

The Special and Specialized Technical Vocabulary in Albanian Language

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Abstract

In the conditions of rapid development of science and technology, the cooperation of scientific-technical language with standard Albanian is continuing with a higher intensity than before. In particular, we notice a burgeoning enrichment of the technical vocabulary terminology, due to the birth and formation of fields and subfields of new technics and technology, as in computing, mechatronics, telemetry; concepts, many of which, on the one hand, are marked with names of the languages of origin, mainly from English, and, in turn, meet their needs with the lexical dough of the native language (common words, being raised into terms), by means of its word formation, as well as activation of other substrates, such as the terms phrase. The technical terminology in particular and the language of science and technology in general are areas in which the impact of society awareness on them find more suitable conditions to be realized.

Keywords: Albanian language, common words, special technical vocabulary, specialized technical vocabulary.

1. Introduction

As an object of special interest of this paper is precisely the view of the *common words* since the time of their evidence not only in written texts, like, for example, in "Missal" of Buzuku (1555) etc.; as well as reflected in Albanian dictionaries, as, for example, in the Vocabulary of Frang Bardhi¹, where we meet a series of words which functioned as special units and later became terms.

One problem in itself is the standardization of terminology and in particular the introduction in the process of standardization of Albanian terms built on the grounds of ordinary words, which serve as key elements of resolving problems of collation and Albanianisation of the technical terminology in the Albanian language.

2. Technical Terms Reflected in Written Texts

Besides the use in the practice of oral communication, technical terms display their predominant actualization in written texts, primarily in teaching, which is observed since from the beginning of their creation. It started to a limited extent in low-level textbooks, save later was added to the high school level (before 1945) and then higher level (after 1945) with the creation of high schools in our country. Each of these levels has specific characteristics in terms of proportions of foreign terms and the Albanianized terms. In the primary level, the amount of technical terms was very limited; mainly dominated by technical terms of agriculture, mechanics, construction. Terms are processed by linguists and experts as specialists of Albanian and foreign languages. In them, generally foreign terms prevail, while Albanian ones are limited in quantity.

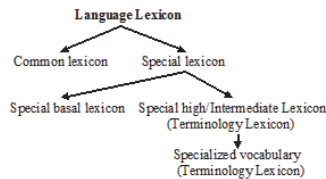
In the secondary level (high school) especially in vocational schools, foreign terms were introduced, while maintaining some balance with Albanianized terms. In any case it is evident that terminology has an Albanian base.

In the high level, terminology was created by specialists. In this level foreign terms prevail, and we rarely notice an effort for Albanianization.

¹Frang Bardhi, "DICTIONARIVM LATINO EPIROTICVM", Romae, 1635.

3. Re-conceptualizing of the Technical Vocabulary (Special Vocabulary and Specialized Vocabulary)

In general terms, the technical vocabulary can be seen as a spacious stratification consisting of units (terms or compound words), which operates and is identified in various fields of knowledge, limited by knowledge and its use in speech by speakers. From the point of view of the origin of its creation in the course of time to the present situation, it can also be viewed as the formation from common words, as well as in their continuous development, as units that are divided into two broad groups depending on their two developing stages: from the lower forms of the special vocabulary to the higher forms of the special vocabulary, where as a development core serves the elevation of these two types of vocabularies, from a primary concept to the higher one². Since directly, as a special unit they link with common words as well as with units of a higher conceptual level, such as terms that we can call either special units of scientific-technical level or specialized units. Therefore, we can divide in this regard nominating units of the language vocabulary into three groups as follows:



4. Albanian Technical Terms and their Conceptual Contents

The largest part of terms are motivational³ in their conceptual content, which means that each of them has a base from which it originates and, just the way as the base is advanced, so will it develop in its content. However, one part of terms derive from *common words* and enter a field of knowledge on the quality of the term, while maintaining the conceptual content, i.e. its content as a word or as a term is more or less the same. Here we are dealing with same concepts that go from a *low conceptual level* (as a word) to a *higher level* (as a term). Thus, eg a range of terms from the field of construction may be considered, like *door sill, floor, window* (constr.), *excavation, threshing, harvesting* (farmers.), that have existed as common words since ancient times (Buzuku: *derë-door, prag-door sill, fënestrë* (window), *korjeharvesting*). Here it should be noted that each of them develops further as *dritare - window* (building) from *fënestrë* shtëpie -house window, and the *dritare - window* (fryrjeje), *dere- door* (building) and *dere-door* (bakery) for present time.

The largest part develops from the point of view of conceptual content, by changing in the form the concept, but not at the core of its substantive marking, as *rrotë-wheel* (cart) → *rrotë-wheel* (car). Here the core is preserved, the expressive function of the word, while the concept is modified (object) in the term such as *rrotë-wheel* (car). This is seen also in *shtrat-platform* (of a cart) → *shtrat-platform* (of a car)³.

