

LinGhentian Doctorials
4th edition

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 March 2021

Online conference

Session 7 – Typology and language contact

Thursday 18 March 2021, 15:00-16:00, Zoom

Playing ping-pong with *ce* in Cappadocian: From simple connective to continuative/topic-shifting connective as an example of functional transfer from Turkish

Eline Daveloose

Department of Linguistics

Cappadocian is the name of a cluster of closely related dialects spoken in Central Asia Minor until the population exchange between Turkey and Greece in 1923-24 (Janse 2020, 2021). Due to very long and very intensive contact, Cappadocian has been heavily influenced by the Turkish language (cf. Thomason and Kaufman 1988: 215-22; Janse 2009). A particular case of this heavy borrowing is what Siegel calls 'Functional Transfer', i.e. the application of the grammatical functions of a morpheme from one language to a morpheme in another language (2012: 189).

In this paper I discuss a particular case of functional transfer: the extension of the functional range of the Greek proclitic particle *ce* to include the function of topic shift marker associated with the Turkish enclitic particle *dA*. Turkish *dA* already shared some of its functions with Greek *ce*: both are used as connective as well as scope particles (Göksel & Kerlake 2005: 110; Dawkins 1916: 506), e.g. Capp. *pire ce to peri* (Phosteris & Kesisoglou 1960: 116); Tk. *çocuğu da aldı* 'he took the child too'. Additionally, *dA* also functions as a topic shift marker in Turkish, with which a new topic is introduced "without changing the direction of the discourse" (Göksel & Kerlake 2005: 513), e.g. Tk. *Ahmet dükkâna gitti. Ayşe de sinemaya gitti*. 'Ahmet went to the store. As for Ayşe, she went to the cinema.' It is this pragmatic function of *dA* that was transferred and included in the functional range of *ce*. Although Cappadocian *ce* is in its other meanings and functions a proclitic particle, it is used in its new function of topic shift marker as an enclitic, e.g. *néka c' ipe [...]* (Dawkins 1916: 334) 'as for the woman, she said [...]'. This may be considered as an example of pattern replication in the sense of Matras (2009: 234-74): only the pattern or construction of grammatical or semantic meaning is replicated, without borrowing the form itself.

It is noteworthy that this particular use of *ce* is only attested in some Cappadocian dialects: at Delmeso, it is systematically used as a topic shift marker; at Aravan, *ce* is frequently attested as well (and very occasionally at Axo and Ulağaç). It should be noted that the enclitic *ce* is only found in combination with the verb *léo* 'say'.

This research will be conducted using both quantitative and qualitative textual analysis of a corpus consisting of 59 orally transmitted Cappadocian folktales (approximately 42 000 words) that were recorded and transcribed from the 19th century onwards. Special attention will be paid to information structure (Lambrecht 1994) and in particular to topic (shift).

This analysis of the use of *ce* as an enclitic topic shift marker in Cappadocian is an important contribution to the study of language contact in general and on functional transfer in particular. It sheds new light on the manifold ways in which this remarkable Greek dialect was influenced by Turkish and points out once again how substantial the impact of language contact can be.

References

- Dawkins, R.M. (1916). *Modern Greek in Asia Minor*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Göksel, A. & C. Kerlake (2005). *Turkish: A Comprehensive Grammar*. London, New York: Routledge.
- Janse, M. (2009). 'Greek-Turkish Language Contact in Asia Minor', *Études Helléniques / Hellenic Studies* 17: 37-54.

- . (2020). 'Ἐλληνιστὶ γινώσκεις; (Acts 21:37): The survival of Cappadocian Greek', *Cursor: Zeitschrift für Freunde der Lateinischen Sprache und europäischen Kultur*16: 49-57.
- . (2021). 'Ἡ Καππαδοκική διάλεκτος', in Chr. Tzitzilis (ed.), *Νεοελληνικές Διάλεκτοι*. Thessaloniki: Ἰνστιτούτο Νεοελληνικῶν Σπουδῶν (Ἰδρυμα Μανόλη Τριανταφυλλίδη).
- Jennings, W. & S. Pfänder (2018). *Inheritance and Innovation in a Colonial Language: Towards a Usage-Based Account of French Guianese Creole*. New York: Palgrave-McMillan.
- Lambrecht, K. (1994). *Information structure and sentence form*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Matras, Y. (2009). *Language Contact*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Phosteris, D. & I.O. Kesisoglou (1960). *Λεξιλόγιο τοῦ Ἀραβανί*. Athens: Institut français d'Athènes.
- Siegel, J. (2012). 'Two Types of Functional Transfer in Language Contact', *Journal of Language Contact*5: 187-215.
- Thomason, S.G. & T. Kaufman (1988). *Language Contact, Creolization, and Genetic Linguistics*. Berkeley: University of California Press.