

SHORT REVIEW

in relation to acquisition of PhD educational and scientific degree
by DSc. Mariana Tsibranska-Kostova, Professor at the Department of History of
Bulgarian Language at the Institute for Bulgarian language „Prof. L. Andreychin“ – Bulgarian
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PhD topic: *Popular models for naming traditional types of alcoholic beverages in
Bulgarian dialects*

Aliza Taysir Khalil-Konstantinova holds a Master's degree from the Southwestern University "Neofit Rilski" in Balkan Studies, with an excellent level of proficiency in Modern Greek and Serbian. She specialized in the Department of dialectology and linguistic geography at the Institute of Bulgarian language as a student. This is the start of the colleague as a full-time doctoral student of the same section in the period 2016-2019 under the guidance of Prof. Ana Kocheva-Lefedzhieva. The current teacher of Bulgarian language and literature Aliza Khalil-Konstantinova presents her dissertation titled *Popular models for naming traditional types of alcoholic beverages in Bulgarian dialects*. She has made 3 publications (1 indexed in Scopus; 1 – in ERIH +) in relation with the dissertation topic, based on which she meets the national minimum requirements for doctoral defense. The author supplies as well a 27 pages abstract, written according to the established standards, and reflecting adequately the content of the dissertation. All requirements of ZRASRB have been followed in the current procedure. This allows me to pass to the assessment of the qualities and the contributions of the dissertation.

The presented work (134 pages) consists of an introduction, seven chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and appendices with typed dialect texts and an index. The author has collected, systematized, and analyzed lexemes for the alcohol beverages *wine* and *brandy*, subjecting them to two types of analysis: strictly linguistic – lexical with two subsections, word formation and semantics, and linguocultural. She applies the onomasiologic and the semasiologic criteria to the studied nominative phenomena. She put the term *model* in the base of her theoretical argumentation, and considers it a sum of all naming processes in the formation of popular names for the two main alcoholic beverages wine and brandy. It should be immediately said that Aliza Khalil took in consideration all recommendations expressed during her approbation, and has made positive changes. Another preliminary condition for the positive final results is the accurate

recording of the sources for analysis, among which the personal records of the applicant, carried out during field research within the framework of SBDLG projects in different parts of the Bulgarian dialect space. I consider this fact one of the greatest merits of the work which testifies to the combination between theory and practice. A young scholar has been integrated in projects of an established research center that way.

The content of the dissertation includes in a consistent logical order the presence of names for wine and brandy in: dialects, social dialects, Old and Middle Bulgarian manuscripts, the modern language. The core is the second chapter, in which several dozen names for brandies and wine in dialects are summarized and analyzed. The empiric material is subjected to a throughout theorization. Nominative models are exhaustively described – derivation, composite word formation, hybridization, borrowings etc. The material is completely sufficient to formulate certain conclusions; it is arranged concisely; the language of the exposition is clear and logically sound. The author's conclusion about fewer nomination models for wines compared to brandies is completely justified, and connected with the conclusion that wine names tolerate more foreign influences.

The third chapter proves the link between territorial and social dialects in regards of some representatives, as well as the smaller nominative variation relative to dialects. The fourth chapter is a historical foreshortening to the registered names in the old written monuments. Based on a rich diachronic material the author proves that in linguocultural aspect the wine falls into the dominant Christian paradigm; it is used for liturgical purposes, or is as part of a the nourishing regime. The name for brandy appears in written manifestations of the vernacular – the damascenes and the notes of the writers. The author concludes that “this beverage does not achieve the level of sacralization of its predecessor, and does not acquire its religious outlines” (p. 63).

The last two chapters change the perspective from linguistic to cultural, the transition is smooth. The abundant material for phraseology with the considered components, for proverbs, sayings, for colloquial, slang expressions and street language, is a considered and necessary addition to the interpretation of the nominees for brandy and wine in folklore. The most important result here is the symbolic semantic spectrum of wine declared and proven by the

author from the mythical Thracian antiquity to present days. She summarizes 10 positions of semantic valence, which leave an excellent impression.

The bibliographical apparatus is grounded and adequately divided in Sources – 26; Literature – 13 positions, 4 digital ones. The Appendix with 11 dialect records will remain the undisputed personal contribution of the author on the topic, will be cited and deserves to be exposed in the Internet. The Index is a relevant and well-processed resource for using language information from the work. As the topic has a practical focus on understanding the current trade strategies of Bulgaria on the European market, I highly recommend the work to be published. It assures the much-needed connection between science and practice.

In conclusion, I believe that the proposed dissertation *Popular models for naming traditional types of alcoholic beverages in Bulgarian dialects* contains theoretical and practical contributions that correspond to the national requirements in the field. This gives me a reason to vote positively, based on this work, **Aliza Khalil-Konstantinova** to be awarded with the educational and scientific PhD degree in Professional Field 2.1 Philology, doctoral program Bulgarian Language.

07.02.2022

Reviewer:

prof. Dsc. Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova