

MOOD AND MODALITY IN TORBATIAN DIALECT

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Published online: 18 July 2016

ABSTRACT

This research is a fieldwork and has been done as follows. Torbatian dialect is a current language variation and its corpus has been collected by tape-recording and after transcribing, the materials have been analyzed on the basis of mood and modality. Mood is a category for which verb is inflected and it is used to indicate the syntactic relation of the main clause to other clauses in the sentence or to indicate the attitude of the speaker toward what she or he is saying as certainty or uncertainty, wish or command, emphasis or hesitancy. Mood, in this dialect, can be classified in two different ways: Morphologically and syntactically. From morphological point of view, this dialect distinguishes three moods: Indicative, Subjunctive and Imperative. Indicative mood indicates that a speaker presents the material with assurance. Subjunctive mood indicates a state of uncertainty. It may be possibility or conditional. Imperative mood indicates that the speaker commands or requests some action. From syntactic point of view, this dialect recognizes a whole series by the peculiarity of certain modal auxiliary verbs and other auxiliaries.

Key words: dialect, dialectology, mood, modality, morphological, syntactical

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doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4314/jfas.v8i2s.135>

1. INTRODUCTION

This research is about the study of Torbatian dialect as a variation of Dari language, which is spoken in Torbat-e Heydariye. In fact, it is a study of dialect and dialectology. Dialect is a regionally or socially distinctive variety of language which is identified by a particular set of words and grammatical structures,



i.e. dialects are subdivisions of languages and the study of all forms of dialect, especially regional dialect, is called dialectology [1].

The first problem that faces the collector of a dialect is how to sample the language and the community of its speakers. The historical linguist's corpus consists of those written samples of texts, and when s/he reaches to the point which there is no text, s/he must proceed by difficult and complicated methods of hypothetical reconstruction. But the one who studies current language variation is more fortunate. S/He is armed with a notebook, or, in these days, tape recorder, simply records whatever which is based on aspect or aspects of his study, that is, phonology, morphology, syntax or mood and modality.

Once the samples of language and of speakers have been decided upon, the dialectologist must decide how the actual collecting is to be managed. That is, the first important decision that must be made is whether the collecting is to be done by the direct method, the indirect method, or the combination of the two. In brief, the direct method involves the use of questionnaire, or tape-recording as the instruments of an interview, in which the fieldworker attempts, to get the dialect speaker or informant to produce the desired sample of his dialect, the virtue of the direct method is thus the face-to-face contact between the fieldworker and the informant in an environment conducive to natural use of the dialect. The indirect method, on the other hand, involves delivering the questionnaire, usually by post or email, either directly to a previously identified informant, or, more often to some intermediary, who in turn finds an appropriate informant who fills it in and returns it.

It is true that the ultimate aim of dialectology is to broaden and deepen our knowledge about language by taking into account all the facts about linguistic variation that can be assembled. Four different approaches, on the relationship of dialectology to linguistic theory are: The traditional which focuses on individual items; The structural, which views a language or dialect as a self-contained system; The generative, that uses the data of linguistic performance as a key to the speaker's internalized knowledge of his language; The sociolinguistics, which investigates the relationship between linguistic field, including dialect variation and the social organization of the speech community [2].

2. METHODOLOGY

This research is a fieldwork and based on above definition has been done as follows. Torbatian dialect is a current language variation and its corpus has been collected by tape-recording and after transcribing, the materials have been analyzed on the basis of mood and modality. In collecting the data of the study, the direct method has been applied and the fieldworker, as the native speaker of

dialect, has gone to informants and sometimes to local poets, and in a natural situation has recorded his desired sample of his dialect. This method has been chosen because if the study takes place in a natural situation and face-to-face contact, the results of fieldwork will be at a higher level of validity and adequacy.

A short geographical and historical background

Torbat-e Heydariye is located in the north eastern part of Iran (in Khorasan province). It is bordered from the north by Mashhad, Nishabur and Fariman, from the west by Kashmar, from the south by Mahvelat and from the east by Taybad, Torbat-e Jam and Roshtkhar. Its population, based on 1390 census, amounts to 210390 [3].

