Chapter 1 Origins and Progress of the Study

The chapter includes a survey of those who have made the most significant contributions to our understanding of the nature of, and relations between, the relevant languages and notes some websites that offer sources of information.

Chapter 2 The Language-families and Individual Languages

The individual languages along with appropriate sociolinguistic data are here introduced.

Chapter 3 Phonological Systems

Consonant- and vowel-systems, with discussion of such interesting features as the level of minimalism in the North West Caucasian family and the differing consonantal inventories in the North East that one finds in the works of different commentators, are included here.

Chapter 4 Morphology

This is the largest of the two central substantial chapters. It compares the ways in which the different families achieve their levels of complexity, with polysynthetic verbal systems coupled with minimal noun-morphology in the North West contrasting with complex nominal morphologies accompanied by relatively simply verbal structures in the North Central and North East, with South Caucasian occupying a middle area of reasonably complex verbal and nominal systems together.

Chapter 5 Syntax

This is the final chapter and introduces material from members of all the families for all the traditional grammars produced by native linguists, the information contained here should be especially useful.

Chapter 6 Lexis

Some properties of word-formation are presented, especially the numerical systems.

Chapter 7 What Does the Future Hold?

There is a discussion of the scripts employed for the literary languages of the region, and the opportunity is taken to stress views already expressed by the author as to the possibility of introducing a roman-based orthography that could be used to represent ANY of the northern languages. Failing this, a unified Cyrillic-based system is also discussed.

Appendix Kartvelian Preverbs

The book, which is dedicated to the memory of Helma van den Berg, who died during the final weeks of its preparation, is completed by a comprehensive list of references which should serve as a useful bibliography for anyone new to the subject.

Unlike G. Klimov's earlier introduction (available in both Russian and German translation), with its division into self-contained descriptions for the different language-families, information here is presented on a thematisic basis.

George Hewitt FBA, is Professor of Caucasian Languages, NME Dept., SOAS.


Abkhazian Folktales

(grammatical introduction, translation, notes, and vocabulary)

GEORGE HEWITT

SOAS, London

The inspiration for this introduction to folk-texts in Abkhaz (North West Caucasian) was the late Helma van den Berg's parallel collection of folk-literature for the North East Caucasian Dargi people (Dargi Folktales, NME 2001). The small volume entitled 'Oral Tales of the Abkhazians' (in Abkhaz) published in 2000 by the Abkhazian folklorist Zurab Dzap'ua (Dzap'wa) provided the source for the selection of the twenty texts which are here presented in original Cyrillic-based script and accompanied by IPA-transcription, morphological analysis, morpheme-glosses, annotation and translation; the volume starts with an extensive grammatical sketch of Abkhaz and ends with a vocabulary. Included myths describe the creation of the world, an Abkhazian version of Noah and the flood, man's relations with the Prince of the Dead, and God's expulsion of the Devil from heaven. The Abkhazian version of the Greek Prometheus is Abrskj'yl, and five stories relate the cycle of his birth, exploits and death; an appendix presents for comparison a poem by the Georgian Vazha-Pshavela on the fate of the Georgian equivalent to this hero, Amaran. It is hoped that this book will complement the eleven Abkhazian tales gathered from Abkhazians in Turkey and published with French translation by Georgie Dumeizel in Etudes Abkhaz (1967) and that it will at the same time contribute to a better understanding in the English-speaking world of Abkhazian society through its legends.


Table: Tabasaran Person-agreement Suffixes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Experience/Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st per sing</td>
<td>-za</td>
<td>-zu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd per sing</td>
<td>-wa</td>
<td>-wu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd per sing</td>
<td>-ǝ</td>
<td>-ǝ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st per pl incl.</td>
<td>-tʃa</td>
<td>-tʃu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st per pl excl.</td>
<td>-xa</td>
<td>- xu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd per pl</td>
<td>-tʃwǝ</td>
<td>-tʃwǝ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd per pl</td>
<td>-ǝ</td>
<td>-ǝ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Essentials of Georgian Grammar

With Conjugation Tables of 250 Most Commonly Used Verbs

SHORENA KURTSIKIDZE

University of California, Berkeley

Essentials of Georgian Grammar is a student-tested basic grammar book for both beginner and intermediate level students. The book is organized a 50-lesson course, each lesson is signed for a 3-hour per-week study. Each lesson is structured in a way that makes it easy for a student to gradually advance from simpler to more complex material.

