

Kadare's Newly-Formed Words with the Suffix -shëm



Literature

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Abstract

If a scholar studies the language that a particular writer uses, that implies that the scholar also endorses that writer's work. Language itself is alive and just like anything that is alive; it can be subject to injuries and damages. Ismail Kadare is a visionary author who senses the danger that a language may encounter. That is the reason why he goes on a mission to protect and enrich the Albanian language with newly-formed words. Using almost each and every one of the suffixes and prefixes available in Albanian while applying the internal word-forming rules that the Albanian language dictates, Ismail Kadare has created a vast number of new words that carry an immense lexical and stylistic value, without being morphologically incorrect. In this paper we study Ismail Kadare's newly-formed words using the suffix *-shëm*, thus offering our contribution to the studying of Ismail Kadare's newly-formed vocabulary.

Introduction

The Albanian language has a long history of being enriched by writers and authors. In this context, it is inevitable to mention the linguistic contributions made by the Albanian language Renaissance authors as one of the greatest language contributors. However, if we leave aside for a while the Renaissance tradition and pay attention to contemporary literature, we will see that one author who comes above the others in terms of the input and extraordinary care towards the language is Ismail Kadare. Tefik Caushi and Natasha Sotiri, two Kadare scholars have analyzed Kadare's lexicon and have made a nice collection of his most frequently used words and newly created ones. In this paper, only the words ending in *-shëm* have been selected, based on the three of his world renowned works: "*Lulet e ftohta të marsit*", "*Jeta, loja dhe vdekja e Lul Mazrekut*" and "*Ura me tri harqe*" and as such it complements the collection of words by this writer.

There have been ages since literary critics and Albanian language scholars have had loads of work to do (thanks to Ismail Kadare). At times when Albanian is being overwhelmed by global languages, when the technical and technological development is growing rapidly, Kadare, with the foresight of a great writer, seeks for and reveals forgotten words, words used in remote areas, words that had died long time ago, and he brings them back to life.

Therefore, from the whole range of dialectic linguistic creations, we have selected only those ending in *-shëm*. This suffix, belonging to the northern Gheg dialect, draws our attention not only because of its frequency of use but also because how Kadare formed these words and their semantic evolution.

The technique of combining constitutive elements in Kadare's neologisms

Based on Jani Thomai's studies in relation to the mode of creation of new words, concretely lexical units which join together and as such produce neologisms, it has been noticed that Kadare uses the same constitutive elements of the Albanian language, but in some cases contextual creations are recorded. Below one can see the means by which Kadare creates neologisms backed up by concrete examples.

1. The word-forming root which holds the lexical meaning or its essential component. The essence of the meaning it has or its basic components have are maintained in the lexical meaning of the word to be created and they take part in its gestation. (Thomai, p.119)
E.g. the word *i hapësirshëm* consists of the root *hapësirë*, to which Kadare added the suffix *-shëm*, thus creating a new word and by articulating it. We can see that the root comprises part of the meaning and the word-forming suffix contains the other part: *hyjnueshëm/ me i, e* - something which is divine, holy, heavenly, saint (Natasha, p. 449 / Ura, p. 73).
2. The word-forming tool (affixes) which causes significant modifications to the semantic topic (to the meaning of the word-forming root). The affix causes semantic changes as well as changes of the lexical-grammatical category (i.e. of the part of speech), to the over tier elements, etc. (Thomai, p.119)
E.g. the word *mundimshëm* has been created from the word *mundim* and the suffix *-shëm* (troublesome). (Ura, p. 73/110, / Jeta e Lulit, p.22);

During the creation of new words, movements in the word content occur:

- a) The lexical-grammatical meaning can change (Thomai, p.120), i.e. the meaning or the category of the word may change after being modified; e.g. Kadare has created the new word *ngutshme/ ëm- të* – ngutas, me ngut, ngutthi./ Lulet, p.129/) (hastily, instant) from the verb *hurry (ngut)*;
- b) A semantic element of the emotional or stylistic character may change (Thomai, p.120). These movements are usually caused by the affixes, e.g. the adverb *dridhshëm* which has been created by the verb *dredh* (to shake, vibrate, spin, twist, tremble, shiver / Jeta e Lulit, p.72).
- c) Special content elements may also change, which make it multi-valuable in terms of the semantics; during the formation of words, a new value is created which is characteristic for the other parts of speech (Thomai, p.120). The adverb *gëzueshëm* (in a happy way, manner) has been formed from the verb *gëzue* (Lulet, p14).

The category of adjectives that can be articulated with *-shëm* in Albanian is very rich. However, what mostly draws attention in adjectives formed by Kadare with this suffix is that, in many of them, the root represents a one-worded phrase. Such are adjectives: *dytrajtshëm/ me (i, e)*,

kryehershëm/ me- (i, e), fundbotshëm/ me (i, e) etc. Kadare uses a one-word phrase, thus creating a new noun and then uses that new noun as a root to create an adjective by articulating it and adding a prefix to it. In this way, from the phrase *fundi i botës*, he has created the noun *fundbota* and from here the adjective *i fundbotshëm*.

