

ZABORSKI, Andrzej (Ed.): *New Data and New Methods in Afroasiatic Linguistics. Robert Hetzron in Memoriam*. Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz Verlag 2001. xix + 230 pp. ISBN 3-447-04420-9. Price DM 158,00.

The present volume is a tribute to Robert Hetzron (1938-1997), one of the best specialists in comparative Afroasiatic linguistics, the founder of the North American Conference of Afroasiatic Linguistics (NACAL), the founder and editor of the first regular journals in the discipline: 'Afroasiatic Linguistics' and 'The Journal of Afroasiatic Languages'.

D. Appleyard ('The verb *to say* as a verb 'recycling device' in Ethiopian languages', 1-11) examines a type of composite verb consisting of an uninflected element which carries the lexical-semantic meaning followed by an ordinary inflected verb 'to say'. This construction is generally ascribed Cushitic origin.

V. Blažek ('Etymologizing the Semitic cardinal numerals of the first decade', 13-37) examines the Semitic cardinals in the 1-10 interval from the point of view of both an internal Semitic etymology and a much wider and more diffuse Afroasiatic etymology. The Bibliography comprised in the author's References represents an exhaustive list of literature relevant to the topic.

L. Edzard ('Adjektive und nominalisierte Relativsätze im Semitischen: Versuch einer Typologie', 39-52) summarizes some syntactic and semantic aspects of Semitic adjectives and nominalized verbal phrases as a first step to examining the applicability of the notion of 'grammaticalization' to Semitic relative clauses (RC).

As far as relativization is concerned, Amharic (and apparently also some other Cushitized Semitic languages of Ethiopia) is, for several reasons, rather atypical of Semitic as a whole:

- the SOV word order (even if not quite consistent), and
- prenominal (Kuno 1973) structure of Amharic RCs of the type common, say, in Altaic and well represented also in some (evolutional stages of) Uralic languages (Codex Hungarian /16th cent./, Vogul, Ostyak). Generally, the type is prohibitively absent in all main branches of Semitic.

Out of both examples adduced (p. 45), only the Leslau-quoted RC ({} ) seems to be really comparable to the morphosyntactic category of adjectives:

{*tənantənnə yä-mäittu-t*} *tämariwočč* 'the students who came yesterday'

REL ANT

form: the nominalized RC combines with the allomorph of the definite article *-t* ;

function: this RC type (i.e., REL . . . ANT) invariably operates as an attributive clause, sharing this function with genuine adjectives;

Hudson's RC satisfies the formal aspect only:

{*yä-tägännä-w*} *gurage wəst nəw* 'what was found, is (occurs, is to be found) in

Gurage'

form: combining with the definite article *-w* ;

function: the (Ø . . .REL or, alternatively, ANT/REL)\* RC type possibly operates in whatever syntactic function compatible with the predicate of the 'main' clause, here in that of a nominalized subject clause.

\* (Ø: absence; ANTecedent; / : coalescence).

Arabic RCs of the type *huqūq lā tuntaza'u* (43), revealing postnominal structure, are structurally incompatible with the Amharic examples quoted above, while *ta'abbata šarran* (<*allaḏī t. š.*) is, once again, of the (Ø ... REL) type.

The only prenominal RC (?) whose ANT might perhaps be identified with what can be deduced from the possessive pronoun-*hum* seems to be the famous Koranic . . . *lil-qāsiyati qulūbuhum* (Q 39:22), a complicated syntactic hybrid, as against current, particularly reshaped postnominal RCs, such as: *al-maʿriḏu l-muḡlaqatu ʿabwābuhu* or *al-maʿriḏu l-muḡliqū ʿabwābahu* or the like.

Edzard's analysis of Amharic nominalizations in a Semitic, partly even Afroasiatic context initiatively reopened far from hopeless speculations about a still wider typological frame allowed for nominalizing processes within the Afroasiatic linguistic area and even beyond it.

