



Grammatical Categories of the Macedonian Indicative, 2nd Revised Edition

Victor Friedman

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In terms of the morphosyntax, semantics, and pragmatics of its verbal system, Macedonian differs significantly from both Bulgarian and from Bosnian / Croatian / Montenegrin / Serbian (BCMS).

Macedonian is closer to Bulgarian than to BCMS both in its preservation of the aorist/imperfect aspectual opposition and in its encoding of speaker attitude in the verb (a phenomenon sometimes labeled evidential). However, Macedonian has developed these and other categories especially the resultative in *ima* differently from Bulgarian, and Macedonian is thus an important and distinct part of the general Slavic and Balkan linguistic picture. This analysis of the Macedonian indicative system was the first book to be published in the North America about Modern Macedonian, and it was the first morphosyntactic and semantic analysis of Macedonian verbal categories. The framework is Jakobsonian, but with additional generativist analyses inspired by generative semantics. Almost 40 years later, the basic research has proven sound and the frameworks are still useful. This revised edition of the original 1977 book takes into account research published since the first edition and contains a new preface and an expanded bibliography as well as the original appendix of over 300 additional example sentences.

The first chapter surveys Macedonian verbal morphology and defines basic terminology. Subsequent chapters each treat a series of paradigmatic sets: the simplex series, the sum series, the *ima* series, and the pluperfect (*be e* series). Throughout there are comparisons with Bulgarian, the former Serbo-Croatian, and various relevant Balkan Slavic dialects. The concluding chapter summarizes the preceding four and gives a survey of some of the relevant aspects of various Balkan languages (Albanian, Aromanian, Balkan Judezmo, Greek, Meglenoromanian, Balkan Romani, Romanian, and Turkish) in addition to Balkan Slavic, with special focus on so-called evidentials. The data are primarily from the spoken and written standard language. It documents the usage of the first generation to grow up entirely with a Macedonian-language educational medium. A generation later, it was possible to revisit these speakers as well as their grown children. The data and predictions have stood the test of time, and so are published again in the context of subsequent research.

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