Students who already have some familiarity with the Georgian language will find it helpful to practice the beginning lessons and then follow the order of the book chapters starting from the new material.

The book can be used for the classroom instruction or for self-study. The structure of the book is useful for teachers as well as for individual students since it has been classroom-tested for several years. The book covers all the essentials of Georgian grammar. Teachers can simply follow the order and use their own additional exercises or materials as needed.

The explanations of grammatical rules are maximally simple and short. Therefore, anyone who knows elementary grammatical terminology should be able to understand it. The book contains useful exercises, thematic vocabularies, and reading texts. In the Appendix of the book, there are conjugation tables of 250 most commonly used Georgian verbs. This is the first time these types of tables have been introduced in a Georgian grammar course, making it very easy for the student to learn the major tenseformation rules in Georgian. This model proved to be the most effective way to learn the conjugation patterns of the Georgian verb. After completing the course, the student will be able to read, write, and speak in Georgian. The book provides the basic background and gives the student an opportunity to pursue advanced studies in the Georgian language. The author holds a Doctorate in Cultural Anthropology from the Institute of History and Ethnology of the Georgian Academy of Sciences. Her professional interests include Linguistic and Applied Anthropology, Ethnography, and Folklore. She has done extensive fieldwork in the Caucasus and India. The author was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley. She has taught the "Georgian Language and Culture" course at the Department of Near Eastern Studies and at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures for both beginner and intermediate level students.

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Karbdarian

(East Circassian)

JOHN COLARRUSSO

McMaster University

Karbdarian, the eastern form of Circassian, is a member of the Northwest Caucasian language family, which includes the Western Circassian or Adighé dialects, the transitional Beslemy Circassian, the distinct Aghazi and its closely related, Abaza, and Ubykh, transitional between Circassian and Abkhaz-Azbars. It is native to the

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northwestern portion of the Caucus where it is spoken by roughly 360,000 people. It is the household language of a large portion of the 4.5 million people of Circassian ethnicity (Turkey, Jordan, Syria, Israel, with a few communities in Europe and the United States). The languages of this family are notable for their extreme complexity at all levels of grammar. While Karbadian is quite rich syntactically, complexity is evidenced in the grammatical construction being represented not by case endings, as in related Circassian and Ubykh (Abkhaz does not have the case system), but by order of actant markers. The verbal root consists of only one consonant, preceded by a string of prefixes (class-personal, directional, temporal, negational, causative, etc.) and followed by few suffixes. Verbs can be static or dynamic, finite or non-finite. The grammatical sketch of Abkhaz includes information about its phonological system, morphology, and syntax. A short text is provided with grammatical comments.

A Grammar of Icari Dargwa

NINA R. SUMBATOVA & RASUL O. MUTALOV
Russian State University of Humanities, Moscow, Daghestanian State University

Dargwa is a language (or a cluster of closely related languages) belonging to the Nakh-Daghestanian language group. Most of its speakers live in the Republic of Daghestan in the North Caucasus (Russian Federation). Icari is the variety of Dargwa spoken by the people of the village of Icari and by its former inhabitants who have moved to other places within Daghestan.

Many structural properties of Icari are typical of the Nakh-Daghestanian group: a rich consonant system, several series of locative cases, class agreement, morphological ergativity, a complex verb system with a whole range of tense/aspect/mood paradigms and numerous nonfinite derivations (particules, convers and verbal nouns). Unlike most languages of the group, Dargwa has personal agreement of the subject and object in the verbal root, a list of verbal suffixes. Verbs can be stative or dynamic, finite or non-finite.