R.J. Hayward ('A further consideration of terminal vowels in Ometo', 53-63) focusses attention on the terminal vowels *-a*, *-e*, *-o*, *-i*, occurring in absolutive forms of Ometo nominals, and argues for four classes of masculine nominals with the following word-final vowels: *\*-ee*, *\*-oo*, *\*-aa*, and *\*-i*, in proto-Ometo, and examines their reflexes in some modern Ometo varieties.

The following two papers are devoted to Amharic: 'Amharic epenthesis' (65-73), by G. Hudson, and 'Some suprasentential constructions in Amharic' (75-83), by Olga Kapeliuk.

G. Khan ('The use of indefinite article in Neo-Aramaic', 85-94) studies the use of the numeral 'one' with the function of an indefinite article. In the case of Neo-Aramaic, as also any other language that does not have specific in/definiteness markers, it might have been more appropriate to speak about substitutes for, rather than outright about articles. The distribution of these quasi articles, as the author admits himself, usually differs from that of genuine articles in article languages: "Not all singular nouns with indefinite status . . . are accompanied by *xa* and the distribution of the particle is more restricted than that of the indefinite article in English. The use of *xa* expresses something more than simple indefinite status" (86). The situation described for Neo-Aramaic may be found, in broad outlines, in many other languages of very various typological characteristics and/or genetic affiliation, for example, in the Slavic languages (Slovak): "Bol raz *jeden* kráľ . . ." 'Once upon a time there was *a* king . . .'

Various linguistic aspects of the Cushitic languages are examined by the following authors:

R. Kießling ('South Cushitic links to East Cushitic', 95-102).

M. Lamberti ('The expression of prepositional phrases in Bilin', 103-115).

D. Morin ('Bridging the gap between Northern and Eastern Cushitic', 117-124).

M. Mous ('Basic Alagwa Syntax', 125-135).

F.A. Pennacchietti ('I popoli dell'Africa secondo Saʿīd ibn al-Bitrīq', 137-141) presents the report on North African peoples, languages and scripts by a learned Egyptian scholar, later Patriarch of Alexandria, Saʿīd ibn al-Bitrīq (ix-x cent.).

J.-F. Prunet and B. Chamora ('The canonical shapes of Gurage verbs', 143-152) propose a new typology of Gurage verbs as occurring in Inor (Ennemor), a South Ethio-Semitic language from the Gurage cluster.

R.R. Ratcliffe ('Analogy in Semitic morphology: Where do new roots and new patterns come from?' 153-162) examines the topic from the point of view of diachronic typology and cross-varietal Semitic comparison. Provided that C, in Ratcliffe's notation, stands for a root-constituting consonant and not merely for a consonant, a definition of what is meant by a *new root* (or a *new 'root'*) would be very welcome.

While, in MA, "two new 'roots' C-C-G and w-C-C" (Cairene: *warrēt* < \*'araytv) reflect an evolutionary shift from CA to MA, the CA CvCCvC > CuCaiCiC: *mašjid* > *mu-saijid*, or CuCaiCid: *huwairit* call into question the very notion of *root* as a part of the

root-and-pattern system. While *ma-* in *masjid*, in the traditional R-P-A hierarchy is an affix, the status of *w* in *huwairif*, is more problematic even in the traditional trichotomy. For Harrell (1962:23; similarly Erwin 1963:48; Beeston 1970:31), the phoneme *w* is a constitutive element of a pattern as an additional non-root consonant. L.V. Tsotskhadze (1987: 36) classifies *w* in *buwaiḍa* in terms of affixes (infixes), apparently under the influence of J. Barth's treatment of Semitic diminutives (1889: 312 – Nomina mit infigierten Lauten: *qutail*). Petráček's *innere Konsonantenmorpheme* (1960: 547-606), to which the phoneme *w* of *huwairif* would seemingly belong, are part of a quadripartite hierarchy of morpheme classes at the same level as a purely vocalic pattern (*Vokalisation*). A rather untraditional trichotomous system has recently been developed in a number of highly formalized linguistic analyses. G. Bohas's PCO-centred paper (1991), inspired by McCarthy's doctoral dissertation (1979) as well as his subsequent studies (1983, 1986) presents the system as constituted of three constituents (*composantes*) and each of them is ascribed the status of a morpheme: *mélodie vocalique*, *squelette* (or *schème*), and *mélodie consonantique*. Deprived of functional characteristics, the place assigned to 'intra-root non-root consonants' would no longer be problematic. Would it not indeed?

