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MANTATOFOROS

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“Mantatoforos” (Wim Bakker/Arnold van Gemert),
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Αυτό το τεύχος το επιμελήθηκαν οι
Wim Bakker, Kostas Dimadis, Arnold van Gemert,
Christiane Hermans και Ems Swaan.
του στην Ελλάδα, έδρασε ένα περιοδικό - το "Πράσιμα" - με σκοπό τη διάδοση της Ελληνικής λογοτεχνίας. Από το περιεχόμενο των 4 τευχών που εκδόθηκαν γίνεται φανερό ότι πρότυπο ήταν το Νανγκιλάντ, δυστυχώς, μετά το δάνειο του Χατζή η έκδοση του περιοδικού έχει διακοπεί.

Στις δεκαετίες του 60 και του 70 σημειώθηκε άνοδος στη μεταφραστική και εκδοτική δραστηριότητα, πράγμα που σηματοδοτεί τόσο στη βελτίωση των οικονομικών και πολιτιστικών προοπτικών όσο και στο ένοτό ένθαλέτον που προκλήθηκε από τα πολιτικά γεγονότα στην Ελλάδα την περίοδο αυτή. Τα τελευταία χρόνια οι οικονομικές δυσκολίες έγιναν αυξητές και, ακόμα και σε αυτόν τον τομέα, όπως δείχνει και η πτώση των "τιράκαν", για παράδειγμα τα ποιήματα του Καβάφη εκδόθηκαν στα 1975 σε 15000 αντίτυπα, ενώ η εκδόση του Ελλή στα 1981, δηλ. αμέσως μετά την αιχμαλωσία του Νόμπελ, αριθμούσε μόνο 1700 αντίτυπα. Το 1973 το έργο "Ο Χριστός ξανασταυρώνεται" είχε εκδοθεί σε 129850 αντίτυπα, που εξαντλήθηκαν σε λίγους μήνες. Το 1981 το ίδιο έργο τυπώθηκε σε 12500 αντίτυπα. Παρά τις δυσκολίες αυτές αυτή η στιγμή ετοιμάζονται δύο ανθολογίες κυπριακής λογοτεχνίας και ο Καλλιάνος Σαββάς έχει τελειώσει τη μετάφραση της "Γυναικάς της Ζάκυνθου" του Σολομόν. Πιθανό να υπάρξουν κι άλλες πρωτοβουλίες, και έχουμε κάθε λόγο να πιστεύουμε πως η έκδοση νεοελληνικής λογοτεχνικής έργων σε ηγετική μετάφραση θα συνεχιστεί.

Boudukkótt Támas Gásar

Modern Greek and Balkan Linguistics

ation in 1930 of Kr. Sandfeld's monumental work, Linguistique Balkanique - Problèmes et Réalités, that the field of Balkan Linguistics was effectively created. Sandfeld identified and collected together in one work statements of many of the structural parallels holding among the languages of the area, such as the merger of active and genitive case functions, the formation of a future tense with the verb 'want', the occurrence of the definite article after the first element of the nominal phrase it is associated with, the general disuse of the infinitive and consequent increase in use of finite subordinate clauses, and the like, as well as numerous other parallels of a lexical nature, such as the formation of the numbers from 11 to 19 as 'DIGIT-on-TEN'. Since that time, much energy has been devoted to the study of these parallels, generally known as Balkanisms, with the result that new Balkanisms have been proposed, such as the merger of active and locative case functions (Naylor 1981), and others previously identified have been explicated more thoroughly. In fact, the field of Balkan Linguistics has grown so considerably that two new handbooks, Schaller 1975 and Solta 1980, have appeared, a bibliography covering the field and containing some 1500 items (1). Schaller 1977 has been compiled, and at least four journals devoted primarily to Balkanistic concerns, Zeitschrift für Balkanologie, Balkansko Ezikoznanje, Les Études Balkaniques Tohécoslovaques, and Balkanistica, have been founded and now thrive (2).

Since Balkan Linguistics is concerned with the interrelations among the Balkan languages, it is not surprising that a good part of the progress in this field has been made through the examination of phenomena common to two or more languages in the area and through the study of any interaction that may be evident among these languages. However, the study of linguistic phenomena in the individual languages has also provided an important source of information for the field in general, so that the study of each language mentioned above, in and of itself, is actually of considerable importance to the overall field of Balkan Linguistics.