Svan

KEVIN TUITE
Université de Montréal

Svan is the smallest and least well-known of the Kartvelian (South Caucasian) languages. The traditional Svan homeland is in the northwest highlands of the Republic of Georgia, and the speech community comprises 35,000 to 40,000 people. In most recent respects, Svan retains the principal features of a Kartvelian language: subject and object agreement; verbal marking of aspect, evidentiality and 'version' [similar to active/medial opposition of Indo-European]; and a complex split-ergative morphosyntax. On the other hand, Svan morphophonemics has become far less transparent than that of Georgian or Laz-Mingrelian.

There is a great deal of allomorphy in noun declension and in some verbal paradigms (e.g. in the imperfect), and the pattern of Proto-Kartvelian verbal ablaut has been restructured in a distinctive way. Although the sketch is primarily concerned with the synchronic grammar of the four Svan dialects, attention is given to certain issues in Kartvelian historical morphology, such as quantitative and qualitative vowel alternations and the evolution of the nominal lexemes and an index of grammatical morphemes.

Kartvelian Morphosyntax

Number Agreement and Morphosyntactic Orientation in the South Caucasian Languages

KEVIN TUITE
University of Montréal

The Kartvelian (South Caucasian) family comprises three languages: Georgian, Svan and Laz-Mingrelian. The protolanguage, Proto-Kartvelian, is believed to have been characterized by ergative-absolutive case marking and a verb with two sets of crossreferencing affixes (Set S ["subject"] and Set O ["object"]). These affixes manifest a nominative-accusative pattern in all the daughter languages, and probably did so in Proto-Kartvelian. In the course of four millennia the Kartvelian languages and their dialects have undergone changes in various morphosyntactic components: agreement (in particular, agreement for number), case assignment, and also in the internal structure of case paradigms. These changes are described in detail, dialect by dialect, in the monograph. The conclusion I draw is that certain of these changes can be described in terms of drift toward or away from three TYPES of morphosyntactic ORIENTATION. By "orientation" is meant a typology of dialects according to the structuration of their morphosyntactic components to accord syntagmatic and paradigmatic "privileges" (control of agreement, especially obligatory agreement; link to unmarked member of paradigmatic set, etc.). Orientation can be described both in terms of degree of asymmetry (does one clausal argument-type receive special privileges not shared with others; in other words, can one speak meaningfully of a grammatical SUBJECT?), and in terms of alignment (nominative, absolutive, etc.). The following three orientations can be discerned in the Kartvelian languages and their dialects. Type A: split-absolutive orientation [the most archaic, still preserved in some northeast Georgian mountain dialects]; Type B: nominative (subject-subject) orientation [the modern literary Georgian language and most contemporary dialects]; Type C: Discourse-prominence orientation [several dialects from southwest Georgia].
The properties of certain classes of indirect verbs and passives of state in modern Georgian

MARCELLO CHERCI
University of Chicago

Indirect constructions in Georgian have been discussed with respect to several types of verbs in the literature. When a particular construction is identified as “indirect” (or “inverse”), the investigator generally invokes a line of argumentation—which relies upon conycoplasms— with a putatively similar predicate or predicate type in an Indo-European language. Our personal feeling is that for the purposes of linguistic analysis it is more productive to view the so-called “indirect” verbs as basic—rather than as derived—structural types within Georgian grammar. However, in the present paper we would like to avoid becoming enmeshed in that dispute by starting from a (rather condensed) overview of the grammatical (paradigmatic) architecture of Udi that helps the reader to analyze all grammatical elements in the text. Chapter 5 is an index of all lexicical forms found in the Greek New Testament, (excluding the texts). This index can be used both as a simple Udi-English index and as an etymological index. This index is unique in that for the first time a larger section of the lexicon of an individual Eastern Caucasian language is included in a diachronic perspective. Chapter 6 is a lemmatized concordance which allows the reader to retrieve the lemmata of all inflected forms in the Gospels and to check a given word form in terms of a “keyword in context concordance.” Finally, an English-Udi index is given in chapter 7.

