# Features of subject expression in simple semi-composite sentence of the Rutul language: semantic and syntactic analysis

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## **Abstract**

Syntax in the Nakh-Dagestan languages is still a problem that has not been fully investigated, complicated by the fact that the semantics of syntactic constructions are closely intertwined with other levels of language and the methods available in the arsenal of modern linguistic theory for describing such fundamental categories as a sentence, its main members, voice, mood, even the composition of the case system, etc., they are not always relevant here and require further special research. A.A. Bokarev [4], Z.G. devoted their works to the syntax of various Dagestan languages. Abdullaev [1,2], M.M. Hajiyev [5,6], B.G. Khanmagomedov [24], R.N. Rajabov [21], etc. The verb and its forms in the Iberian-Caucasian languages dictate the forms of the actants of the syntactic construction, actually building its scheme.

The analysis of syntactic features and functions of the adverbial participle and the adverbial turnover in a simple sentence of the Rutul language attracts attention from the point of view that in the named language the subject can be expressed in several cases, and not one nominative, which raises the question with what in this case the reference of the adverbial part should be consistent. Our work is devoted to the analysis of the behavior of the adverbial participle and adverbial turns from the point of view of their reference with the subject in different cases in a simple complicated sentence of the Rutul language.

**Keywords**: Dagestan languages, Rutul language, syntax of a complicated sentence, adverbial and adverbial turnover in a complicated sentence of the Rutul language.

# **INTRODUCTION**

The Rutul language belongs to the minority languages of the Nakho-Dagestan group of Iberian-Caucasian languages. According to official data, there are about 35 thousand native speakers of the Rutul language, according to unofficial data – about 100 thousand native speakers occupying the territory in the northwest of Southern Dagestan of the Russian Federation and in the north of the modern Republic of Azerbaijan - this territory was the Aran district as part of Caucasian Albania.

The Rutul language was analyzed in the works of A.M. Dirr [10], E. F. Jeyranishvili (in Georgian) [8,9], G.H. Ibragimov [12,13], M.E. Alekseev [25], S.M. Makhmudova [18, 19, 20], M.O. Ibragimova [13,14,15], A.S. Alisultanov and T.A. Suleymanova [3] et al., however, problems the syntax remains unexplored in due measure. Our work is devoted to the genus of adverbial turns in a simple complicated sentence of the Rutul language.

The participle and the adverbial participle in Dagestan languages are considered verb forms [1], [2], [3], [8], [11], however, the behavior of participial and adverbial turns here reveals

several problems, demonstrating that these constructs require a thorough analysis of their semantic and syntactic features.

The adverbial participle can express a simultaneous action with the main predicate or an action preceding it, while developing the

main verbal meaning of the predicate of the sentence, specifying exactly how the event occurred.

The meaning of simultaneity or concomitant action is conveyed by adverbs of multiple aspect (imperfect form):

# 1. Sukuy-byr hyrha-ra, makhv

Stockings knit tale

v-aa-ra kyuh-dy niine hynimeshisdo senior mother children

Continuing to knit stockings, grandmother tells a fairy tale to children.

# 1a. Gyugaa-ra-gyugaa-ra, uk syttia Rain grass collect kh-aa-ra ladjbara-sh-e do worker

Workers continued to collect hay in the rain (lit. Rain-rain, grass is collected by workers).

As example (1a) shows, in the Rutulian language, the rule "...If there is a canonical subject in the sentence, no other IG can control the reference PRO in the adverbial turnover," as Y.G. Testelets writes [23: 331]. The repeated adverbial participle gyugyara-gyugyara (lit. "rain-rain") is formed here from an impersonal

verb, and therefore cannot have its own subject. The main offer is uk sytIa khaara lajbarashe (lit. "the grass is collected by workers") has its subject – lajbarashe in the ergative case.