Kadare also uses many adverbs with this suffix (*-shëm*), which are peculiarities of the northern Gheg dialect. These are not part of Standard Contemporary Albanian and he either draws them from the Gheg dialect or creates them himself using them as a model to create new *-shëm* suffix adjectives. These may include: *këtejshëm, kobshme, kryehershme, kujdesshëm*, etc.

Neologisms with the *-shëm* suffix that emerge as adjectives

As we mentioned earlier, a number of nouns, verbs and adverbs have been created with this suffix: *dytrajtshëm/ me i,e-* (that has or appears in two shapes, or is two types (Natasha p.249)/ Jeta e Lulit, p.224/); *fundbotshëm/ me i,e-* (catastrophic; bitter (Natasha p.328) / Lulet, p.63/); *gjithgjendshëm/ me i,e-* (that can be found everywhere (Natasha p.385) / Ura, p.37/), *gjithunjshëm/ me i,e-* (overall, overwhelming (Natasha p.389) (Jeta p.72), *habitshme/ të -* (unusual, amazing, confusing (Natasha 402) / Lulet, p.126/); *hyjnueshëm/ me i,e-* (heavenly, godly, saint (Natasha p.449), / Ura, p.73/); *kryehershëm/ me- i,e* (first, initial;/ Lulet, p.63/); *kotsëkotshëm/ me- i,e* (vain, trivial /Jeta e Lulit, p.148/); *mundueshëm/me- të -* (not easy, that required very hard work, difficult /Lulet , p. 122/); *nënujshme/ ëm- i,e -* (underwater, that belongs to water and not soil /Lulet, p. 137/); *ngutshme/ ëm- të -* (quick, rushing, hurrying; / Lulet , p.129/); *ngeshëm/ me i,e -* (Ura, p. 121/); *papengueshëm/ me i,e* (that cannot be stopped, that can make one stop (Ura, p.128/); *papërfytyrshëm/ me i,e* (that cannot be imagined, cannot be perceived by our mind /Lulet, p.95/); *pavjedhshëm/ me i,e* (that can never be stolen /Lulet, p.95/); *rrokshme/ ëm -të* (something that can be grabbed, taken, easily caught /Lulet,p.129/); *sipërfaqshme/ ëm i,e* (superficial /Ura, p.100/); *turrshëm/ me i,e-* (someone or something that is fast, flushing, rushing, flying at, / Ura , p.48/); *ujshëm/ me i,e -*(/Ura p.71/); *vështirshëm/ me i,e-* (difficult, harsh, stubborn, /Lulet, p.85/); *vdekshëm/ me -i,e-* (deadly, that cannot exist forever, /Lulet , p.58/); *zishme/ ëm -i,e -* (/Ura, p.139/).

Neologisms with the *-shëm* suffix that emerge as adverbs

andejshëm - (not belonging to this side, to one's side, or to this life, /Ura, p.71/); *dantealigershëm -* (like the persons from Hell in Alighieri's works that crash fast (Natasha, p.195), / Lulet, p.101/); *dridhshëm* (characterized by shivers, in a vibrating manner, in a trembling way) /Jeta e Lulit, p. 72/); *furishëm -* (furiously; Natasha p.331), / Jeta e Lulit, p.84/); *gëzueshëm* (joyfully, happily;/ Lulet, p. 14/); *habitshëm* (unusually, amazingly, extraordinarily (Natasha 402)/ Ura, p.70/); *hareshëm-* (happily, joyfully/Jeta e Lulit, p.14/); *hovshëm-* (vigorously, immediately, Natasha p.438 / Ura, p.110/); *hutueshëm-* (confusingly (Natasha p. 448) / Lulet, p. 16/); *këtejshëm-* (belonging to this side or to this life /Ura, p.71/); *kobshme-* (ghastly / Ura, p.75/); *kryehershëm-* (firstly, initially; /Lulet, p.112/); *kujdesshëm-* (carefully /Lulet, p. 35/); *lodrueshëm* (playfully / Jeta e Lulit, p.244/); *mallëngjyeshëm* (sorrow, in a grieving way /Jeta e Lulit, p. 94/);

