

SHORT REVIEW

in relation to acquisition of PhD educational and scientific degree
by DSc. Mariana Tsibranska-Kostova, Professor at the Department of History of
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PhD topic: *Linguistic characteristics of the Bulgarian philosophical terminology*

Adriana Hristova is a long-term associate of the Department of Terminology and Terminography at the Institute of Bulgarian Language, where she has been working as philologist since 1987. She is an active participant in almost all projects of the Department of theoretical and practical character. In this sense, the proposed dissertation is a natural stage of the author's professional growth, a manifestation of personal experience in the field of terminology, as well as application of methodological and practical achievements of the Department as a leading research center in a current but not studied in universities discipline of linguistics. The dissertation was developed within the free form of PhD studies with a scientific consultant Corresponding member Prof. Maria Popova. From the very beginning, it should be noted that the PhD candidate covers the national minimum requirements with an accumulated credit of 465 points. On the topic of the dissertation, she has made eight publications, three of which co-authored, which received six citations.

The PhD work *Linguistic characteristics of the Bulgarian philosophical terminology* is dedicated to a topical, but difficult and very broad subject. It could be considered a part of the Department theoretical and lexicographic activity in the frame of Humanities, as well as an individual contribution of Hristova. In order to be successfully developed, it was necessary to apply obligatory restrictions on the analyzed material, and to formulate clear goals and objectives. This has been achieved. I will list the most important positive qualities of work in my opinion.

The dissertation with a total volume of 227 pages has a very clear and logically sound structure, on which I have no objections. It consists of an Introduction, 4 chapters, a Conclusion, an Index of 2149 terms and terminological collocations, a List of used sources and a Bibliography. The requirements to the genre of PhD justify the detailed exposition of the theory of the term and the terminology in the works of Bulgarian and foreign scholars, to which the second chapter is devoted; similarly in clarifying the views on the object of study – philosophy, at the beginning of the third chapter. That is the way of achieving a cohesion between the two key fields from the title, terminology and philosophy. The author sticks to the principle of exposing in comprehensive and analytic way statements and views formulated before, which testifies to in-depth knowledge of the state of scholarly issues and literature. This principle manifests itself not only in regards to the introductory theoretical issues, but in the core of the study also. The formulated 13 tasks before the work on pp. 8 – 9 and its structure give an application for the conscious search of several intersecting fields in the terminological knowledge:

– *Between synchrony and diachrony*. The third chapter is devoted to this. Although the terminology is synchronous, as Hristova notes, the author strives to prove the continuity and the continuum between the Medieval Bulgarian philosophical system and the modern one. This was done through an analysis of four selected sources that give an idea of the term formation in the Old Bulgarian language. Philosophical elements in the Old Bulgarian literature are present primarily in John the Exarch's Hexameron, in some parts of tzar Symeon's miscellany, in Dialectics of John of Damascus, and in the corpus of works of Pseudo Dionysius Areopagite. Thus, a subcorpus of basic philosophical terms for the period of the 9th – 14th centuries is formed. The excerpted examples in the Old Bulgarian original and with a Greek equivalent are far from the power of every terminologist, and the author should be congratulated for her efforts. Moreover, they are not self-serving, but illustrate techniques, models of terminology, which are valuable in general for the theory of terminology. These examples are analyzed mainly by word-formation criteria, and not so much by semantics. The author applies the statistical and the component analyze. The classification of terms is successful: non-derivative (we can call them primary) words terms; derivatives by affixation; composites; word combinations and phrases, which are a much smaller percentage of word terms, etc. Some peculiarities of the medieval terminology must be outlined, as the polysemy, the expression, and others. Section 5.3. in the third chapter *Structural features of medieval philosophical terms* is particularly contributing.

– *Between the terminology and other linguistic disciplines*, especially word formation, semantics, lexicology, lexicography, etymology, theory of literary language. In chapter 4 *Term formation* the author discusses three basic ways – lexico-morphological, lexico-syntactic and lexico-semantic, for the creation of modern philosophical terms. They are derived from precisely selected and described in the application apparatus sources. These are 9 general dictionaries of the Bulgarian language, 24 specialized and 13 editions of texts, collections, etc. The word-formation model is applied again, but richer phenomena of modern terminology are considered, for example the phenomena of abbreviation, metaphor, metonymy; exhaustive lists of domestic and foreign affixes and affixoids, especially the analysis of complex terminological phrases through component analysis. It occurs that for the philosophic area the multicomponent terminological collocations are particularly specific. This is definitely a manifestation of the tendency to intellectualization of the lexis of the modern Bulgarian literary language. To illustrate the terminological models, samples of lexicographic developed terms in form of a dictionary article are used. Chapter 5 summarizes the domestic basis and foreign layers in modern philosophical terminology, mainly from Greek, Latin, English, German and French. The eponyms and the terms symbols are of special interest. The grammatical characteristics of the terms as parts of speech are not omitted either. With these relations to other linguistic disciplines, the dissertation affirms the modernity of terminology, but as a part of the general linguistic paradigm of our time. Attention is also paid to the connection of the terms with the general lexical system through reverse processes of determinologization and entry of the term into the commonly used vocabulary. It can be summarized that the core of the research is a methodically sound and thorough analysis of the types of terminological nomination, which is the main goal of the dissertation according to the title.

– *Between scientific and applied aspect.* This is achieved with an abundance of specific illustrative examples for each of the described phenomena, as well as through the prepared Alphabetical Index of Terms. In a number of cases, the identified phenomena and the examples given by the author also appear as theoretical problems for future development. For me personally, the question of polyprefixation in terminological word formation in the Middle Ages was very interesting, on which modern analogues can be sought, thus creating intersystem connections between individual languages or within a language. I would like to point out in particular that the classification principles are applied uniformly, systematically and without contradictions, so that the connection between theory and practice is organic.

To the listed qualities of the work, I will add the clear language of the exposition, which in such a complex field allows what is written to be understood without difficulty; the exact conceptualization of the basic terminology and the consistent adherence to it; compliance with high standards of scientific design. In view of the fact that such works should be published, I have some single and optional recommendations:

1. In the third chapter, some Old Bulgarian examples should be subjected to modern Bulgarian translation in brackets in order to be semantically clear for both medievalists and linguists in other fields. From this, the published version would only gain and expand its readership.
2. It is good to highlight the author's opinion more clearly among the duly quoted foreign opinions in some places. For example, in the general theoretical part on p. 33 the title of the paragraph contains the otherwise criticized expression “Bulgarian philosophy”, and only in the Conclusion on p. 179 is the more successful “Bulgarian philosophical culture” accepted.
3. Inevitably, some expressions need to be specified, for example on page 12 "in Bulgarian diachronic linguistics certain terminologies are studied" in relation to John the Exarch does not sound correct to me; also on p. 6 "Essay on the main ontological categories".
4. My technical remarks are that within the exposition examples are cited in places arbitrarily, not in alphabetical or any other order. I also think that the use of a software program must be emphasized, as I assume that this is exactly how statistics were extracted. This would be seen as another contribution of the work.

The abstract is written according to the established standards and adequately reflects the content of the dissertation.

In conclusion, I believe that the proposed dissertation *Linguistic Characteristics of Bulgarian Philosophical Terminology* 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, Adriana Hristova to be awarded with the educational and scientific PhD degree in Professional Field 2.1 Philology, doctoral program Bulgarian Language.

08.09.2020

Sofia

Reviewer:

prof. Dsc. Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova