

# FOR THE FORMATION OF THE PERFECT IN THE TAOIAN DIALECT

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**Abstract:** Series III in Georgian is characterized by a number of morphological and syntactic peculiarities. It is mentioned in the special literature that the forms of the III group of tenses-mood are of later origin: they are based on the present tense forms of the static verb (Arn. Chikobava, 1948; A. Shanidze, 1953...). This is the case both in literary Georgian and dialects.

The research aims to study the cases of the formation of the perfect forms in the Taoian dialect and the presentation of similar or different facts in relation to the Georgian literary language and other dialects.

In our research, we rely on new dialect texts, which were recorded in Tao by the employees of the Tanel Putkaradze Scientific Research Center of Kartvelology of Akaki Tsereteli State University, including us, in 2007-2024. Also, we have processed published Taoian texts (Putkaradze 1993; Faghava... 2007; Tao 2020).

Transitive and intransitive verbs produce the perfect in different ways:

I. Among the transitive verbs, the forms with **-av**, **-am** theme marks represent some peculiarities. For these types of verbs, the roots of the present and future verb forms are of significant importance in the perfect screeve. In this regard, the diversity of verb forms in the Tao dialect can be observed. The production marked with **-av** and **-am** suffixes is confirmed, but forms ending in **-ia** predominate: *duudgams*, *diminakhavs*, *dimitesia*, *diminaqia*, *shimisvia*, *chimitsmia*, *uskvian „urtqams“* ("hits").

There are often cases when verbs without a theme marker and flexible roots are formed with the suffix **-am**, also, the alteration of the theme markers is not uncommon.

In the research dialect, verbs ending in **-i-a** rarely include **nari** in the perfect: *davitsqnia*, *gamaqidnia*, *gamaqrevnia*.

II. In Taoian, the perfect forms of intransitive two-argument verbs are rare, they are produced like literary Georgian. The following cases are confirmed: *mkonia* (I had had), *hkonია* (he/she had had), *konebia*, *qokia*, *hqolia*, *hqolian*.

One-person verbs, similar to the Georgian literary language and other dialects, are used descriptively: *davtsolilvar* (I have laid down), *davtsvenilvar*, *danakhul var* (I have seen), *gagonili makva* (I have heard). We also find verbs ending in **-ia** suffix: *mitiria* (I have cried), *miarenia* (I have walked).

It can be said that the Tao dialect, in the conditions of many centuries of existence in the Turkish language environment, still maintains the common Georgian line of linguistic development, and this can be seen in the formation of verb forms.

**Key words:** Georgian Language; Taoian dialects; The third series; Perfect.

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**Introduction / Review of sources, literature.** The III series of verbs in Georgian are distinguished by a number of morphological and syntactic features. It is noted in the scientific literature that the forms of the III group of tenses are of later origin: they are based on the present tense forms of the stative verb

(Natadze, 1955: 98; Shanidze, 1973: 222; Chikobava, 1964: 126). Cf.: Avtandil Arabuli thinks differently. **The scientist believes that there is a solid basis for considering a stem in the past habitual tense as the origin for the formation of the perfect.** In several forms, it is possible to see a stem shared with the stative verb (Arabuli, 1984: 34).

In the article, we discuss the cases of the formation of the perfect in the Taoian dialect; we present similar or different facts in Taoian in relation to the Georgian literary language and dialects. In the research, we rely on the material recorded in Tao between 2007 and 2024 by the employees of the Akaki Tsereteli State University's Prof. Taniel Putkaradze Scientific Research Center for Kartvelology; we have also used published texts (Putkaradze 1993, Tao /Paghava, Tsintsadze, Beridze/ 2020).

**Methodology.** Various methods have been used while working on the article. In particular, we described the cases of the use of the perfect confirmed in the Taoian dialect using the descriptive method; by the comparison-contrast method we presented the similarities and differences with other dialects of the Georgian language; applying the method of analysis and synthesis helped us study the cases of the formation of the perfect with different types of verbs.

### Reasoning/Results.

Transitive and intransitive verbs form the perfect in different ways:

1. The formation of transitive verbs differs according to thematic suffixes. In Taoian, the subject of **the second series** of transitive verbs is based on the verbs with thematic suffixes **-ob**, **-eb**. In general, the suffixes **-ob** and **-eb** are attached to the verbs in the present-future screeves and, as a rule, are not carried over into the perfect.

**-ob**: zaba **umushavia** komo; ik **umushavian**, **usakmian** (They have worked there); ikidni **ulotsian** (They have prayed there); **ukitkhnia** baghvobi khan (exped. mater.).<sup>1</sup>

**-eb**: emeni ar **gamigdia**, da reiga viri sheikna; quri ar **dimigdia** (I have not listened). eida, **dimigdia**, **dimigdia**; kedeli ar **chumughian**, kva ar **gumughian** (exped. mater.).