It is within this context that the role of Modern Greek and of Modern Greek Linguistics can begin to be assessed. Although as noted above, all of the Balkan languages are potential providers of input to Balkan Linguistics, there is a sense in which Greek is an especially important language in this regard. For one thing, Greek is the earliest and most continuously attested Balkan language, with records from ancient times up through the Hellenistic, Byzantine, and Medieval periods, and further up into the Modern era without a break. Greek thus affords the opportunity to see how a Balkan language has evolved under conditions of contact with the other languages since the beginning point before extensive contact is so well documented. Second, Greek for a long time was an important language from a cultural standpoint in many of the non-Greek speaking areas of the Balkans, so that influence from Greek on these other languages may well have been an significant impetus in the formation of some of the Balkanisms mentioned above. Finally, Greek is a non-Slavic language, and the Slavic languages of the Balkans become more significant from a Balkan perspective since they cannot be the result of some innovation patching back to the Common Slavic period when all the Slavic languages were one and the same language, i.e., approximately 800 AD when they can certainly be said to date. The other non-Slavic languages of the Balkans, namely Albanian, Romanian, and Turkish, so that this point should not be given undue emphasis, it does mean that a comparison between Greek and Bulgarian, for example, is more interesting from the Balkan standpoint than a comparison between Bulgarian and Serbo-Croatian.

From what has been said so far by way of introduction concerning Balkan Linguistics, it should be clear how Greek and the study of Greek fit into the general Balkan picture. Greek displays a number of the linguistic traits generally considered to be Balkanisms and, what is especially important from the perspective of trying to understand why these phenomena have occurred, Greek did not have these characteristics in its earlier stages, especially in ancient times. A full listing of the Balkan features found in Greek is not necessary here, for these are detailed in the handbooks, especially Schaller (1975: 101-2), and in articles such as the important one by Andriotis and Kourmoulis (1968). Briefly, though, the Greek language Balkan Linguistics has dealt with, Greek has done away with the verbal category infinitive and replaced the earlier infinitive with finite subordinate clauses headed by particles like na or pos, it has a future tense based on a form of the verb 'want', i.e., θέλει na, it has merged genitive and dative "functions" into a single case which continues the Ancient Greek genitive, it forms comparatives analytically by means of the particle πολύ, and it makes frequent use of the short pronominal forms to crossindex direct and indirect objects in a clause. Greek, therefore, while not displaying all the characteristics commonly associated with the Balkan languages - the postpositive definite article is missing from Greek and, as Naylor 1980 points out, Greek does not have a mid-to-high central vowel that most of the other languages do - nonetheless has enough to merit consideration as a member, from a structural standpoint, of the Balkan Sprachbund.

An additional way in which the study of Greek contributes to Balkan Linguistics is through lexicology in its broadest sense, taking in the study of individual lexical items, idioms, phrases, toponyms, hydronyms, etymologies, and the like. For one thing, Greek has contributed numerous loan words to all the Balkan languages important studies in this area include Andriotis 1952 and Filipova-Asensova 1966 regarding Greek loans in Bulgarian, Kazazis 1976 and Mihăescu 1966 regarding Greek loans in Romanian, Uhilsch 1968 and 1969 regarding Greek loans in Albanian, and Vasmer 1944
regarding Greek loans in Serbo-Croatian, among others. Also, Greek shows several of the lexical and phraseological parallels found in other Balkan languages, for example sortes álo 'without doubt', but literally "without (an)other", as also in Bulgarian (bez drugo), Albanian (pa tjetër) and Romanian (fără de altul), all literally and figuratively like the Greek, or mëzepse ti gjasu 'watch your language!', but literally "collect your tongue", as also in Albanian (mëdhi djojën) and Aromanian (aduna-ți gura), again all literally and figuratively alike the Greek. In a similar vein, Djoano-Dlacoinata 1968 has shown numerous parallels in the proverbs in the various Balkan languages, including Greek, e.g. den kànuo òles tì miges méti as also in Albanian (s'bënë njëla gëthi mi-zat) and Romanian (nu fac toate mûtele miere), all literally "not all flies make honey" and all used as the expression for "la traditionnelle répulsion pour les parasites et pour ceux qui se déro- bent au travail" (p. 286). Finally, important studies have been done on the question of the Baltic origin for a myriad of place and river names in Greece, especially by Georgacas (e.g. the articles of 1964-1967, among numerous others) and etymologies for several common Baltic terms have often been found in Greek, as by Moutsos 1969/70 with regard to kopëla and its counterparts in other Balkan languages.