Judith Rosenhouse ("A good name is better than precious ointment': Hebrew and Arabic personal names pronounced by native speakers of English", 163-171) deals with the processes that personal names undergo when pronounced by non-native speakers.

H. Satzinger ('On ergativity in Egyptian', 173-182) tries to answer the question of whether some linguistic features of Egyptian can be classified as ergative elements.

H. Stroomer ('A Tashelhiyt Berber tale from the Goundafa region (High Atlas, Morocco)', 183-193) presents valuable ethnographic material to the study of Tashelhiyt Berber.

M. Tosco ('The short past in Dhaasanac', 195-204) presents the results of his linguistic field work among the Dhaasanac in the Cushitic linguistic area.

R. Voigt ('Semitische Verwandtschaftstermini', 205-218) examines the Semitic kinship terms that allow a proto-Semitic reconstruction.

A. Zaborski's article ('A note on the classification of Agaw as a branch of East Cushitic', 219-222) closes the series of contributions devoted to Cushitic linguistics.

T. Zewi's paper ('Energicus in Saadya Gaon's translation of the Pentateuch', 223-230) is the final article of this valuable collection of studies.

The present volume of scholarly studies is a valuable contribution to Afroasiatic linguistics and a worthy tribute to Robert Hetzron, a great linguist, creative theoretician and an excellent man.

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DICKINS, James and Janet C.E. WATSON: *Standard Arabic. An Advanced Course* (Student's Book). Cambridge University Press 1999. xxix + 592 pp. ISBN: 0-521-63558-6 (paperback). Price £22.95 (US\$29.95). ISBN: 0-521-63211-0 (hardback). Price £60.00 (US\$85.00).

DICKINS, James and Janet C.E. WATSON: *Standard Arabic. An Advanced Course* (Teacher's Handbook). Cambridge University Press 1999. xxii + 194 pp. ISBN: 0-521-63161-0 (hardback). Price: £27.50 (US\$42.95).

DICKINS, James and Janet C.E. WATSON: *Standard Arabic Cassette set: An Advanced Course*. Cambridge University Press 1999. ISBN: 0-521-63531-4. Price: £10.25 (US\$15.95).

When reviewing *Standard Arabic: An Elementary-Intermediate Course*, I did not expect that I would shortly have the pleasant opportunity to welcome another Cambridge UP contribution to modern methods of teaching Standard Arabic. The emergence of the recent Cambridge University Press *Standard Arabic Advanced Course* program largely moderates my suggestion (*AAS*, 10/2001 No2, 219-223) to complete the elementary-intermediate course by updating the whole Leipzig University *Lehrbuch* set (i.e., by addition of Part ii/1, 1981 and Part ii/2, 1981). The way followed by Cambridge UP is of course far more straightforward and more efficient.

The *Advanced Course* (course, in what follows) is designed for students who have already completed an elementary course of Modern Standard Arabic and is intended to be taught over two academic years. The course consists of twenty topics laid out in chapters, each of them being divided into thirteen sections as indicated below.

The course aims at developing four basic language skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening to an advanced level, and providing students with general competence in both Arabic>English and English>Arabic translation. The course further aims at providing students with an insight into important aspects of the Middle East.

In presenting the inventory of chapters, the following explicative symbols are used: S (with chapters of mainly social orientation), C (with those of mainly cultural orientation), and P (with those of mainly political orientation):

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1: Geography of the Middle East     | S |
| 2: Ethnic groups in the Middle East | S |