The **-av**, **-am** suffixed forms exhibit a number of peculiarities. For this type of verbs, the stem in the present indicative and future indicative subseries is the basis for the perfect. In general, if the verb is suffixed in the present tense, it will have the subject marker in the perfect as well. In the Taoian dialect, cases of the **-av** suffixed inflection are rare.

**-av**: is ar **minakhavs** mere (I have not seen him afterwards); ki, gamigonია, vitsi da ar **diminakhavs** (Yes, I have heard, I know, but I have not seen him) (exped. mater.).

The **-av** and **-am** formants are mainly replaced by the **-i-a** ending:

**-av <-ia**:

hava, ar **diminakhia**; pur **dimitesia** da, keri **dimitesia**, tsertsvi **dimitesia**, lebio **dimitesia** (I have sown bread, and I have sown barley, I have sown broad beans, I have sown beans); veghar **migviklia** akhla, iasaghia; datvi shekhvedria, **muuklia** (He met a bear, and killed it); gurjebi tsasula, **dumalia** (They have hidden them); tiva movtibt gushin da chala a **giggvikenkia** (exp. mater.).

**-am <-ia**:

me a **shimisvia** da (I have not drunk); iokh, pantol ar **chimitsvia**; iani, para qnasa zamtarchi da, ima **shuusvia** (exped. mater.).

The verb **'tkma'** (**<tkuma**) ('to say') is represented with **-ia** ending:

**tkva – utkvia** (has said): kalistun ve **utkvia** (He has said to the woman); chem baaze ram **gitkvia**, tkuili iko tu martali (What you said about me, was it a lie or the truth?) (exped. mater.); **utkvia** tamar qalsa (Said Tamar) (Putkaradze, 1993: 176).

<sup>1</sup> Expedition material – dialect material recorded within the framework of dialect expeditions organized in Tao in 2007-2024 by the Professor Taniel Putkaradze Scientific-Research Center of Kartvelology at the Faculty of Humanities of Akaki Tsereteli State University.

**tkma** – **utkmia** (to say – said): balkhur **utkmia**, qi, meo erti viri mkavso; bichi chamsa, ima **utkmia** qi; In Taoian speech, as we have noted, similarly to other dialects, forms ending in **-ia** suffix are quite common. According to the material we have processed, in the perfect tense, forms ending in **-ia** predominate over forms with **av/-am** suffixes. In this case, the stem of the II series seems to be basic.

Illustrative examples:

veggar **gvimziria**, ise darcha; vera **gviknia** ra; vardqvaili **chuqria**; sakhl-kari **duqria**; tsukhel ar **dudzinia**; ati didi kodi akiduli **gudmuqvania**; imis mompreli **upovia**, i **gumuqvania**; ghami **guvlia** mezar (exped. mater.).

Cf.: Sh. Putkaradze and M. Paghava also point out the abundance of forms ending in **-ia** in the perfect (Putkaradze, 2016: 299; Paghava..., 2020: 747).

The emergence of the **-ia** ending is generally explained by the tendency of unification. In the formation of the perfect, the process of unification in dialects proceeded in two directions, namely: a) in the Kartli, Kakhetian, Imerian, Gurian, Adjarian... dialects, the **-ia** ending prevailed and the **-av**, **-am** suffixes reduced; b) in the Pkhoian dialects (in Khevsurian, Mokheuri, Tushuri...) the **-av** (-iv) marking production prevailed (Topuria, 1955: 458).

In Taoian, the **-nari** suffix is inserted into verbs ending in **-i-a** in the perfect. For example:

iaras adzlevs isa da veggar **guutrevnia**; ikedan ki **gamuuktsevnia**, gadmosula sopelshi; ghelidan kva **utseknia** ika; aqobai ase **motatsnia** ase, e tsine [khlei – hand] **muukhvevnian** (exped. mater.); utquams, isini **gamaqidnia** am sakmemao (Putkaradze, 1993: 176); ar **dulaparknia** dekac (Paghava..., 2020:748).

Forms involving **-n** are found in other dialects as well, and are also attested in Old Georgian: up-ovnies (has found) ...

There are different opinions about the **-n** suffix in the specialized literature; one part of the scholars (Iv. Kavtaradze, Arn. Chikobava, Sh. Dzidziguri) believes that it initially appeared in Kartli-Kakhetian as a verb root generator, and then was used to differentiate transitive and intransitive verbs. Some dialects (Khevsurian, Tushian, Lechkhumi, Rachuli, Imerian, Gurian) do not know the **-n** suffix at all. Therefore, it is still not widespread in contemporary Georgian speech (Kavtaradze 1955: 74).