Here is another example with impersonal verbs in the form of an imperfect adverbial participle expressing the simultaneity of action with the main verb predicate:

# 2.Uula kelzere-kelzere, e Rykai

above drizzling we road

## aichiuri

enter

Drizzled, we went on the road (lit. Drizzle-drizzle from above, we went on the way).

In example (2), the repeated adverbial part of the imperfect form cannot have its subject, since it is formed from the impersonal verb "drizzle", while the main part of the sentence – "we went on the way" – has its subject – e "we".

The IG of the adverbial turnover can act separately, whereas the IG of the main part of the sentence complicated by the adverbial turnover can act as the subject in the main part of the clause:

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3. Shurkumashe	cIiv-cIiv	vaara-vaara,
Bird	squeal	do
gaIt	hukaa	Luvchiuri
cat	tree	climb

The birds were chirping (being frightened), the cat climbed a tree (Lit. "Birds chirping in fear, the cat climbed a tree").

As the examples above demonstrate, the adverbial turn, expressing the simultaneity of the action of birds with the main action performed by a cat, has its own separate subject (shurukmashe), whereas the main part of the sentence has its own subject (gaIt).

Example

4. Le-b-shu-ra h'ydyniy-e h'yed,

Take woman water

gya-b-gyu-ra bych1-ee-my-s

water flowers

Taking water, the woman waters the flowers.

A substitutive subject pronoun in the main part is also acceptable here, but this is not done in colloquial speech:

4a. Lebshura h'ydyniye h'yed, gyabgura gyaniye bychIimys.

Another example:

ihtilatad 5. Ivesis mi un Ives this one conversation rumor yishi-r, jybra ru'u-ra g'ya-di-d become following that go

Ives heard about these conversations and decided to find out everything himself (lit. After hearing this conversation, the rumor follows him).

As the above material demonstrates, the subject (or the main argument of the verb) in the Rutul

In the Rutulian sentence, in sentences with adverbial participles and adverbial turns, another interesting feature is observed: in narrative discourse, the subject of the main part of the clause crosses the boundaries of its clause and can appear in the adverbial turn, while not requiring mandatory material substitutions in the main part [19: 18-20]:

simple complicated sentence can be located both in the main part and in the adverbial turn itself, while this sentence member agrees in number and class with the adverbial part if it is part of the adverbial turn, or with the predicate of the main part of the sentence if it is in the main part:

# 6. Li-v-chir

gaIt,

cat

jump

Having jumped, the cat grabs the bird by the wing (lit. The cat having jumped, he grabs the bird's wing).

In example (6), the active actor or the subject that produces the main action has the form of a nominative defined by the intransitive semantics of the adverbial part livchir "jump", in the adverbial part li-v-chir element -v- is an affix of the third class – the class of animals. The adverbial participle livchir has a singular form, like the word "cat", compare:

gaIt li-v-chiri "cat jumped";

6a. Livchir,

gyt-i-ri-re

Jump

cat

ha-l-kya-ra shurku-d kyli grab bird wing

Having jumped, the cat grabs the bird by the wing (lit. The cat having jumped, he grabs the bird's wing).

There are four grammatical classes in the Rutul language, according to which all nouns are distributed [20]. The 1st class includes names denoting male persons (including mythical characters), the 2nd class includes names also denoting female persons. Of the names denoting people, only the word veled "child, descendant" belongs to the third class, conventionally called the class of animals. All names denoting animals, celestial bodies, natural phenomena and inanimate objects belong to the 3rd and 4th classes, and the principle of distribution is not very clear, but any new word that appears in the language is clearly distributed by each native speaker in these two classes without any indication of specialists or a contract.

For example, the speakers of the Muhadi dialect define the words TV, computer, phone,

gaiter li-y-chiri "cats jumped";

rysh le-r-chiri "girl jumped";

ryshbaI le-d-chiri "girls jumped".

