and in the compound past tenses.

T3

For example:

arom. Tini '**fuska** a'vut om!?

alb. Ti **genke** njeri i pasur!? (Ти си бил богат човек!?)

arom. Tini **a'vuska** 'mari 'kasă!?

alb. Ti **paske** shtepi të madhë!? (Ти си имал голема куќа!?)

Абе, тој ја имал вратено колата!?

Abe, năş o a'vuska tu'rată 'k'eră!?

Абе, Виктор бил вратен од Америка!?

Abe, Viktor 'fuska tu'rat di Amerikă!?

Also, the compound past tenses have some similarities not shown in other Aromanian dialects. So is the case with the perfective forms of "habere" + participium.

Macedonian	Aromanian	Albanian
имат работено	ari lukrată	ka punuar
имаше работено	ave lukrată	kish punuar
*имаше сработено	avu lukrată	pat punuar

Farsheroti Aromanian again has borrowed this model of pluperfect (the aorist of the auxiliary verb am + participle) from Albanian. Namely, I mean here the Albanian aorist pluperfect of the type "pat punuar". Such a type of the pluperfect (the aorist of the auxiliary verb imam + participle) does not exist in the other Aromanian dialects, nor in Romanian.

For example:

Năs a'vu pur'tatǎ 'lemi di 'munti.

Тој имал носено дрва од планина.

A'vem av'zǎtǎ ka Goga a'vu 'nesǎ la bǎ'serkǎ.

Имав слушнато дека Гога имал ојдено во црква.

Aromanian Compound Pasts & Admiratives Compared with Albanian:

Compound Pasts		Admiratives	
Aromanian	Albanian	Aromanian	Albanian
↓	↓	↓	↓
		lukracka	punuaka
ari lukratǎ	ka punuar	avuska lukratǎ	paska punuar
ave lukratǎ	kish punuar	---	paskësh punuar
avu lukratǎ	pat punuar	---	---
*ari avut lukratǎ	ka pasë punuar	*ari avuska lukratǎ	paska pasë punuar
*ave avut lukratǎ	kish pasë punuar	*ave avuska lukratǎ	paskësh pasë punuar
*avu avut lukratǎ	pat pasë punuar	---	---

From all this, it follows that with the compound past tenses there was a tendency to arrive at some common system, using their own and adopting foreign means, as was the case with Aromanian borrowing Albanian forms and models.

The Farsheroti Aromanian (Ohrid) dialect directly took the Albanian forms for the admirative and the models for the aorist pluperfect and used them in order to approximate the Macedonian system. Thus, now we have one Aromanian-Albanian-(Macedonian) system where the compound past tenses may be said to be almost identical.

This shows that at a dialect level, the processes of interlingual interference are still active in some regions of the Balkan peninsula.

In this context we can say that in such Balkan microsystems there are tendencies which aims to enable easier communication between speakers of different microsystems (and the whole language systems) on the Balkan area.

And this tendency towards easier communication is the essence of the Balkan Sprachbund.