A final way in which the study of Greek has provided input from the Balkan perspective is with regard to the causes of many of the pan-Balkan features. Greek has been imputed to be the source of some of the Balkanic features found in the other languages of the area. In fact, Sandfeld himself felt that Greek was the source of the parallels involving the verb 'want' in the future tense formation and the absence of the infinitive from so many of the Balkan languages, though these both have been much disputed since Sandfeld or his opposition has taken it to be. With regard to the loss of the infinitive, for example, Joseph (1983: Chapter 7) has argued that while the potential for the independent loss of the infinitive has been present in most of the Balkan languages, language contact in some form must have been a catalyzing agent in bringing on this development; most likely this was not just the superstratum contact of Greek over other languages, as Sandfeld envisioned it, but instead involved more complex interactions among speakers in an emerging multi-lingual society, possibly that of Northern Greece in the late Medieval period. As for the future tense formation, Reichenkron 1962 takes issue with the hypothesis that Greek is the source of the 'want'future, objecting to Sandfeld's claims of Greek cultural superiority in the Balkans; moreover, as Bardula 1972, Demiral 1972 and many other scholars have pointed out, similar formations occur in the Romance languages (4), so that Balkan Latin may have played some role too. The interrelations of the various future formations in the Balkan languages represent a still poorly-understood area, as noted below and in footnote 8.

Therefore the study of these aspects of the structure, history, and content of Modern Greek sheds important light on the workings of the Balkan Sprachbund as a whole, and to the extent that Greek can be said to have played a role in any way in the spread of these features, the study of the Greek contributes to an understanding of how the Balkan Sprachbund came into existence in the first place. However, the relationship between Greek Linguistics and Balkan Linguistics is not one-way, and it is often the case that one can solve problems in Modern Greek Linguistics through a consideration of data from the neighboring languages.

This is especially so with regard to the etymology of particular lexical items, though it is certainly not restricted to this area. By way of illustration, two examples, one concerning an etymology and one concerning a problem in the historical development of the noun in Modern Greek, are discussed below.

The etymology in question is that of the deictic particle na, which has generally been held, especially by Greek scholars (e.g. Hatzikakis 1905: II, pp. 100, 400; Andriotis 1987: s.v.) to derive from Ancient Greek enida 'see there' (composed of the interjection en 'behold' plus the imperative form ïðà 'see!') via a re-segmentation to eni-da which created a free form eni-ti; with the substitution of the adverbal ending -a for -t in eni-ti and the regularization of the initial vowel, the deictic na came into being. While undoubtedly a possible source for na, this is certainly a complicated etymology for an apparently simple word; moreover, this etymology does not explain the syntax of the particle na. As it turns out, a Balkan etymology can be adduced for na which meets these problems. Joseph 1984 argues that Greek na is in fact a loan-word from a neighboring Balkan language and an identical particle occurs in South Slavic, as well as in Albanian, Romanian, and Turkish, and demonstrative particles in the South Slavic languages at least, have similar syntax to Greek na (see Schaller 1970). What suggests that Slavic is the ultimate source of this word in Greek and not vice-versa, is that this form also occurs in West Slavic, e.g. Polish, and East Slavic, e.g. Ukrainian, areas which do not typically show any evidence of influence from Balkan languages. Thus even if it might have actually entered Greek through a non-Slavic Balkan language like Turkish or Albanian, it seems likely that na is actually a Balkan loan-word of Slavic origin in Greek.

Similarly, on the level of morphology, the development of the masculine singular genitives with a zero-ending (-θ), opposed to nominative singular forms in -ς, e.g. genitive τε πατρα-ς versus nominative o patéra-ς 'the father' or τε kilfí-ς versus o kilfi-ς 'the robber', in another area in which a Balkan perspective may be useful. The actual historical path by which πατρα or kilfi as genitives were created is somewhat obscure. They are neither the regular phonetic development of an Ancient Greek type - the
Balkan Linguistics can offer to Greek Linguistics. It is important to emphasize the word "potential" here, for these examples are not to be taken as representing the last word in any sense regarding these problems in Greek Linguistics. Etymology is to some extent a matter of taste, so that is often hard to prove or disprove an etymology conclusively, and much still remains unanswered about the historical development of the Modern Greek masculine genitive singular. Thus, problems may not be completely solved in this way, but the Balkan facts, it seems, should not be ignored in further research into other aspects of Modern Greek linguistics.

