

Foreword

This volume of articles presents part of the outcome of collaborative research that was centered upon two studies: “The Functional Approach to the Typology of Slavic Languages: Research in the Semantic Category of Possessivity” (2008–2009), carried out under the auspices of a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up; and “A Comprehensive Study of the Kashubian Syntax” (2009–2012) supported by a JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B).

The aim of the first study was to investigate the way in which the concept of “possession,” a universal semantic category, is formed in language. This was done by carrying out typological research with a particular focus on data from Slavic languages. It was also thought to be desirable to include the grammaticalization of the periphrastic “possessive” perfect structure derived from sentences expressing possession as well as the grammaticalization of the so-called “recipient passive” (or indirect passive) as subjects of the research, as it is closely related to predicative possession. At the same time, the study dealt with the issues associated with such grammaticalization on a number of levels.

The latter research project aimed to comprehensively illuminate the characteristics of the morpho-syntactic structure of the Kashubian language from the perspectives of language typology and contact linguistics. As research in the syntax of the Kashubian language in particular is lacking, it can be said that a broad knowledge of Slavic languages, contact linguistics, as well as grammaticalization theory as an analytical tool are all extremely important in understanding and analyzing the phenomena at hand.

With this in mind, the special lecture at the Slavic Research Centre by Professor Bernd Heine (15th June 2009), the author of much fruitful research in the fields of contact linguistics, language typology and grammaticalization theory was particularly significant. There are already several research projects that have been inspired by conversations with Professor Heine, which are currently being prepared for presentation. The opening chapter (Chapter 1) of this essay collection is based upon

the above-mentioned Professor Heine's special lecture and is written collaboratively with the addition of the results of research undertaken by the editor. A simple introduction of Chapters 2 and onward is offered below.

The second chapter, written by Alja Lipavcic-Oštir (Maribor), investigates the influence of German on the Slovene language with respect to the changes in grammar caused by language contact. As there are still relatively few papers analyzing German and Slovene language contact based on grammaticalization theory, the paper is a highly informative and valuable piece of research.

The third chapter, written by Alina Kępińska (Warsaw), discusses the development of the category of gender in Polish, centered on the masculine and non-masculine categories of meaning. These categories of meaning are characteristic of Western Slavic languages in general, and the Polish language in particular. This paper discusses these categories empirically from the perspective of the grammaticalization of gender. This research is based on Kępińska's doctoral dissertation, "Kształtowanie się polskiej kategorii męsko- i niemęskoosobowości: język wobec płci" (Warsaw, 2006). I recommend for any interested reader to read this chapter along with her dissertation.

The fourth chapter, written by Olga Mišeska-Tomić (Skopje-Novi Sad), describes and analyses the use of the perfect form inherited from Common Slavic (*sum* "to be" + l-participle), and the two new perfect forms of non-Slavic origin, (*sum* + n/t-participle and *ima* "to have" + n/t-participle) in the Macedonian language from the perspective of grammaticalization theory. Among Slavic languages these phenomena are particularly characteristic of Macedonian, and this study is informative for understanding the characteristics of Macedonian, with its use of the standard language as well as dialect data and its diachronic perspective.

In addition to the above articles, this volume also includes three other texts. The first is an essay by Professor Milka Ivić (Belgrade), a full member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts. This essay relates the verbal prefix "od" to the grammaticalization of verbal aspect in Serbian. Although this text is short, its content is inspiring. It would surely be worthwhile to perform research on this theme in other Slavic languages. Professor Ivić has kindly contributed this piece in Serbian.

The editor thought it best to include this text in its original form and as such it has not been translated. I thank Professor Predrag Piper (Belgrade), a corresponding member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, for typing Professor Ivić's handwritten notes and sending them to me.

The two remaining texts are a review article and a book review. The first is a review of Bernd Heine and Tania Kuteva's book *The Changing Languages of Europe* (Oxford, 2006) by Paul Wexler (Tel-Aviv). Although it may be said that Wexler's many suggestive criticisms are at times rather sharp, as this volume includes a number of studies related to Heine's theory of grammaticalization, the review is a beneficial addition, given Wexler's critical comprehension of the book and his emphasis of Relexification theory in the context of grammaticalization.

