

On the Reasons for The Diversity of The Cases in Modern Russian Language

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Abstract: This work is devoted to the study of the case system of the modern Russian language, taking into account its historical development; the main stages of the formation and transformation of case forms are considered, as well as the reasons for the ambiguity of modern cases in connection with the merging of extinct cases with them.

Keywords: Method, methodology, case, case system, modern Russian language, Old Russian language, Old Church Slavonic.

Introduction: Folklore A major challenge in teaching Russian is grammar, including the case system, case meanings, the system of their endings, and agreement with other words in syntactic units. Many Russian language learners find it difficult to understand the polysemy of cases. All this determines the relevance of our research.

The object of our research is the morphological system of the Russian language, the subject with its case system.

The purpose of our research is to identify the reasons for the polysemy of Russian cases.

To achieve the research goal, we have to solve the following tasks:

- study the case system of Old Slavic, Old Slavic, and Old Russian languages;
- to identify cases absent in modern Russian;
- to study the meanings of the missing cases;
- to determine which cases of modern Russian have merged with the disappeared ancient cases.

METHODOLOGY

The history of the formation and development of cases has been studied by renowned linguists from various

countries: M. Deitchbein, B.A. Ilyin, E. Kurilovich, H. Brinkmann, G. Glins, I. Erben, and many others.

R. Jakobson[4] believed that the system of cases should be considered in unity, based on the relationship of oppositions that unite them into a noun paradigm.

A.V. Bondarko notes that morphological categories always have a certain relationship to syntax, a particular exit into the sentence structure: each morphological category has a certain syntactic orientation, a syntactic perspective [1].

Analyzing the works of linguists, we can distinguish three main approaches to considering the category of case: morphological, formal, and syntactic.

Based on the theoretical provisions of Russian and foreign scholars, we consider the case as a morphological category.

The main research methods are historical-comparative, descriptive.

RESULTS

Before adopting its modern form, Russian cases underwent various changes throughout their long history of formation. In modern Russian, the main cases are the nominative, genitive, genitive, accusative, instrumental, and prepositional cases, which we learn

about in primary school. However, there are also "forgotten" cases in the Russian language (the ancient Russian language system included 14 cases) [8]. "Ivan gave birth to a girl, ordered to carry the blanket" is a famous phrase that helps many remember the order of Russian cases. In this article, we will trace the paths of the Russian language's case category formation and the emergence of case names themselves. As well as the very word "case."

It is important to note that the term "case" is a calque from ancient Greek and Latin, and in modern Russian this term came from Old Slavic. The word "case" was a literal translation of the Greek word *ptosis*, a suffixal derivative of the verb *pipto* - "to fall." Linguists of Ancient Greece noticed a certain similarity between the fact that when bones are thrown, they fall sometimes to one side, sometimes to the other, and the change ("falling") of a noun to obtain a particular case ending.

As an example, let's consider the following expressions from the SIU:

I went to the movies with my friend - I went to the movies with my friend.

From the proposed word combinations, it is clear that in the first case, we have a set of words that are not grammatically connected to each other and have an unclear meaning. In the second case, the words are connected grammatically, and the expression acquired meaning. This happened thanks to cases.

Thus, the case system of modern Russian is based on the case systems of the Proto-Slavic and Old Slavic languages, while the names of some cases themselves are calques from the Greek case system.

The nominative case represents the only direct case that does not require prepositions when used. Therefore, the nominative case was previously called "Rect." This name was invented by the Greek philologist Maximus Grek at the end of the 16th century. The nominative direct case was first proposed in his work "Grammar" by philologist scholar Meleti Smotritsky: he simply translated the direct case name from ancient Greek. The direct case in translation means "to have, to call a name," i.e., the nominative case is the case that calls a name, a title.

Examples: Singular Plural

Who? Father-in-law

What? bouki boukvi [3]

The genitive case was initially called genitive. In grammar, it received its name in the 14th century, translated as "born." In ancient Greek, Sanskrit, Latin, Hittite, and other early languages, the genitive case had complex and important functions. In the Proto-Slavic language, from which the Russian language originated,

it was already actively used - this is approximately the 1st millennium AD. In ancient Russian, the genitive case was even used instead of the accusative case in the case of negation (I don't see a person - a person in the genitive case, not in the accusative case). In modern Russian, the main function of the genitive case is to denote the genus, origin, and classification of an object according to similar classes.