Among the desiderata for the future study of Modern Greek in its Balkan context are several areas which have been examined to some degree but not to the full extent that is needed, as well as some relatively new areas which are also deserving of close examination. For one thing, continued lexical studies are needed in order to assess the extent to which the vocabulary of Modern Greek has been influenced by other Balkan languages, to determine the status of those loans which have within the Greek lexicon, as Kazazis 1972 and to a lesser extent Joseph 1982 have already begun to do, and at the same time to reevaluate many etymologies for Greek words that have been proposed. As the earlier example of the deictic particle "ne, not all words which appear to be "native" Greek words actually are, and it may well be the case that several of the common affective elements in the Greek lexicon, such as particles, interjections and the like, have their origin in non-Greek Balkan languages; an additional case in point may be the interjection "aiddé", which is usually etymologized as deriving from Ancient Greek ἄγετε de, but in fact is hard to separate from such forms as Turkish hâyeti 'come! be off!', which occurs as hay de in 14th century Turkish, just like aiddé, and is apparently composed of a deictic particle (hay 'hey!', alas!) with a form of the verb 'to say' (de-mek); an actual determination, however, awaits further study.

To some extent, examples such as those concerning na and aiddé show another sliderist in Greek Linguistics in its Balkan context, namely the need to move away from linguistic chauvinism; this point has been made also by Androutsos and Kouroumplis (1968: 22) who have noted "la répugnance des linguistes balkaniques à rechercher l'influence des langues limíтроphes sur celle de leur propre pays" especially with regard to the source of a particular construction or lexical item in their native language. If what is of interest is the truth - to the extent that it can (ever) be determined - lying behind the history of some word or the spread of some syntax, then it should not matter whether that Greek (or some other language) was the donor language or the borrowing language in a linguistic "transac-

On a more purely linguistic level, one can note the absence of

patéra type continues the Ancient Greek third declension which had a genitive in -os (e.g. patro's 'of a father') while the klēfti type continues the Ancient Greek masculine first declension nouns such as tamīs 'steward' which had a genitive in -on (e.g. tamion) - nor are they the result of any obvious type of analogical reformation. Various possibilities exist, e.g. for the klēfti type one can point to the occurrence of a genitive such as atreiddé, from a contraction of -a:-o, in Doric and Aeolic, giving a nominative -a: as versus genitive -a:, analyzable as -a:-a / -a:-0, just like klēfti-s / klēfti-0. However, these ancient dialects generally did not provide much input to the Koine, so that an explanation relying on them is not very satisfying. In a like manner, the second declension nouns do have a nominative in -e with a genitive in -0, e.g. ðnēropos-s / ðnēropes, giving a potential model for the genitive forms in question, but the final vowel of the stem changes between the nominative and genitive, unlike the situation with the klēftis or patéras type, (5) again making this explanation less than satisfactory. (6)

A possible solution to this problem again comes from a consid-
eration of facts from other Balkan languages. As Civ'jan 1965 has noted in her study of the noun in the Balkan languages, Bulgarian and Macedonian show a one-case (or perhaps better, a no-case) noun system, in which one form of the noun serves for all cases, while the other Balkan languages show similarly a two-case system. Civ'jan's model of the formation of the Balkan Sprachbund emphasizes the role that a need for a balance between efficient language production and efficient language processing played in the contact between speakers of several different languages in the Balkans, and for her, Bulgarian and Macedonian come closest in form, with regard to the nominal system at least, to the hypothetical "mediator" lan-

These examples show the potential for explanatory power that

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significant work on how features such as reporterness, distancing,
admirativity, perfectivity, and aspect in general, which have all
been shown to enter into extremely complex structuring in the verbal
systems of Macedonian, Bulgarian, Albanian, and Turkish (see,
for example, Friedman 1977, 1980, 1981) are realized in the verbal system
of Modern Greek. The similarities and differences among these lan-
guages in this regard are extremely interesting for the Balkanist,
but as yet, only Ancient Greek has been mentioned in this regard,
and not Modern Greek. As Friedman (1980: 10) points out, several
scholars have noted that Ancient Greek drew with the imperfect of
'be' could be used 'to express surprise at something which was
true in the past but was only accepted or realized by the speaker
at the moment of speech ... (a) usage which (which) is reminiscent of the
Bulgarian 'admirative'; as yet, though, the existence of a com-
parable syntagm in Modern Greek has not been thoroughly investiga-
ted.