The second is a review of Zuzanna Topolińska's comparative Polish and Macedonian Grammars *Полски~Македонски: Граматичка конфронтација 8. Развиток на граматичките категории* (Skopje, 2008) by Angelina Pančevska (Skopje). This work, which deals with the development of grammatical categories, is of great interest because it covers many of the themes dealt with in this collection. As Pančevska conducts her outline in English, the review will likely be of benefit to those who are unable to unravel the original Macedonian text.

Finally, I would like to add a few words as editor of this volume. Until the time of my appointment, there had been no specialists in Slavic linguistics at the Slavic Research Center since the late Professor Shoichi Kimura (1915–1986). After Professor Kimura retired from the Center's predecessor organization, The Slavic Institute, there were no resident linguists working at the Center for more than 50 years. Although there were a small number of collaborative research projects involving eminent scholars of Slavic linguistics, it can be said that no substantial research was carried out on Slavic linguistics or its related fields. While the work of the Slavic Research Center on politics, economics, history, literature and culture of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have seen increasingly large developments on the world stage, it could even be said that it is a tragedy that Slavic linguistics has been left behind for these 50 years. The pursuit of Slavic linguistics research is a fundamental area of study within the comprehensive research of the Slavic area studies,

and its importance as a field of the traditional *Slavistika* goes without saying.

As a new researcher, I have not had much experience as an editor. Because of this, I definitely cannot say that I handled the editing of this volume well, and there are many areas with which I am not entirely satisfied. However, as a result of the devoted cooperation and understanding of contributors, who range from novice researchers to influential authors, it can surely be said that the first step has been taken towards a new era of Slavic language research at the Slavic Research Center, and towards the ideal of international research collaboration. I have received much advice from foreign Slavic scholars, especially Romuald Huszcza (Warsaw) and Andrii Danylenko (New York). I was also the cause of much trouble for the editorial assistant, Mika Osuga, to whom I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation.

Editor
Sapporo, October 2010

Foreword to the Second Edition

The first edition of this collection of essays quickly went out of print after publication, and there have been numerous enquiries about its reprinting. That this collection of linguistic research papers, the first ever published by the Slavic Research Center, got off to such a fine start is felicitous news for this editor and its success must be attributed entirely to the efforts of our esteemed contributors. In addition, our readers have been most generous in providing opinions and suggesting corrections, which are all reflected in this improved second edition. We would like to thank everyone who has assisted us in this process.

In this edition, three papers on East Slavic languages (an area that the first edition failed to cover) have been added. Addressing the hitherto overlooked field of Russian-based pidgins, Dieter Stern (Ghent) focuses on the morpho-syntactical features of Taimyr Pidgin Russian and discusses the extent of linguistic contact and grammaticalization through comparisons with Chinese Pidgin Russian and Russenorsk. Andrii Danylenko (New York), making broad use of diachronic and synchronic material, contrasts the future tense in East Slavic languages (especially Ukrainian) with the grammaticalization patterns of its counterpart in Romance languages in order to demonstrate the differences in those patterns. Lidia Federica Mazzitelli (Rome-Mainz) examines various issues regarding the development of semantics and modality-related usage of possession-verbs and existence-verbs in Belarussian, grounding the discussion in a wealth of example sentences. With the addition of these thought-provoking papers on East Slavic languages, this collection has not only been rounded out, its contents are now worthier of its title. We extend our gratitude to the new contributors.

While this edition bears witness to the fruition of new and beneficial cooperative research, we deeply regret that one contributor's work must remain as it is, that future exchanges of ideas will not be possible. On 7 March 2011, world-renowned linguist, Professor Milka Ivić passed away at the age of 87. Over the course of her career, Professor Ivić has made invaluable contributions to research in Slavic and general linguis-

tics and inspired so many researchers worldwide, including this editor. In appreciation of all she has done, we humbly dedicate this publication to the memory of Professor Milka Ivić.

Editor
Sapporo, October 2011