Example: Single number Plural number

Who? The father-in-law

What's up?

The genitive case in Old Slavic served the same functions as in modern Russian, although its form and usage may differ somewhat.

The dative case was also previously called the dative case. This name was borrowed from the Old Slavic language, which in turn was borrowed from the Greek language. Thus, translated from Greek, it means "giving." In the name of this case, the connection with the verb "to give" is clearly visible. Therefore, the main meaning of the Dative case is that it is used to name the addressee or the name of the person to whom something is given. That is, it originally designated the recipient of the action - the one to whom something is given or to whom the action is directed. The category of the dative case appeared in ancient languages and passed into Slavic languages, including Russian.

Example: Single number Plural number

To whom? Father-in-law to father-in-law

What? Boukvi boukvam'

Title The accusative case was introduced by one of the first Russian grammarians, Laurentius Zisanius, in the 16th century: he translated it from Greek as "causal." At the same time, the name of the case was given according to the word "вина," in the semantics of which in the ancient Russian and Old Slavic languages there was a meaning - "cause." In modern Russian, the accusative case denotes the object to which the action is directed.

For example: Singular Plural

Who? Boukvi boukvi

What? Mother-in-law

The instrumental case, like the accusative case, was introduced into Russian grammar by Lavrentius Zisanius in 1596. The name of this case is directly related to the verb "to do," which implies doing something with the help of some tool, means. The meaning of the instrumental case is instrumental and instrumental. In modern Russian, it is often used in combination with the verbs of movement and action, which imply the use of some means or tool. It can also

indicate the time of action or even express an opinion or evaluation (e.g., adjectives), for example, This film was interesting to all viewers.

For example: Singular Plural

By whom? To the father-in-law and mother-in-law

With what? Boukviyu (-yu) boukvami

The propositional case was formed by combining two cases - locative and predicative. This combination is due to the fact that the forms of the indicated cases were always used exclusively with a preposition, to which Mikhail Vasilyevich Lomonosov drew attention in "Russian Grammar."

For example: Singular Plural

About whom? About father-in-law and father-in-law

About what? Bowqwe bowqwe

In modern Russian, students and pupils study only 6 cases, and no one is interested in the history of cases. There were 14 of them once. These include:

- vocative case;
- Locative case;
- quantitative-separative case;
- Decisive case;
- waiting case;
- transformative case;
- Ablative case;
- counting case.

Let's examine these cases in more detail.

Invitative case. In ancient Russian, there was a seventh case - vocative. Over time, after the 1918 reform, it disappeared, but in some languages - for example, Belarusian, Serbian, and Greek - it is still used. In the Church Slavonic language, its forms have also been preserved. Sometimes the vocative case can be found in literature to convey an old style of speech, for example, "What do you need, old man?" (A.S. Pushkin). And in everyday speech, we still use the remnants of the vocative case when we call someone: "Mash!," "Tan!," "Mam!."

The summons case was abolished due to its similarity to the nominative case and as an excessive element of the Russian language's grammatical system. Nevertheless, forms like "papa," "mama," "An," "Vik" used in addresses are difficult to classify as full-fledged nouns.

Locative case. Previously, in Old Slavic and Old Russian, there was a special locative case - it indicated where the action was taking place. In the 17th century, it began to be called "narrative," and then M.V. Lomonosov gave it the modern name - "predicate,"

because it answered two questions: "about what?" and "where?." For example, you can say: "to think about a room" and "to be in a room," "to talk about a square" and "to stand in a square."

Quantitative-separative case. This case was considered a variation of the genitive and was sometimes called a distinctive case. He answered the same questions as his parent, but at the same time performed separate functions. Its main purpose is to indicate the part separated from the whole, or the quantity, but not the belonging. The significant difference is that it was not used in relation to animate nouns.