A Grammar of Hunzib with texts and lexicon

HELMA VAN DEN BERG

Hunzib is a non-written language, spoken by some 2000 inhabitants of Dagestan (Russia). It belongs to the Tsez group of the Avar-Andi-Tsezic branch of East Caucasian languages. This relatively little described language has 27 consonants and 16 vowels. Word stress is generally linked to the prefinal vowel of the word. Hunzib has five noun classes, which serve as the basis for agreement between nouns and coreferent adjectives, pronouns, verbs and adverbial constructions. This agreement is generally indicated by class prefixes, these operate on a nominative-ergative system. Demonstrative pronouns in the nominative distinguish between three degrees of distance near the speaker ‘this’, near the hearer ‘that’, far from both speaker and hearer ‘yonder’. A Hunzib verb consists of a central part, the stem, which can be preceded by a prefix and followed by endings. Simple stems consist of a root only, complex stems of a root and one or more derivational suffixes. Half of the roots can be disrupted by a plural infix. The most frequent valency types are (1) Subject; (2) Agent, Patient; (3) Experience, Patient. Derivational suffixes (like causative, anti-passive and others) can affect the valency of the verb.

A Grammar of Hunzib consists of three parts. The grammatical sketch of the Hunzib language (part one) covers the phonology, morphology and syntax of the language. The second part is a corpus of texts with a morpheme analysis. Part three is a Hunzib-English lexicon. All material was gathered during three periods of one-site fieldwork in Dagestan (1990-1994).


Nomen und nominales Syntagma im Lasischen
Eine deskriptive Analyse des Dialekts von Ardečen

SILVIA KUTSCHER
Universität zu Köln


The Udi Gospels
Annotated Text, Etymological Index, Lemmatized Concordance

WOLFGANG SCHULZE
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

More than hundred years ago [108 years ago, to be exact], the Udi pope Semjon Bezhanov (assisted by his brother Mikhail Bezhanov) undertook the Sixteenth task to translate the most relevant parts of the New Testament, namely the four Gospels, into Udi, a (by number of its speakers) minority language of northern Dagestan, spoken (by that time) in two villages [Nidzh and Vartashen, now Oguz] in Northern Azerbaijan. The Bezhanov manuscript of the Uidi Gospels—which itself was translated from the Greek—came to the University of Chicago in 1938 and was published under the name of the famous series Sbornik Materialov dlja Opytaniya Mestnosti in Plemen Kakuan (SMOMPK) in 1920. The present reediting of the Uidi Gospels makes this unique text document again accessible to linguists interested in the studies of East Caucasian (in general) and in (General) Typology. The text can also serve as a tool for those who work in the fields of comparative Southeast Caucasian (Lezgian) linguistics (especially with respect to the lexicon). The Gospels are built upon (roughly) 1800 lexical entries which cover a major part of the Uidi lexicon (though necessarily defined and confined by the contents of the Gospels). The present book is organized in the following way: Chapter 2 is an introduction to both the historical setting that underlies the production of the text and a (brief) survey of the structure of the Udi Gospels. Chapter 3 gives the text of the Gospels with grammatical and lexical notes. Chapter 4 entails a comprehensive (but rather condensed) overview of the grammatical (paradigmatic) architecture of Udi that helps the reader to analyze all grammatical elements in the text. Chapter 5 is an index of all lexicical forms found in the Greek New Testament, (excluding the texts). This index can be used both as a simple Udi-English index and as an etymological index. This index is unique in that for the first time a larger section of the lexicon of an individual Eastern Caucasian language is included in a diachronic perspective. Chapter 6 is a lemmatized concordance which allows the reader to retrieve the lemmata of all inflected forms in the Gospels and to check a given word form in terms of a “keyword in context concordance.” Finally, an English-Udi index is given in chapter 7.

