

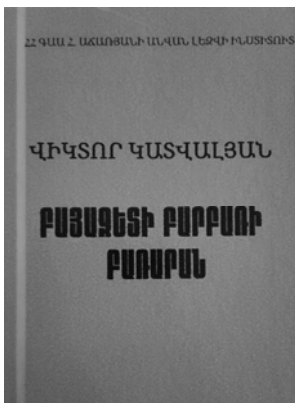
VIKTOR KATVALYAN. Dictionary of Bayazet Dialect. Yerevan, Institute of Language after H. Acharyan NAS of the RA, 2021, 429 pages*.

Keywords: Armenian language studies, dialectology, a dialect, a speech, Bayazet dialect, vocabulary, dialect features, entry, head word, word meaning, lexical unit, phrase, style.

In the eight decades of its existence, the Institute of Language named after H. Acharyan of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia has done a huge amount of work in the field of Armenian language studies, particularly in the field of Armenian dialectology. As one of the most important branches of Armenian linguistics, it has always been the center of attention for many Armenian and foreign researchers, as well as for this academic institution. Dialectological works are a significant part of the great scientific achievements authored by Hrachya Acharyan, Ararat Gharibyan, Eduard Aghayan, Gevorg Jahukyan and others. And with the efforts of Hovhannes Muradyan, Albert Khachatryan, Maro Muradyan, Ani Haneyan, Dariko Kostandyan, Melada Aghabekyan and others, distinguished dialectologists of the Institute's department of dialectology, valuable and everlasting studies of this branch of Armenian language studies have been created years after years.

Even today, in the works of the dialectology department of the NAS RA Institute of Language named after H. Acharyan, the current issues include synchronic and diachronic examination of individual dialects of Armenian, the comparative and historical study of related speeches, dialects and dialect groups, the spatial-functional description of vocabulary layers and semantic groups, the determination of the coverage boundaries of the dialect features and suppletive forms, as well as the other related questions. At the same time, the comprehensive study of the vocabulary of dialect units in separate works is also highlighted, and one of the manifestations of such works is the last publication authored by Dr. Viktor Katvalyan.

By the resolution of the Scientific Council of the NAS RA Institute of Language named after H. Acharyan, the Institute's publishing house



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published the work “Dictionary of Bayazet Dialect” authored by Viktor Katvalyan, Doctor of Philology. The editor-in-chief is Nazik Hovhannisyan, Candidate of Philology.

The work that was previously published only in electronic version, recently was also published in printed version.

Until the beginning of the 19th century, the Bayazet dialect was used in the Bayazet province of Western Armenia, which occupied a southeastern part of the Karin area, northeast of Lake Van. The dialect of Bayazet is one of the dialects still in use today, which is currently spoken in the town of Gavar of the RA Region of Gegharkunik and in more than a dozen surrounding villages, whose ancestors migrated from Bayazet and neighboring settlements in 1829–1830.

The work covers a considerable layer of the vocabulary of Bayezet dialect, about 8,000 lexical units, phrases and styles. The dialectologist, who has a perfect command of his native dialect, also included in his work the results of the detailed fieldwork carried out in the area, he studied the materials available in the relevant scientific literature and the materials stored in the Institute and registered by the Armenian language dialectological atlas collection program, and supplemented them with rich dialectal and folklore samples.

The preface of the book briefly presents the phonological and morphological features of the Bayazet dialect, and then the structure of the dictionary.

Then, after the headword of each entry, the body part of the dictionary gives the meaning, grammatical information, and as a rule, also an example of dialectal speech with the given word. Examples are dialectal active speech samples, proverbs, and phrases. A very interesting novelty brought by the dictionary is that sample-sentences related to successive headwords often form a connected speech, as a rule, then a short story. Thus, the dictionary also presents the dialectal word in its active use. The dictionary also contains information on the daily life, customs, ideas, and worldview of the dialect-speaking community. Headwords and their speech samples are given in dialectal transcription.

Lists of abbreviations and source languages are also included in the work.

It would be better to have included in this valuable dictionary also the list of proper names common in the dialect, but this, however, in no way reduces the value of the work.

Dialectological works spread light not only on the problems of Armenian language studies, and general and comparative linguistics, but also on Armenian history, ethnography, folklore, study of manuscripts, and other related fields. This important work, which is another remarkable addition to the available reference literature on Armenian dialectology, has a similar mission and is a result of years of work and dedication.

Viktor Katvalyan's research is intended for linguists, dialectologists, ethnographers, students, as well as those interested in Armenian language studies, in general. It can provide important material for further Armenian studies, contribute to the clarification of issues on Armenian dialectology, the history of the Armenian language, and be useful to specialists doing related work.

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