

A corpus-based study of “destinative Future” in Albanian

Anna S. Karpikova

Saint Petersburg State University

Research Supervisor: PhD, Prof. A. Yu. Rusakov

Subject

- form *kam për të bërë* (*kam* ‘have’ + construction of purpose ‘*për të* + Participle’)

Purpose

- To describe the meanings of the construction in the literature of different genres (fiction, press, religious texts, memoirs, non-fiction, essays, official documents); to reveal conditions and contexts, which define temporal or modal interpretation of this form; to make preliminary conclusions about the possible ways of grammaticalization of the construction.

Tasks

- The study of literature on Future Tense in Albanian.
- The study of literature devoted to processes of grammaticalization of similar structures with verbs of possession in different languages in order to make conclusions about the ways of evolution of the construction ‘*kam për të* + Participle’ in the Albanian language.
- Collection of data: examples, which include the construction ‘*kam për të* + Participle’, were found in the Albanian National Corpus (<http://web-corpora.net/AlbanianCorpus/search/>)
- Interpretation of the construction in the found examples according to the context.
- Clarification of terminology, which describes the construction.
- Definition of the stage of grammaticalization of the structure ‘*kam për të* + Participle’ in the modern Albanian language.

Sources of Information

- Gramatike historike e gjuhës shqipe (Shaban Demiraj, 1986)
- Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe (Prof. Dr. Fatmir Agalliu, dr. Engjëll Angoni, prof. Shaban Demiraj, prof. dr. Ali Dhrimo, as. Prof. Dr. Enver Hysa, prof. Dr. Lefe, prof. Dr. Ethem Likaj, 1995)
- Albanische Grammatik (Wilfried Fiedler, Oda Buchholz 1987)
- Grammar of Standard Albanian (Leonard Newmark, 1982)
- The Evolution of Grammar Tense, Aspect, and Modality in the Languages of The World» J. Bybee, R. Perkins и W. Pagliuca (chapter «Future») (1994).

Theoretical Background

1. Future Tense in Albanian

Future Tense Formation with the Help of the Particle *do*:

- Future Simple:**
do të laj ‘I will wash’ (*do* + Present Subjunctive)
- Future in the Past:**
do të laja (*do* + Imperfect Subjunctive)
- Future II (Future Perfect):**
do të kem larë (*do* + Perfect Subjunctive)

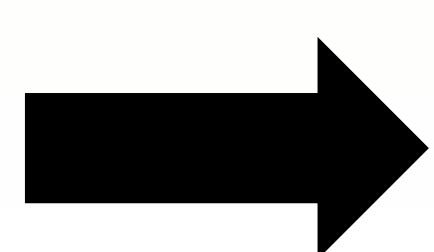
Future Tense Formation with Auxiliary Verb *kam*:

- kam me punue*** (*kam* + «Gheg Infinitive») – in the north Albanian dialects
- kam për të punuar*** (*kam* + *për të* + Participle) – the youngest type of Future Tense, which is used all over Albania. It exists in southern (Tosk) and northern (Gheg) dialects
- kam të punoj*** (*kam* + Present Subjunctive) – in Italo-Albanian dialects (Demiraj 1986; Buchholz, Fiedler 1987)

2. Ways of Grammaticalization of Analytical Future in the World’s Languages

‘be’, ‘become’, ‘have’ / POSSESSION > OBLIGATION
‘be’, ‘become’, ‘have’ / POSSESSION > PREDESTINATION

PREDESTINATION



FUTURE

OBLIGATION

(J. Bybee et al., 1994)

Findings

1. Main Meanings of *kam për të* + Participle

1.1. Debitative

- (1) *Mua më vjen turp t’i them që nesër kam për t’i dhënë shokut Q. diskutimin. Po që t’ia jap nesër, duhet ta shkruaj sonte.* (D. Agolli, Shkëlqimi dhe rënia e shokut Zylo, 1972)
‘I am ashamed of telling her that tomorrow **I have to give** Comrade K. the speech. But to give it him tomorrow I have to write it today.’