Similarly, the phonological parallels that have been noted
for the Balkan languages have generally not been found in Greek;
for example, as noted above, Greek lacks the mid-to-high central
vowel found in several Balkan languages. While this may be the re-
sult of the way in which Greek has developed vis-à-vis the other
Balkan languages, it may just as well be the result of a lack of at-
tempts to produce a Greek phonetic transcription. Once, however,
Lehiste and Ivić (1980) report that Serbo-Croatian, Albanian, and
Romanian seem to show a parallel with respect to a final low-high
intonation in yes-no questions; while the findings reported in
Waring 1962 would appear to rule Greek out from consideration here,
intonation studies of Modern Greek - as Waring himself notes - are
still in a nascent state, so that further research here may well
prove enlightening from a Balkan standpoint. Instrumental studies
of Greek intonation are especially in order, since instrumental
analysis of intonation can often reveal facts not readily observa-
ble with just the ear, even a trained ear. At the very least, how-
ever, the observations concerning the Serbo-Croatian, Albanian,
and Romanian question intonation provide an important point of
comparison (7) and point of departure for future studies of Modern
Greek intonation.

Further research is also needed into the social situation in
the early period of contact among the Balkan languages, for with-
out a clear understanding of how various speech communities
related to one another socially, it is hard to determine with any
precision how the features usually classified as Balkanisms ac-
tually spread from one language to another and how these similar
patterns developed in these diverse languages. A case in point
here is the question of the absence of the infinitive, where it
has been possible to construct a plausible scenario of how the
spread of such a feature might have occurred (Joseph 1983), but in
the absence of accurate knowledge of the social situation in nor-
thern Greece in the period roughly 800 AD to 1400 AD, the scenario

must remain somewhat speculative.

In addition, it would be extremely useful for all putative
balkanism to be examined in depth with regard to how they are
realized, if at all, in Greek. Especially pressing in this regard
is the formation of the future tense in Greek. While there are a
few works that treat the various formations of the future in Greek,
especially Medieval Greek and dialectal Modern Greek, for example,
Banescu 1915 (difficult to obtain, though) or Blanken 1950, no
work yet, it seems, has carefully explored the relation of these
various formations to apparent parallel ones in other Balkan lan-
guages (8); thus from a Balkan perspective, it is indeed inter-
esting that the Standard Modern Greek future particle θά is a reduc-
tion of an earlier future marker θήλει na - as shown especially
by the Medieval Greek and dialectal Modern Greek future types θά na + INFLECTED VERB and Θάλα + INFLECTED VERB, which each
apparently represent a different reduction of the same θήλει na + INFLECTED VERB - and that this source construction is paralleled,
for example, by the Macedonian k'e da + INFLECTED VERB, where k'e
is a reduction of the third person singular present of the verb
'want' and da is a verbal particle, here optional actually, not
unlike Greek na in its function, and by Albanian da te + INFLECTED
VERB, in which do, like θά and k'e, is a frozen form of the third
person singular of 'want' and te is a subordinating particle. How-
ever the details of the relationship among the expressions of the
future in these languages - and indeed among all the Balkan lan-
guages - remain to be worked out.

Finally, to close on a matter of importance for research in
Balkan Linguistics that touches to some extent on Greek per se but
bears more directly on Greece itself, there is a real urgency for the
non-Greek Balkan speech communities within Greece to be stud-
ied. These include the various Arvanitika, i.e. Albanian-speaking,
communities scattered around Greece, the Vlach speakers of north-
central Greece whose native Aromanian language is a dialect of
Romanian, the Ladino (or Judeo-Espagnol) speakers of Thessaloniki
and environs, the various - and often itinerant - groups of Gyps-
sies whose native language is Romany with admixtures from the lan-
guages of the several countries they have historically traveled
through, and the Macedonian speakers of the far north of Greece.
While Arvanitika, Aromanian and Macedonian have been in Greece
for a long time, some 600 years at least, and are fully "Balkan-
ized", Ladino and Romany are probably of a somewhat more recent
date yet they too show some, but not all, of the common Balkan
features. Study of these languages in their Greek setting is espe-
cially important since all are faced with extinction as pressures
from the dominant Greek language begin to prevail in their respec-
tive communities. These languages are of interest to the Neo-Hel-
enist in that they have developed within fairly recent times, incorporated
numerous Greek linguistic elements. Papahagi 1963, for instance,
gives 27 pages (1172-1199) of lexical items in Aromanian which
are borrowed from Greek; by contrast, there are only 19 pages of words of Latin origin, even though Aromanian is genetically a Latinized language. Similarly, Haebler 1965 (especially sections 377-380) gives numerous Modern Greek stem-forming elements in Salamin Arvanitika and Tzitsipis 1981 notes that the gerundive in Arvanitika, unlike that of Standard Albanian, is restricted to use as the complement of subject nominals only, just as in Modern Greek. Moreover, these languages offer a unique perspective on Balkan linguistics and on the question of language contact as a source of change and of Balkanisms, for they present living instances of the sort of intense interaction among languages which may well have characterized the Balkans in the crucial period of the formation of the Balkan Sprachbund.