In some cases the term, while changing a lot in the content, varies in form also as we mentioned earlier: *parmendë-plow* (wooden) → *parmendë-plow* (metal) (=plow), *gur mulliri-millstone* → *cilindër blaje-milling cylinder*. In different languages for both concepts there are different signs for each concept, or even the same sign is inherited. Thus in Albanian and Russian we have today for the "two concepts" two signs: shq. *parmendë* → plug; rus. *lemah* → *plug*, while in English and Italian there is one sign: Eng. *plow*; it. *aratro*.

5. The Basis of Origin of the Technical Terminologies from Common Words and their Further Developments in the Course of Time

1. Technical terminologies partly originate from words related to concepts that came from distant times from different places of the world, as an universal language, which passed from one language to another in different times, translated, adapted, as borrowed or even as being indigene (native). They are used as special words in various fields of human activity, later as terms in technical terminology and terminology of other fields of

² G. Pllana, "Krijimi i leksikut shqip të terminologjive teknike (Procese të krijimit, të pasqyimit në gjuhë dhe të standardizimit)", dis. QSA Tiranë, 2015, p. 44.

³ A. Duro, "Termi dhe fjala në gjuhën shqipe (në rrafshin e formës dhe të përmbajtjes)" QSA IGJL, Tiranë, 2009.

knowledge in Albanian language in different periods, as *ruota* → *rrotë*, *machina* → *makinë* etc. From the early discipline of hunting, from which the human societies began, and of which hunting tools were part of, like: *hark*, *shigjetë*, *majë*; simple actions: *shkëputje-tearing*, *hedhje-throwing*, *goditje-bashing*, *shpim*, *nxjerrje-stripping*, *ngecje-stagnation* (most are found in today's terminologies in different technical spheres etc.).

Agriculture tools, components, processes: hoe (shat), shovel(lopateë), digging(gërmim), sowing(mbjellje), harvesting(korrje).

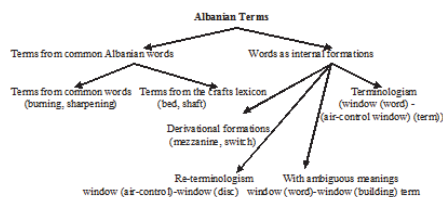
Weapons of war: bullet (plumb), cartridge(fishek) fuse(siguresë).

Household utensils: scissors(gërshtë), chisel (daltë), pincers (darë).

Tools and processes for the relevant products: (wine (verë), brandy (raki) etc.): mangle (shtrydhëse), crush (shtrydhje).

2. From common words that have been used for centuries as a special words, where knowledge fields were created from words that entered written documents.
From written monuments of language ("Missal" of John Buzuku)⁴. A portion entered directly: *the shaft, power, strength*; one portion as terminologised, as *head (kokë), legs (këmbë), eyes (sy)*, etc..
3. Words from primitive technical tools, from the chariot and household tools: *bed(shtrat), circle(rreth)* (mountain), *beam(rreze)* (wheel).
4. Words that are transformed from concepts with functional changes: *plow* → *plug*; *millstone* → *mokërr*; *wheel milling* → *rrotë mulliri*; *cylinder milling* → *cilindër mulliri*; *mill milling* → *mulli bloje*; *milling plant (flour)* → *fabrikë bloje* (mielli).
5. Ambiguous concepts: Words used today as terms and common words with two different functions. They are designated by functions, semantic affinities. As words they express common concepts (meanings), as terms they express scientific-technical concepts: *door (derë), door sill (prag), windows (dritare), ceiling (tavan), floor (dysheme), roof (çati)* etc.
6. Terminologised words: head (bolt), foot (bridge).
7. Development of concepts within a term, as terminologized: *shovel (tool) (lopateë (vegël))* → *shovel (mixing) (lopateë (përzierëse))* → *shovel (fan) (lopateë (ventilatori))*, *wheel (wagon) (rrotë (qerreje))* → *wheel (car) (rrotë (makine))*.

These related terms on the basis of developing their conceptual content can be presented schematically in the following form:



6. Conclusion

On general terms, the technical vocabulary can be seen as a broad stratification consisting of units (one word or compound words) that functions and is identified in various fields of knowledge, limited by the knowledge and its use in ordinary discourse by speakers.

In terms of the origin of its creation in the course of time to the present state it can be viewed also as a formation from common words, as well as in their further development, as units divided into two broad groups depending on their two transition stages from the forms of the special vocabulary: basal, to the forms of a higher special vocabulary, where, as a transition basis serves their elevation from a low concept to the high one. Directly they relate as with common words, also with units of a higher conceptual level, as are terms, which we may call either special units of a scientific-technical level or specialized units, since they connect with specific identified knowledge fields.

⁴ E. Lafa, "Leksiku dituror te Gjon Buzuku", në Seminarin XVII Ndërkombëtar për Gjuhën, Letërsinë dhe Kulturën Shqiptare. Tiranë, 16-31 gusht 1995.

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