In the perfect form, the suffix **-an** is often used instead of the plural suffix **-t**:

**Thakhtha** ar **dungrevnian**, **kedeli** ar **chumughian**, **kva** ar **gumughian**, **gupretsian**; **ertsats khma gumughian**, **balkhelta bevri**; **dedeeb ushenebian**, **a maksovs**; **eger sheker mutsemian**; **iskamze dukochebian**, **ase gudubrunebian**, **avadneveli katsi**, **ik momkvudara**, **dokhtur ver chustsrian**; **tskheni tsuqvanian iusufelshi**. (exped. mater.).

Verbs with inflected stems in the speech of the Tao Georgians form the perfect based on the perfect continuous stem. Accordingly, the vowel **e** appears in the stem:

tvalebi ve **gimikhelia**; zati ghami **gimitevia**; iokh, qoldghe ver **dimicheria** ki, qoldghe; shindi **dimikrepia**; chemi dekatsi **shegitqepiao** (exped.mater.).

The majority of verbs with the **-eb** ending are based on the present tense stem in the perfect. Usually, the **-eb** suffix is preserved:

imas ar **muktinieba** (cf. present tense: akvdinebs); **dukochebien** (akochebs), ase **gudubrunebian** (abrunebs), **avadneveli katsi**; **dedeeb ushenebian** (ashenebs), **a makhsovs**; **dzvelidam guketebian** (aketeb) mezerlughi (exped. mater.).

Parallel to the above-mentioned inflection, there are rare cases in the Taoian speech when verbs forms are represented without suffixes. In such cases, the perfect is based on the imperfect base forms:

anai sam tseltsad ar **dujeria** (cf. present: ijerebs); tsukhel ar **dudzinia** (idzinebs); ver **momigonია** (ig-onebs) (exped. mater.).

2. The derivation of **intransitive** verbs differs depending on whether the verb is bi-personal or uni-personal. Perfect forms of intransitive bi-personal verbs in Taoian are formed descriptively, like in literary Georgian. Corresponding forms are rare. Examples:

ver **mimkhvdarvar ki**, **ratskha amboph**; **imisi dermania (tsamalia)**, **amisi ari**, ar **ujeravar mea** (exped. mater.).

Cf.: In Old Georgian, the formation of intransitive bi-personal verbs was organic: the suffix **-ie** (dahmalvie, dahmalvies) was used as a marker of the screeve (Peikrishvili 2007: 67).

**Uni-personal** verbs in Taoian, like in the Georgian literary language and other languages, are formed descriptively: the first and second persons are marked by the auxiliary verbs: **var**, **khar**:

Ar **gatkhoulkhar**, [r]atom ar **gatkhoulkhar**? Chem anai, ishta, damchala martoi, pakhirobot **gavzdilvar**; ik **davbadulvar** mea; katarze ak ar **tsavsulvar**; akhla davberdi, vegharsad **tsavsulvar**; akhla ik ver **gavsulvar** (exped. mater.).

With the third person forms, the auxiliary verb is presented in a truncated form:

bashtan ase **akidula** ik mivkavdit utsin; **momktara** keabavri, **chasula** ika komo mezershi o, eliaskhev **chasula**; fid tve qopila, sakhla **mosula**, sakhla mosula ki; zati, **tsasula**; ama **dabechebula** ki, me dilaze tskhenni vaitu tskhenni tsemevqvane; ara begheli, sakhli dangrevla, **gapretsila** (<gapkhretsila); ase **modrekilan**, katsebi **mokrepulan**, ukidian (exped. mater.).

In Taoian, the formation of participle is characterized by a number of peculiarities, which is also evident in the forms of uni-personal verbs in the perfect:

ak **dabadula** chemi dedey (cf. participle: **dabaduli** ‘dabadebuli’ „born“); ikedam ki tsamosulan ase, ik **damrchalan** (damrchali ‘darchenili’ ‘stayed’); atdaerti, eida, **damchala**, ishta (exped. mater.).

Examples from published texts:

**Mitsa chamosula, avsila** (Paghava..., 2020: 748) (avsili ‘avsebuli’ – ‘filled’); **zovli muslimani damchalan batumze** (ibid.); **vinme ar damchala, tsesulan** (ibid.:753).

Similar forms are recorded in a number of dialects (Imer., Lechkh.).

**In conclusion**, it can be stated that the speech of the Tao Georgians, in terms of the formation of the perfect, demonstrates the main regularities characteristic of the Georgian literary language and its dialects. Despite its centuries-long existence within a Turkish linguistic environment, the Tao dialect has preserved the general line of development typical of the Georgian language, which is also evidenced by the formation of its verbal forms.

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