

REVIEW

of dissertation thesis for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"

Author of the dissertation: Aliza Taysir Khalil-Konstantinova, full-time doctoral student in the Department of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. L. Andreychin" at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in the professional field of *Philology*, code 2.1, scientific specialty *Bulgarian language*.

Topic of the dissertation: Folk models for naming traditional types of alcoholic beverages in Bulgarian dialects.

Reviewer: Slavka Keremidchieva, Prof. Dr. in the Department of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography at the Institute of Bulgarian Language "Prof. L. Andreychin" at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Aliza Halil-Konstantinova was born on April 8, 1991. In 2015, she graduated from SWU "Neofit Rilski" with a degree in *Balkan Studies* and *Pedagogical Module for Teacher Competence*. Since then she has been a teacher at 45th 'Konstantin Velichkov' Primary School in Sofia. She is fluent in English, Greek and Serbian. Her student internship in 2013-2014 in the Department of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography at the Institute of Bulgarian Language at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences aroused her interest in dialects and two years later (October 1, 2016) she was enrolled as a full-time doctoral student in the Department with dissertation topic "Folk models for naming traditional types of alcoholic beverages in Bulgarian dialects". Her research advisor is Prof. Dr. Ana Kocheva.

A. Khalil-Konstantinova has successfully met all requirements to defend her thesis according to the requirements of the Central Office of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the Law for development of academic staff in R Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions in the Institute of Bulgarian Language, and Annex A to these Regulations. She was dismissed with the right of defense on 30 September 2019, and on November 11, 2021, after a successful internal

departmental discussion, she was scheduled for public defense. According to the attached Information for the fulfillment of the national minimum requirements for the scientific and educational degree "Doctor", the doctoral student has 100 points in the different groups of indicators.

A. Khalil-Konstantinova has presented to our attention and evaluation her completed work "Folk models for naming traditional types of alcoholic beverages in Bulgarian dialects", which is characterized by harmonious composition, logical sequence of the structure and convincing argumentation of the stated theses and intentions. I would specifically like to point out the lapidary style of the author, which contributes to the clear and concise presentation - a sign of conscientious attitude to scientific work.

The content of the study is presented in seven chapters, Introduction, Conclusion and Appendix with dialect texts. The accurately written Index of dialect terms on the topic is very useful. The structure and content of the work follow the logic of the chosen topic, the stated main goals and objectives, the applied scientific methods and approaches. The corpus of dialect material has been excerpted from published and archival sources, as well as personally collected in recent times in field research and it is the solid foundation on which A. Khalil-Konstantinova builds her thesis.

The choice of topic is not only attractive, but also especially socially relevant, as the doctoral student deliberately notes, given the efforts of Bulgarian producers of traditional beverages - wine and brandy - to protect them in the registers of the European Union. I would like to mention the fact that at the end of 2019, Yambol grape brandy labeled "Yambol grape brandy" or "Grape brandy from Yambol" became a product with a protected geographical indication, after the European Commission approved its entry in the official Eambrosia spirits register.

Continuing the traditions of the Department of Bulgarian Dialectology and Linguistic Geography, the study incorporates material from the entire Bulgarian language area. In addition, for the first time in a study of this nature, linguistic facts are collected and analyzed not only from territorial but also from social dialects, which allows the topic to be considered comprehensively from different perspectives, and this determines its importance. The author has successfully managed to organize, systematize and analyze the dialect material which she personally collected and extracted from various sources.

A. Khalil-Konstantinova demonstrates very good bibliographic information, which is a mandatory requirement for a doctoral student. More important in this case, however, is the fact that according to the author's concept, attention is focused not so much on the history and distribution of wines and brandies in our lands - an issue to which, as she notes, a number of studies have been devoted, but rather to their names and symbolic meanings as a reflection of mental patterns. In other words, the different names of traditional alcoholic beverages are interpreted from a linguistic and ethno-linguistic point of view. The aim is to highlight and analyze the way in which people organize according to their cognitive ideas the most important for them alcoholic drinks.