1.2. Destinative

The construction is the most frequently used in this meaning in religious texts: ipm (items per million) in religious texts = **349.00**
Cf. in fiction texts ipm = **47.13**; in press ipm = **7.77**; in memoirs and essays ipm = **47.32**; in the other non-fiction texts ipm = **7.16**

The term “Destinative” was taken from the article by V. Plungyan “О категории “темпоральной подвижности” в армянском языке” (“On the category of “temporal mobility” in Armenian”). This term means the situation which will be despite anything.

- (2) *Asnjë nga mëkatet e kryera prej tij nuk do të kujtohet kundër tij; ai ka bërë atë që është e ndershme dhe e drejtë dhe me siguri ka për të jetuar.* (Dhjata e vjetër, Ezekieli, përkthimi i Shoqërisë Biblike e Shqipërisë, 1994)
‘None of the sins, which he has done, will not be mentioned to him: he has done that is noble and right and, of course, **he is to live.**’

1.3. Intention

- (3) — *Më nevojitet një pallto, një pallto e madhe, me jakë të ngritur, me astar.* — **Ken** **për të bërë** ndonjë udhëtim? — e pyeti ai. — Jo! (G. Flaubert, Zonja Bovari (përkthyer nga Viktor Kalemi), 2009)
‘— I need an overcoat, a big coat with high fur collar. — **Are you going to make** journey? — he asked her. — No!’

1.4. Future

- (4) *Omeu dhe Kanivei e tërhoqën jashtë dhomës.* — Mbajeni veten! — Po, — thoshte ai, duke u përpjekur t’u shpëtonte nga duart, — do të tregohem i arsyeshëm, **s’kam për të bërë** asgjë të keqe. (G. Flaubert, Zonja Bovari (përkthyer nga Viktor Kalemi), 2009)
‘Ome and Kanive led him out of room. — Be quite! — Ok, — he was saying breaking loose from their grip. — I’ll be intelligent and **will not do** anything bad.’

1.5. The Combination of Different Meanings of Future Tense in the Same Sentence

- (5) *Në disa pjesë të atdheut tonë të stërmadh, ende flitet se qysh atëherë kanë ekzistuar profecitë se do të vijë një kohë kur ata që nuk punojnë kanë për të jetuar më mirë, e ata që janë tradhtarë kanë për të qenë objekt adhurimi.* (Zëri, 2013.07.31)
‘In several regions of our immense motherland it is still said that prophecies existed even at that time saying about the time when those who don’t work **are to live better** better, and those who are betrayers **are to be admired.**’
- (6) *Në këtë vend të bekuar ku këndohet me aq krenari e aq pathos kënga «O sa mirë me ken shqiptar!», me sa duket nuk ka ikur e nuk ka për të ikur kurrë frika e vjedhjes së votës, njëllonjë si ajo e mbetjes pa punë, pa shtëpi e pa katandi... (Gazeta Shqiptare, 2006.12.16)*
‘In this blessed country, where the song «It is so wonderful to be the Albanian!» is sung with such pride and passion that, it seems, the fear of theft of votes hasn’t gone and **will never go** away as well as the fear of being without job, house and belongings...’

The Way of Grammaticalization

Relative clause:

Fuqia e qytetarëve është liria që kanë për t’u shprehur.

‘The power of citizens is freedom of self-expression which they **have in order to express.**’

Debitative:

Mua më vjen turp t’i them që nesër kam për t’i dhënë shokut Q. diskutimin.

‘I am ashamed of telling her that tomorrow I **have to give** Comrade K. the speech.’

Destinative:

Rimë edhe pak! — tha Bovariu. — Asaj i janë shpleksur flokët: me sa duket ka për të ndodhur ndonjë gjë tragjike.

‘Let’s sit some more time! — said Bovari. — She let her hair down: it seems that something tragic **is to happen.**’

Future:

Po, — thoshte ai, duke u përpjekur t’u shpëtonte nga duart, — do të tregohem i arsyeshëm, s’kam për të bërë asgjë të keqe.

‘Ok, — he was saying breaking loose from their grip. — I’ll be intelligent and **will not do** anything bad.’