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Basic Georgian

TAMAR MAKHRLOBIDZE

Sangmyung University Seoul

"BASIC GEORGIAN" by Professor Tamar Makhrlobidze is a book of practical Georgian for non-linguists. It’s an intensive course of the Georgian Language, which has 28 lessons with vocabulary, grammar, texts and exercises for each lesson. There is also an introduction with general information about Georgia and some additional information with common phrases.

This book makes available to study Georgian easily, step by step disclosing the poly-personal verbal grammar in a very easy way. This is a result orientated practical book.


or its surrounding area. Thus, this collection delivers a deeper insight into this dialect of Laz. In respect to the situation of Laz as being an endangered language, we consider the publication of the text collection as a contribution to the urgent task of documenting this language as extensively as possible.

The publication of the texts is based on four languages: Laz, English, German, Turkish. With this arrangement and presentation of the texts we intended to address the Laz-speaking community as well as linguists. Therefore, we split the collection in two parts. The first part consists of the exact transcription of the spoken texts - including notion of speech pauses and intonation - along with German and English glosses and free translations. The second part of the collection presents the transcribed texts in a smoother, more readable version. Adjacent to each of those texts is its Turkish translation.


Tsakhr

WOLFGANG SCHULZE

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Tsakhr is spoken by some 13,000 people who dwell in about 30 villages or settlements at the headwaters of the river Samur (valley of Gorgin Magal) in Southern Dagestan. An important group of Tsakhr speakers can also be found in Northern Azerbaidzhan (along the two tributaries of the Agri-Chay river (Katekh-Chay and Kurmiuk-Chay)). "Tsakhr" is the somewhat disputed name for a dialect continuum, that is named for the village of Tsakhr (in the Samur valley). Together with Rutul, the language forms the western branch of the Samur languages, itself being a subgroup of South East Caucasian (Lezgin). Though Tsakhr is only sporadically written (a new "written language" has recently been reintroduced), it is quite vivid in ordinary life (competing especially with Azeri).

Tsakhr is a "typical" Lezgin language, operating on a system of semantic ergativity and noun classification, based on extensive case marking and a complex verbal paradigms. Though Tsakhr is heavily agglutinating, inflectional features can often be observed. As opposed to some other Lezgin languages, Tsakhr does not develop a tendency towards personal agreement (restricted, however, to the first person), ergative case marking of personal pronouns, and the development of focus particles.

The booklet informs on the basic structure of Tsakhr (phonology, morphology, and syntax), which is (at least partly) explained on the basis of internal and external reconstruction. The material stems either from written sources or from own field notes. A sample text together with an interlinear interpretation helps to illustrate the linguistic structure of the language.


Godoberi

ALEXANDR E. KIBRIK (ed.)

Lomonosov State University, Moscow

The volume is a result of one of collective field trips traditionally organized under the auspices of the Philological Faculty of Lomonosov State University. Godoberi is spoken almost exclusively in the village of Godoberi in the mountains of Dagestan (North-East Caucasus). The number of Godoberians is approximately 2500. Godoberi is one of the languages that belong to the Avari branch of Nakh-Dagestanian (or, in other terms, East Caucasian) languages. The contributors of the volume are: A.E. Kibrik, S.V. Kodzasa, A.A. Kibrik, Yu. Gisatullina, M. Haspelmath, K. Kenenin, S. Tatevosov, S. Toldova, O. Fedorova, N. Dobrushina, T. Sosens-kaja, A. Solov’jeva, A. Eulenbreg et al.

The volume contains chapters on phonology, morphology, syntax, analyses several texts and translations. 