However, the same active figure, being in the main part of a simple sentence complicated by an adverbial or adverbial turn, agrees in class and number with the verb of the main part, while the case form of the active figure is dictated by the semantics of the main verb-predicate, compare:

USB flash drive, etc. in the 3rd class, and refrigerator, tablet, disk, laptop – in the 4th class. The distribution of these names by dialects may vary, however, in this case, all speakers of the dialect will equally accurately distribute such names by class.

Affixes corresponding to classes perform another role in the Rutulian language: they help to identify the missing missing sentence member of the sentence, not directly named, but implicitly expressed through exponents of classes.

For example, in sentence (7) neither the adverbial turn nor the main part of the sentence contain a subject–figure, but the class indicators clearly indicate them:

7. H'y-r-gad, vy-dy

g'ila-byr-m-yy,

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Lovely leg you Bych1 y-ishir, la-r-she-s yigara Flower become entwine want Vy badaana yig-a-vysh-e day night You for the sake Sham v-ishi-r, ki-r-she-s yiga-ra Candle *become* burn want

My love, I would like to cling to your feet, becoming a flower,

(Yusif).

For you, I, becoming a candle, would like to burn day and night.

Perfect adverbs convey the semantics of the action preceding the main one expressed by the verb predicate. However, even in examples with adverbial parts and adverbial turns of the perfect kind, the subject of the sentence can cross the boundaries of the turn and the main part of the sentence, taking the form of the case that is dictated by the verb of the main part or the adverbial part in the turn, depending on where the subject is, without prejudice to semantics:

8. Sih'yir huyid kirhyy ulesdy, kharahara rysh (girl) hala

8a. Sih'yir ryshere (girl) huyid kirhyy ulesdy, kharahara hala

After putting the food on the edge of the field, the girl runs home.

This phenomenon is noted in the special literature: K.I. Kazenin writes in relation to the Lak language that "if the subject of the adverbial turnover coincides with the subject of the main part, then the subject can be omitted either in the adverbial turnover or in the main part" [17: 209]. In our opinion, there is no omission of the subject or the argument that plays the role of the main actor, but the transition of the subject into the adverbial turnover, since the case of the subject also changes under the influence of the semantics of the adverbial:

9. G'y'yr lyzyd ki, rur'ra mi h'ydyldy (woman) hyarada

9a. G'y'yr mi h'ydyniye (woman) lyzyd ki, rur'ra hyarada

After preparing the dough, this woman goes to the women's bakery.

"The sentence ... is a finite clause. Non-finite clauses – infinitive, participial, adverbial, gerund turns - are devoid of predicativity, but otherwise very similar to sentences" [23:256], - writes Ya.G. Testelets. Examples 8a and 9a allow us to put forward as a working hypothesis the opinion that in such cases it is possible to talk about predicativity inherent in adverbial turns, since there is both a subject and a predicate here, since it is the predicate-the adverbial part that controls the case of the subject, as it usually happens with grammatical bases in Dagestan languages.

# **Conclusions**

Thus, the data of the Rutul language lead to several interesting conclusions for syntactic theory:

- the adverbial turnover can have a subject (or the main argument of the verb) in its composition, which usually in natural languages should be located in the main part of the sentence;
- the main actant of the verb, occupying the position of the main actant in the adverbial turn, may not necessarily have a substitute pronoun in the main part of a simple complicated sentence (examples 4, 4a, 5);

- simple sentences complicated by adverbial turns in the Rutul language do not demonstrate adherence to the principle that the subject of the main part of the sentence should control the reference of the figure of the adverbial turn (examples 1a, 2, 3);
- the main figure of the sentence can be in the adverbial turn, and then it agrees in its main characteristics with the adverbial part that is part of the adverbial turn, moreover, the adverbial part determines the case design of this main argument (example 6); if the main figure of the sentence is in the main part of the sentence, then it agrees with the verb predicate of the main parts and coordinates its case form with it (example 6a, 8, 8a, 9, 9a);
- the main figure of the sentence may be absent both in the adverbial turnover and in the main part of the sentence, expressed in class exponents.

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