ABSTRACTS

Christina Bassea-Bezantakou: *The Historical Dictionary of Modern Greek and its contribution to the investigation of the history of Greek*

The aim of this paper is to offer a presentation of the *Historical Dictionary of Modern Greek of the Academy* of Athens (ILNE), with special focus on its historical lexicographic function, and its contribution to the investigation of the history of the Greek language. The issues addressed include:

- a description of the main objectives of the dictionary and its position in the general context of the major European historical dictionaries
- basic methodological principles of diachronic linguistic research of the ILNE (retrospective study of the vocabulary from 1800 onwards, parallel examin-ation of the standard language and the dialects, exhaustive investigation of primary sources, full bibliographic coverage, emphasis on the pinpointing of the first appearance of words, forms and meanings).
- The discussion is illustrated through characteristic examples from the recent volumes of the dictionary.

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Martin Hinterberger: *Many linguistic ways to tell the same story: the four versions of the Life of Maximos the Hutburner*

Maximos the so-called Hutburner, an Athonite monk who died in about 1370/1380, enjoyed extraordinary popularity during his lifetime and thereafter. His is the unique case of a saint whose vita was composed and rewritten three times within the short span of about 50 years after his death. The first text by the monk Niphon consists of an informal collection of biographical material in simple (yet not vernacular) language. Theophanes turned this material into a proper vita from a structural point of view, slightly elevating the linguistic level. The third text by Ioannikios Kochilas clearly shows literary ambitions, whereas Makarios Makres produced a work that satisfies classicizing expectations to an even higher extent. In my presentation, I shall point out the basic linguistic characteristics of each text and demonstrate the techniques applied by the authors to transpose simple language into a more classicizing and refined register.

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Eleni Karantzola: *Investigating spoken registers in prose texts of Early Modern Greek (16th-17th c.)*

The difference between spoken and written Early Modern Greek (16th-17th c.) may be the most difficult parameter of variation to investigate. As no direct sources of speech are available to us, our main consideration is to examine the extent to which it is possible to find reflections of EMG in textual sources, and to evaluate their reliability. In our presentation we will discuss the availability for EMG of principal types of sources proposed for spoken varieties of other European languages of past ages, such as (fictitious) direct speech in genres other than plays (particularly in narrative texts), quoted or indirect speech in various texts, model dialogues in didactic texts, private letters by semi-literate authors, as well as (parts of) legal documents. In addition, the terminology used in metalinguistic texts (grammars, dictionaries) will be scrutinized, with the intention of identifying labels which we might expect to refer to spoken language/usage.

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Maria Kesoglou and Paraskevi Mavridou (with Dimitris Bagkavos and Penelope Mavrommatidou): *The Odyssey of Kriaras' Dictionary: Approaching Ithaca*

The journey began almost half a century ago. Prof. Emm. Kriaras decided to fill a long- standing void in the lexicography of Greek and the *Dictionary of Medieval Vernacular Greek Literature* (DMG) set sail. It navigates the centuries between 1100 and 1669, a critical period in the history of the Greek language, bridging the gap between Ancient and Modern Greek and documenting the emergence of the latter in its standard and dialectal forms. The first volume was published in 1968 and the late professor steered the vessel for the duration of 14 volumes (last word: *παραθήκη*), henceforth confiding its continuation in the Centre of the Greek Language and Prof. I. N. Kazazis. The 22nd volume was published in 2021, with 3 extra volumes of the *Abridged Dictionary* (*Epitome*) in the interim. Thanks to the ongoing support of the Centre for the Greek Language and under the supervision of Prof. G. Giannakis, the project is at its final stage and to a successful completion; Ithaca is within our sight.

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Tina Lendari: *Variation and change in Medieval and Early Modern Greek Morphology*

The Medieval and Early Modern Greek period covers a timespan of several centuries, during which the language undergoes a significant amount of change on the level of morphology, much more so than in phonology (which may be considered stabilized in its main features since the end of the Hellenistic era). Morphological change in Medieval Greek entails not simple alternations in inflectional or derivational morphemes, but instead, the wholesale restructuring of the nominal and verbal system. The research conducted for the purposes of the *Cambridge Grammar of Medieval and Early Modern Greek* has led to a number of conclusions/generalisations concerning morphological change during this period: a) morphological change may be triggered by phonological factors (e.g. the deletion of specific word-final sounds), however its main driving force is analogy, and b) medieval and early modern morphology presents an extraordinary degree of variation in most slots of each inflectional paradigm, something which constitutes a challenge to a linear narrative of evolution from Ancient to Modern Greek. The variation is due to a multiplicity of factors (linguistic change-in-progress, register, manuscript tradition and scribal practices, editorial intervention etc.). The paper focuses on these factors discussing them on the basis of specific examples/case-studies.