Kontaktbedingter Sprachwandel in der adygeischen Umgangs-sprache im Kaukasus und in der Türkei

VERGLEICHENDE ANALYSE DES RUSSISCHEN UND TÜRKISCHEN INFLUSSSES IN MÜNDLICHEN ADYGEISCHEN TEXTEN

MONIKA HOEHLIG

Technische Universität Berlin

The North West Caucasian Adygey language provides ideal conditions for the study of language change because of the sociolinguistic history of its speakers and their contact with typologically and genetically different languages. This study examines the socio-cultural and sociolinguistic factors which determine dominance relations in Adygey-Russian language contact in the Caucasus and Adygye-Turkish language contact in Turkey in the present century.

The analysis is based on text material in the Abdzakh dialect of Adygey, collected during fieldwork in Turkey (1976-1990) and Adyheya in the Caucasus (1990-1999).

In the comparisons of both contact situations, the focus is on the description of the linguistic features. The kind and extent of interference are examined on different lexical and grammatical levels of the Adygey language. Lexical interference includes the borrowing of different parts of speech and devices of integration in Adygey. Structural interference includes changes in Adygey phonology, morphology, and syntax due to foreign elements (Russian and Turkish, respectively). After comparisons of the decisive social factors, the main part of the study closes with a tentative prognosis regarding the process of language change in the Abdzakh dialect and the Adygey language in general in Turkey and the Republic of Adyheya in the Caucasus.

The book consists of eight chapters and an appendix which includes the proposal of a Latin-Turkish based alphabet for Adygey and a collection of Abdzakh texts with a German translation. [written in German]


Basque Linguistics

El verbo auxiliar vasco

FORMAS UNIFICADAS Y DIALECTALES

JOXE M. ETXEBAARRIA L.

In this work the author presents a comparison between the standard and the dialectal forms, including the Biscayean dialect (B), Guipuscoan dialect (G), High Navarre dialect (GN), dialect of Labourd (L), Low Navarre dialect (BN), dialect of Zuberoa (Z) and dialect of Roncal (Er.). The verbs of the minor dialects of Azeoka and Salazar are given in the Appendix.

The form of the auxiliary verbs in the standard basque language are determined by the Academy of Basque Language. However, with the exception of the Biscayean dialect, dialects are not handled by the Academy. Additionally, the author includes those dialectal forms which are not listed among the normative forms. Examples with translations. [written in Spanish]


The Souletin Verbal Complex

NEW APPROACHES TO BASQUE MORPHOPHONOLOGY

ULRICH J. LUDERS

LINCOM EUROPA

The study presents an analysis of the Souletin verbal complex. Souletin is one of the seven main dialects of Basque. It is spoken by about 11,000 people in SW France. Basque and its dialects are known for their complex verbal structure offering several thousand of verb or auxiliary forms. The integration of up to three participants, the tripartite graded honorific system, the great number of non-fact constructions and various root morphemes result in a highly polymorphic structure.

Chapter 1: The process type model which is applied here consists of a semantic, a morphophonemic and a phonemic level and two

Syntax des Suletinischen
Beitrag zur Baskischen Grammatik

ULRICH J. LÜDERS
LINCOM EUROPA


A Student Grammar of Euskara

JON D. PATRICK & ILARI ZUBIRI IBARRONDO

This book is a practical handbook of the grammar of the basque language. It is aimed at the first three years of a University basque language curriculum. The book is built on the broad topic categories defined by HABE as important for the first 4 levels of basque language competence. The authors’ experience of attending classes at the higher levels will be drawn on to determine the remaining most common language features that a student will be exposed to in the street, from television programmes, newspapers and radio. Competency in all the contents of the book would ensure a student was at the uppermost end of the scale of 2nd language speaker competency.

A unique feature of the text is its explanatory style. Each topic is discussed and then a series of sentence examples in basque are presented along with their English translation. In total there are about 250 different pairs of sentences in the book. Importantly each example is used to focus on a particular aspect of the language. To aid the student special notes are added to English translations to explain variation in the translation from the literal form.

The book also contains a set of Appendices of the auxiliary verb paradigms in a clearest format yet published. Also it contains a set of Appendices of the most common forms of compound and synthetic verbs.