mendueshëm- (thinking, meditating / Ura, p. 56/); *marramendshëm* (in a dizzy way, very fast that can cause dizziness, confusion or concussion / Lulet, p. 101/); *mekshëm* (in a weak way/ Jeta p. 173/ Lulet , p.147); *mundimshëm* (in a troublesome way, manner/ Ura p.73/110, / Jeta e Lulit, p.22/); *ngadalshëm* (slowly, easily / Jeta e Lulit, p.12/); *ngatërrueshëm* (unclearly, confusingly /Jeta e Lulit, p.126/); *ngutshëm* (quickly, fast / Lulet, p.101/); *njëtrajtshëm*- (uniformly /Jeta e Lulit, p.63); *përbuzshëm* (disdain, contempt /Ura, p.67/); *përtueshëm* (lazily / Jeta e Lulit, p. 37/); *përvajshëm*- (crying / Lulet, p.35/); *potershëm*- (unnecessary noisily /Ura, p.121/), *rrokshëm*- (in a catchable way /Jeta e Lulit, p. 165/);*skëtërrshëm* (terrifyingly, terribly, /Ura ,p.17/); *shqetësueshëm* (upsettingly, disturbingly /Jeta e Lulit, p.94/); *trëndafilshëm* (happily, joyfully, hopefully /Lulet p.15/); *turrshëm* (in a rushing way, forcefully /Ura, p. 101/); *vajtueshëm* (making a crying voice, screaming, / Lulet p.99/); *verbueshëm*- (making you see dully, as if being blind, in a blinding way / Lulet, p. 120/); *vrullshëm* - (in a rushing way, forcefully /Lulet, p.57/ Ura, p.33/); *vëmendshëm*- (carefully / Jeta e Lulit, p.139/); *zishëm* – (mourning / Lulet, p.22).

Adjectives with the suffix *-shëm* in “Ura me tri harqe”

Adjectives	Page
i gjithgjendshëm	37
i turrshëm	48
i ujshëm	71
i hyjnueshëm	73
e sipërfaqshme	100
i ngeshëm	121
i papengueshëm	128
e zishme	139

Adverbs with the suffix *-shëm* in “Ura me tri harqe”

Adverb	Page
skëtërrshëm	17
vrullshëm	33
mendueshëm	56
përbuzshëm	67
habitshëm	70
këtejshëm	71
andejshëm	71
mundimshëm	73/110
kobshme	75
turrshëm	101
hovshëm	110
potershëm	121
tronditshëm	139

Adjectives with the suffix *-shëm* in “Lulet e ftohta të marsit”

Adjective	Page
i,e vdekshëm	58
i,e krzehershëm	63
i,e fundbotshëm	63
i,e vështirshëm	85
i,e pavjedhshëm	95
i,e papërftyrshëm	95
të mundueshëm	122
të habitshme	126
të rrokshme	129
të ngutshme	129
i,e nënujshme	137

Adverbs with the suffix *-shëm* in “Lulet e ftohta të marsit”

Adverb	Page
Gëzueshëm	14
trëndafilshëm	15
hutueshëm	16
zishëm	22
Përvajshëm	35
kujdesshëm	35
vrulshëm	57
Vdekatar/e	63
vajtueshëm	99
marramendshëm	101
dantealigershëm	101
ngutshëm	101
krzehershme	112
verbueshëm	120
mekshëm	147

Adjectives with the suffix *-shëm* in “Jeta, loja dhe vdekja e Lul Mazrekut”

Adjective	Page
i,e gjithunjshëm	72
i,e kotsëkotshëm	148
i,e dytrajtshëm	224

Adverbs with the suffix *-shëm* in “*Jeta, loja dhe vdekja e Lul Mazrekut*”

Adverb	Page
ngadalshëm	12
haraeshëm	14
mundinshëm	22
rrezikshëm	22
përtueshëm	37
njëtrajtshëm	63
dridhshëm	72
rrëmbyeshëm	79
furishëm	84
shqetsueshëm	94
mallëngjyeshëm	105
ngatrueshëm	126
vëmendshëm	139
rrokshëm	165
mekshëm	173
lodrueshëm	244

In the following chart we have given the number of adjectives and adverbs used as neologisms in the referred materials for the aims of this study.

Adjectives	Adverbs	Works
11	15	Lulet e ftohta të marsit
3	16	Jeta, loja dhe vdekja e Lul Mazrekut
8	13	Ura me tri harqe
22	44	Total

Conclusion

The collection of all the words created by Kadare in one single paper and their explanation and discussion requires hard work and dedication; it makes a new challenge for the scholars and researchers of his works and deeds. Our study deals with an issue that has not been thoroughly studied by scholars of the Albanian language. Words formed using the suffix *-shëm* are very meaningful both in the context of Kadare’s works and the Albanian language as a whole, because the writer inputs an element of the northern dialect in his works. Kadare deliberately inserts of northern dialect words or other elements of Gheg in the standard Albanian language dictionary. In this way, Kadare opposes the claims, movements and voices who argued that the Albanian literary language was created by the southern dialect (Tosk) at the expense of the Gheg dialect. In addition, Kadare views northern dialect words (Gheg) as more colorful and stronger if used with an unchanged accent or with the same original phonetic-grammatical features.

The paper has been divided into three parts. In the first part we have explained the elements that the writer uses while creating the new words. The second part is a mini dictionary in which neologisms have been explained and discussed, and finally there are the charts in which the number of neologisms found in the reference materials has been given.

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