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Io Manolessou: *Recent advances in the historical dialectology of Modern Greek*

Although dialectology was one of the first branches of linguistics to be developed in Modern Greece and for Modern Greek, its diachronic dimension has never been systematically cultivated, apart from sporadic studies on the "first appearance" of dialectal features (such as "northern vocalism") or on the language of specific early authors/ documents considered of "dialectal" origin. Real advance in this domain could not be achieved until a) more data, precisely localized and dated, became available for each geographical area b) a better understanding of the general history of Greek (development/ distribution of phenomena) was reached and c) a more systematic methodology, on the basis of international practice, was developed. The contribution of the recently completed *Cambridge Grammar of Medieval and Early Modern Greek* and of the latest volumes of the *Historical Dictionary of Modern Greek* towards the fulfillment of these basic presuppositions was of key importance. It is therefore now possible to attempt an overview of advances in the historical dialectology of Modern Greek, focusing the following issues: a) methodological criteria for the definition of "dialect feature", "dialect genesis", "dialect classification" etc. b) concrete new data for the appearance and spread of major dialectal isoglosses c) the value of modern dialectal data for the investigation of the history of Greek and d) the possibility of drawing a dialectal map for Greek during the Medieval period.

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Theodore Markopoulos: *Language contact in Late Medieval Greek: linguistic, extra-linguistic and meta-linguistic evidence*

The paper addresses the rather disputed issue of language contact in Late Medieval Greek (LMG). Since, by definition, language contact is a multi-faceted phenomenon with both linguistic and socio-linguistic aspects, the study aims to combine evidence of both socio-linguistic and linguistic nature, in order to achieve a better understanding of aspects of language contact in LMG. More specifically, it focuses on the less studied morphosyntactic level of LMG, isolating potential instances of structural borrowing, taking into account the sociolinguistic situation(s) that might have given rise to such linguistic results. Moreover, it highlights some -rather unknown- metalinguistic comments found sparsely in non-literary texts of LMG, which shed light on the actual status of multilingualism in specific areas / societies, such as Cyprus. The investigation into this combined evidence seems to suggest that the effect of language contact both on the linguistic and the socio-linguistic level could have been denser than previously thought and is, accordingly, under-represented in relevant studies.

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Maria Pantelia: *The TLG corpus from antiquity to the present: Challenges and desiderata*

The TLG aims to create a digital and fully lemmatized corpus of Greek literature from antiquity to the present. Digitization of classical and Byzantine texts is almost complete and the project is now working on texts of the post Byzantine/early modern era. Classical texts have the benefit of 300 years of scholarship that has produced multiple critical editions, lexica, and a multitude of secondary sources. Byzantine literature has generated a great deal of activity in recent years. Research on later periods poses special challenges both in identifying text editions and also in finding reliable secondary sources to guide us in lemmatization. This presentation will include an overview of the current state of the project and a discussion of the challenges that lie ahead and the best ways to meet them.

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Nikolaos Pantelidis: *Phonological change in Medieval and Early Modern Greek*

The aim of the present paper is to test some fundamental theoretical as well as methodological issues of Historical Phonology on the basis of Medieval and Early Modern Greek linguistic evidence from written sources, capitalizing upon the material that was collected and studied during the Cambridge Grammar of Medieval and Early Modern Greek research project, in combination with the evidence provided by the Modern Greek dialects, as recorded mainly from the late 18th century onwards.
More specifically, the following theoretical-methodological issues will be touched upon:
a) The question of the regularity of phonetic changes.
b) The question of whether the recorded changes are internally or externally driven (e.g. through contact with other languages or other Greek varieties).
c) The issue of graphematics, i.e. the rendering of sounds through an often wide variety of graphematic units, the relevant research relying on the philological interpretation of the sources (statistics on the use of symbols in texts, direct contemporary testimonies / metalinguistic evidence etc.).
The above issues will be exemplified on the basis of three changes that are datable to the Medieval period of Greek (or perhaps earlier):
a) The unrounding of /y/ (<υ>, <οι>) to /i/, which according to a widely held view, was completed by the 11th century A.D. leading to the Modern Greek 5-member vocalic system (/a/,/e/,/i/,/o/,/u/).
b) Velar palatalization, and especially, the affrication of velars, also known as "tsitakism" in traditional Modern Greek dialectology and Historical Linguistics.

c) The epenthesis of the so called "irrational spirant" (or "irrational γ", e.g. in verbs with stem-final labial such as verbs in –*εύω* > -*εύγω*), a change that first appears in Medieval sources of the 9th century A.D. and is recorded in many Modern Greek varieties (Cyprus, Dodecanese, Cyclades, Pontus, Eastern Thrace, the "Old Athenian" group etc.).

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Elisabeth Schiffer: *A Supplement to the* **Lexikon zur byzantinischen Gräzität***: Expectations, challenges, possibilities*

Following the completion of the *Lexikon zur byzantinischen Gräzität* (2017) and after all printed material was made available online via the *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae* (2020), interest in the *Lexikon*'s supplement has grown. Since the beginning of the printed publication in the early 1990s, new editions of Byzantine texts have been continuously excerpted over the years in parallel with the work on the LBG in order to gather necessary *addenda* and *corrigenda*. Work is in progress to gradually make this material available online in the near future.

The contribution aims to show what can be expected from this supplement, both in terms of material that has not yet been recorded in dictionaries and in terms of corrections to the previous publication. Further, it will also address insights that emerge e.g. from the close reading of critical apparatuses in recent text editions, a practice that has of course been followed in the past but has become increasingly important in our work on the supplement.

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