Thus the relationship between Modern Greek and Balkan Linguistics is indeed a vital one. Just as the linguistic study of Modern Greek has much to offer the more general field of Balkan Linguistics, so too can the study of Balkan Linguistics and the languages of the Balkans contribute to the understanding of aspects of Modern Greek Linguistics and the Modern Greek language. The field is still wide open, and investigation of many important topics awaits only the creativity and energy of current and future researchers in this area.

Footnotes

1. Some items are repeated under different topic headings and not all pertain to the study of a particular language or linguistic phenomenon in its Balkan context. Other important sources of bibliographical information on Balkan Linguistics in general and on Greek Linguistics from the Balkan perspective are the handbooks themselves listed above, Stankiewicz 1969, Stankiewicz and Naylor 1977/78, and Kazalis 1977/78.

2. I give these four as the leading representatives of their kind, knowing full well that other journals exist which deal indirectly with topics of concern to Balkan Linguistics; my exclusion of these others is not intended in any way as a slight.


4. The Germanic languages as well for that matter show a similar future formation, cf. English futures with will.

5. Admittedly, one subclass of Ancient Greek second declension nouns, the contract nouns like nũs 'mind' (from nūs) had a nominative in -s and a genitive in -∅ (e.g. nūs from nūs) with no change in the final vowel of the stem. However, since that class is so small, it is hard to imagine that it exerted any influence over the noun classes in question here; note, for instance, that the noûs / noû subclass had no effect on the stem vowel of the class most like it, namely the regular second declension nouns like anāropos / anā dópo, where the vowel difference has persisted into Modern Greek (e- in the nominative versus u- in the genitive now).

6. Thumb (1964: 47) says the patēra type genitive is based on the klēfti type, but offers no explanation for the klēfti type itself, treating it, incorrectly, merely as a continuation of the tamiai type of Ancient Greek.

7. It is worth noting that Balkan Linguistics can also be enriched by a consideration of the differences holding among Balkan languages, so that even if Greek does not show the same type of question intonation as other Balkan languages, this fact is of significance to the Balkanist.

8. As noted earlier, there are numerous problems associated with the various future formations in the Balkan languages. An additional problem is the existence of futures based on the verb 'have', found in Medieval Greek, northern Albanian (Geg), and Romanian; a Balkan Latin source for this cannot be ruled out, although, as with the 'want' future, much remains to be worked out; see Hamp 1968 and Domi 1968 for some discussion.

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CONSTRUCTING A COMPUTER-ASSISTED COMPLETE INDEX TO

Makriyannis’ Memoirs

A Preliminary Report

Among the most urgent, basic desiderata of modern Greek philology is an authorized comprehensive dictionary, as well as a number of specialized lexica and/or (even better) full indices to the works of the major authors.

The inherent value of such groundwork on major authors need not be elaborated upon here; it should be stressed however that it is even greater at the present time of rapid transformation of the Greek language, when both the State and public are in search of a linguistic compass. Indeed, no serious research into the rich past of modern Greek is possible in the absence of such philological tools; and without such research, the development of contemporary Greek is in jeopardy.

Prompted by such philological and social considerations, the idea of a complete Index, with the aid of modern technology, to Makriyannis¹ was conceived several years ago, but could only begin to materialize when generous funding became available in the fall of 1979. Since then, a team consisting of a computer expert, a classical scholar with experience in ancient and modern lexicography, and a number of amanuenses set to work in collaboration with a computer company². As of July, 1983, the product of this joint effort was almost ready for the press.

In the description which follows, it is the intention of the present writer to spare you the technical details of this project and limit himself to the philological aspects of it.

¹ After a long and productive career, Makriyannis passed away in 1967.
² The company involved is not specified in the text.