One of the main chapters of the paper, "Nomination characteristics of alcoholic beverages (brandies and wines) in different types of Bulgarian dialects (in terms of modeling)", illustrates well the author's idea and intentions to work at the model level. The chosen methods and approaches of research of this type of terminological vocabulary are determined by the complexity of the topic: in the synchronous-diachronic approach in the description the systematic method is applied in combination with the method of component analysis. The doctoral student strives to apply them consistently in order to fulfill the goals and objectives of the study, stating that she follows mainly two approaches - onomasiological and semasiological.

Through the onomasiological analysis the author has tried to reveal the motivational element underlying the naming in the individual nominations, closely quoting the etymologies from the Bulgarian Etymological Dictionary and therefore in all cases her reasoning and conclusions are correct. Such an important conclusion is, for example, that the names of brandy are predominantly domestic in comparison with the nomination system of wine names, where foreign language elements are numerous.

The doctoral student demonstrates very good knowledge and mastery of terminology, consistently explaining the content of all terms she uses. The different nomination structure of the drinks is clearly and almost flawlessly revealed, first in the territorial and then in the social speeches.

The word-formation processes in the creation of this type of terminological lexis are systematically presented, always indicating the overflow that is observed in the individual word-formation categories, and the author has skillfully managed to avoid the usually inevitable repetition of the material. It is recommended that

some of the nominative features in the titles be explained more specifically, for example 'misilets' 'triple sweet wine' (perhaps more accurately 'triple sweetened wine'). In the etymological characteristics of the names of traditional drinks, the conclusion that the names of Proto-Slavic origin (and not of Slavic, as written) only in the Bulgarian language have evolved into types of brandy, needs to be clarified because it is not very clear on the basis of what comparative material this conclusion is made, as a Bulgarian lexeme is compared with the corresponding Proto-Slavic root, from which other words in the Slavic languages are formed.

It is a good idea to cite sources from older periods in the Bulgarian language, in which the names wine and brandy are registered. The brief comments accompanying the samples mention the curious fact that the rare registrations of the name rakia are almost always accompanied by the name wine - *both wine and brandy, no wine, no brandy*.

This study would benefit from an additional chapter with the analysis of various derivative formations, which are based on the names of the considered alcoholic beverages, registered in different dictionaries of the Bulgarian language.

An essential and skillfully developed part of the work is its last chapter - "Ethnolinguistic characteristics of the names of wine and brandy (in terms of their symbolic meanings)", where the broad semantic fields of symbolic meanings of these alcoholic beverages are interpreted from different perspectives. Interesting conclusions concerning the ethno-psychological characteristics of the Bulgarian people according to their positive or negative attitude to alcohol are substantiated with linguistic data. The material is rich and diverse, characterized by expressiveness (phraseological combinations, proverbs and sayings, etc.), illustrating the negative attitude of the Bulgarian people to alcohol abuse. A gratifying fact that was absent from previous editions of the work is the alphabetical organization of the rich material, which not only facilitates the reader, but also allows to avoid repetition.

The presented dissertation work of A. Khalil-Konstantinova is a serious and fruitful development, which, I have no doubt, will be successfully defended. The conclusions are substantiated; the scientific contributions are indisputable and characterize it as a serious scientific work of a young scientist. It is original and valuable and there are no cases of plagiarism. My overall assessment of the dissertation is positive.

A. Khalil-Konstantinova also presents the research work required for a dissertation, which is distinguished not only by the required volume, but also by very good quality. She is a participant in two externally funded research projects; under the guidance of her research advisor she studied and collected for them, as well as for the needs of her dissertation, field dialect material in four expeditions, which is an essential prerequisite for a dialectologist. In parallel with her work, she participated in a scientific forum and presented three publications on the topic of her dissertation in prestigious scientific journals, two of which are indexed and referenced in the Web of Science.

The structure and content of the abstract meet the requirements and it sufficiently presents the goals, objectives, selected scientific approaches and methods, the empirical basis of the study, the conclusions and contributions of the dissertation.

Given the merits and contribution of the dissertation submitted for review, as well as the overall serious and sufficient research and academic work of doctoral student Aliza Khalil-Konstantinova, I propose to the honorable jury that she be awarded the scientific and educational degree "Doctor".

31.01.2022
Sofia

Reviewer:
(Prof. Dr. Sl. Keremidchieva)