Contents:
I. PHONETICS - Fonetika
II. INTRODUCTION TO MORPHOLOGY - Morfologia
III. DECLENSION - Deklinabidea
IV. MORPHOLOGY - Morfologia
V. THE VERB - Aditza
VI. SYNTAX - Sintaxis
VII. NOTIONS & ELEMENTS

Nozioak eta Osagaiak.

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Sound Symbolism and Motion in Basque

IRAIDE IBARRETXE-ANTUÑANO
University of Zaragoza, Spain

Sound symbolism studies the motivated relationship between sound and meaning. Although in traditional linguistic theory (Saussure 1916), this relation is assumed to be arbitrary, several studies in this field (Abelin 1999, Hamano 1998, Hinton et al. 1994, Nuckols 1996, Voeltz and Kilian-Hatz 2001a) have shown that there is a non-arbitrary element in the way some meanings are linked to some sounds, as well as some sounds to linked to some meanings. Furthermore, this relation seems to a universal phenomenon; that is, all languages have sound symbolic words in their lexicons; the difference is that some languages are more prone to sound symbolic formations than others.

Basque, a genetically isolated language spoken on both sides of the western Pyrenees, is one of those languages with an important and rich sound symbolic system that covers a wide range of semantic fields such as small creatures, types of activity, weather phenomena, noise-making instruments, physical characteristics and other. Some basque terms. Despite its crucial role in the language, the study of Basque sound symbolism has been largely neglected in Basque linguistics. There are a few research papers on some aspects, but no studies that systematically analyse the formal and functional properties of these elements.

This book bridges this gap by offering a detailed analysis of one semantic area of Basque sound symbolism: movement imitatives, i.e. those sound symbolic expressions that are used for the description of movement. This study is organised as follows: First, it starts with a discussion about the status of sound symbolism in linguistic studies (chapter 1), followed by a brief overview of their main formal characteristics (chapter 2). Second, it offers a description of the structure (chapter 3), morfo-syntax (chapter 4) and semantics (chapter 5) of movement imitatives in Basque. Third, it draws some conclusions and points out several research areas that deserve a more thorough analysis in future studies (chapter 6). Finally, it includes an appendix with the corpus of more than 800 movement imitatives used in this work, together with their English translation, and their structural and semantic information.


La modalité épistémique en basque

GERD JENDRASCHKE
Université de Toulouse

Le présent travail a pour objectif d'étudier la modalité épistémique et ses corrélatés structuraux en basque. Il adopte une approche descriptive onomasiologique, c'est-à-dire qu'il est structuré selon des catégories fonctionnelles plutôt générales et énumère, décrit et analyse les différents moyens structurels qui y correspondent en basque. Cette langue emploie des moyens lexicaux et grammaticaux dans l'expression de la modalité épistémique sans clairement préférer l'un ou l'autre. Parmi les particularités du système, on retiendra l'existence de trois paradigmes verbaux pour exprimer une supposition ou une possibilité. Dans certains cas, la valeur épistémique est secondaire, mais une autre forme est exclusivement épistémique. Une autre particularité du basque sont les particules épistémiques qui forment un unité avec le complexe verbal.

La comparaison avec le français montre que la langue basque occupe une situation intermédiaire entre les langues où la modalité épistémique est fortement grammaticalisée et le français, où les expressions répertoriées sont moins « exclusives », c'est-à-dire que l'on trouve en français à côté des moyens lexicaux qui existent dans toutes les langues des formes dont l'emploi épistémique est secondaire, facultatif et marqué.

Typologiquement, l'épistémique n'est pas du tout secondaire, facultatif et marqué. Typologiquement, l'épistémique n'est pas du tout secondaire, facultatif et marqué. Typologiquement, l'épistémique n'est pas du tout secondaire, facultatif et marqué. Typologiquement, l'épistémique n'est pas du tout secondaire, facultatif et marqué. Typologiquement, l'épistémique n'est pas du tout secondaire, facultatif et marqué.