For example, to drink a cup of coffee is the quantitative-separative case; to drink coffee is the genitive case;

Decisive case. This case represented a special wine form that was used only in negative constructions. For example, it says "don't know the truth," not "don't know the truth," as in the conditional version. Similarly, with the expression "to have no right." The presence of cases indicated the absence of something. In modern Russian, such differences have almost disappeared, and the diminutive case can no longer be considered independent.

In some cases, the words remain in the accusative form: not to drive a car (not cars).

Wait case. In modern Russian, he uses this case, which in practice coincides with the genitive case, but at the same time covered the forms of both genitive and accusative cases. For example, you can say "wait (for whom? what?) " or "wait (for whom? what?)." In sentences like "wait for a letter" or "wait for letters," "wait for the weather" or "wait for the weather," the meaning remains the same. However, for words like "sister" and "mother," although it would be appropriate to use the genitive case according to grammar, it would be more correct to say "wait for sister" and "wait for mother" using the accusative case.

Transformative case (inclusive). This case is closely related to the accusative case. For example, expressions like "to run for deputy" or "to be useful as a son." Vasya decided to become a pilot. In this sentence, the noun "pilots" is in the plural and must be used in the accusative case. Although the form of the word coincides with the form of the nominative case in the plural, it answered the questions of the accusative case. In modern Russian, the transformative case has also disappeared and merged with the accusative case.

Ablative case (depositive). The form of this case resembles the form of the genitive case used with prepositions like "with," "from," "from," and sometimes - with the instrumental case. This case

indicates the trajectory of movement, more precisely, the starting point of the path. The answers to the questions "from whom?," "from where?," "from what?" are given by words in the ablative case: from the forest, from the house. At the same time, the noun becomes unstressed, which can be confirmed by an excerpt from Nikolai Alekseevich Nekrasov's poem "Peasant Children": "I came out of the forest; there was a severe frost...."

Counting case. This case was used in counting in the past. Before the reform of the Russian language at the beginning of the 20th century, it differed from the genitive case in some meanings, although it had the same grammatical forms, but now it has merged with the genitive case. For example, it is correct to say "three hours," not "hours."

An independent group consists of nouns formed from adjectives. In the counting case, they answer the questions of the adjectives from which they originated, and in the plural. For example, "there are no (who? what?) inspectors," but "three (what?) inspectors."

The "forgotten" cases did not disappear entirely from the language as a result of reforms: in various constructions, we can observe them in modern Russian. Many of them have joined with the main cases. For example, the vocative and locative: the vocative case merged with the nominative and now answers its questions, however, having lost its syntactic function, it retained the vocative function. The locative case has merged with the preposition and is used to indicate the place of action... But even in their combined form, they make our speech richer, although they complicate the grammar.

Zizaniy, Smotritsky, and Lomonosov made significant contributions to the development of the Russian case system. In their scientific activities, they not only described the existing case structure but also adapted it to consider the influence of other languages, including ancient Greek and Latin. Smotritsky and Zizani, based on these languages, translated and transferred their grammatical models into Slavic languages. This helped to systematize cases, including those that later disappeared from active use.

Lomonosov, in turn, significantly simplified the system in his "Russian Grammar," leaving 6 cases that have survived in modern Russian. He focused on basic cases that remained important for understanding and communication, and abandoned less common forms such as vocative and locative cases.

CONCLUSION

Having studied the case system of Old Slavic, Old Slavic, and Old Russian languages, we discovered that at

different stages of language development, the number and meanings of cases constantly changed under the influence of internal and external linguistic factors.

In Old Slavic, Old Slavic, and Old Russian languages, cases such as counting, originative (delayed), transformative (inclusive), waiting, omissive, quantitative-separative, locative, and vocative functioned with varying intensity.

The meanings of the disappeared cases have been identified by us and, in our opinion, are detailed in the research results.

We have clarified: with the development of the case system, the now-defunct ancient Russian cases have merged with those cases that exist in modern Russian morphology. For example, the vocative case merged with the nominative case and now answers its questions, the locative case with the preposition, indicating the place of action. The other cases merged with the genitive and accusative cases. They perform some functions of these cases and enriched their meaning.

Thus, the process of combining cases, along with the simplification of the system, led to the polysemy of cases, which, in our opinion, complicated their study.

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