The center of Torbat-e Heydariye is Torbat which its population based on 1390 census is 131150. It was built next to Ghotboddin Heydar's cemetery by Eshagh Khan-e Gharai and that is why this town has been entitled Torbat-e Heydariye [4].

The significance and purpose of the study

The question arises in studying dialects is: Why do we study? What are the motives behind the considerable expenditure of time, money, and energy which is needed for the serious collection, presentation, and analysis of dialect data? Francis says: "There are at least four kinds of motivation for dialect study which can be called the curious, the anthropological, the linguistic, and the practical"[5]. The main purpose of this study is to find and describe mood and modality in the verbs of this dialect. Under the effect of immigration, education, broadcasting (newspapers, magazines, radio and TV), travelling and ... this dialect will be eradicated and there will be no speaker of the dialect. Hence, it is very essential and also of prime importance to have some written evidence about this dialect. On the other hand, it is useful to know the relation between the Torbatian dialect and the standard language.

The limitation of the study

In Khorasan province, each group living in a region speaks a somewhat distinctive variation of standard language and a few numbers of them speak Turkish, Kurdish or Arabic. Khanlari quotes from Moghadasi that every village of a small town in Khorasan has a different variation of the language [6].

In Torbat-e Heydariye each town, or even each village has a somewhat different dialect (For example, Bayg speaks a distinctive dialect which is rarely understood by others) and also there are differences in pronunciation of other villages which make up an accent, and more important is that, even certain words seem to have local distribution.

All these factors make the accomplishment of this study rather difficult. So, the fieldworker of this study, who is a native speaker of Torbat, the center of Torbat-e Heydariye, has to collect his data from all over the town.

Mood and modality

Mood is a category for which verb is inflected and it is used to indicate the syntactic relation of the main clause to other clauses in the sentence or to indicate the attitude of the speaker toward what she or he is saying as certainty or uncertainty, wish or command, emphasis or hesitancy. Mood, in this dialect, can be classified in two different ways: Morphologically and syntactically.

Morphological classification

From morphological point of view, this dialect distinguishes three moods: Indicative, Subjunctive and Imperative.

Indicative mood

This mood indicates that a speaker presents the material with assurance. For example, consider the following sentences:

bimârrefta.	'S/He/It has become sick'
dara barf mena.	'It is snowing'
havâ ?aftow-a.	'It is sunny'
yakmunje de-unji-y-a.	'There is a bee there'
xamayom.	'I will come'
dišmiyama.	'S/He/It was coming'
derkerdabuyek.	'She had been late'

Subjunctive mood

Subjunctive mood indicates a state of uncertainty. It may be possibility or conditional. For example:

šâyadferdâso:b-ezudbiya be ?inje.(possibility)

'S/He may come here early tomorrow morning.'

?age de ?injebu, bereymâxob bu.(conditional)

'If S/He/It were here, it would be good for us'

There are three kinds of subjunctive mood, in Torbatian dialect, as follows:

Present subjunctive

šâyadbiyam.	'I may come'
šâyadnayan.	'They may not come'
šâyadqobul rom.	'I may be accepted'

ʔage ʔurboxori,bedtarxarafti. 'If you eat it, you will become worse'

Simple present subjunctive

ʔage miya, vargozoodterakbaša.

'If S/He comes, say her/him to be sooner'

Past subjunctive

ʔage xobxondabašen ,qobulxaraften.

'If you might study well, you will pass the exam'

Imperative mood

This mood indicates that the speaker commands or requests some action.

singular		plural & polite form	
va(r) xe(z)	'stand up'	va(r) xezen	'stand up'
biši(n)	'sit down'	bišinen	'sit down'
vargard	'come back'	vargerden	'come back'
biyâ	'come'	biyen	'come'
var go	'say'	var gen	'say'
bervis	'write'	benvisen	'write'
boro	'go'	beren	'go'
vastu	'take'	vastanen	'take'

In the case of request or polite form of command,in this dialect,"xâhešdarom" or "xâhešmonom" is usually added to the beginning of plural form.The plural form is made by adding /-en/ to the end of singular one, and by this process the final vowel of singular form is deleted, and,of course, some other phonetic changes may occur.

xâhešdaromtâjâykemetanenzoodterakvargerden.

'Please, come back as soon as possible.'

For making negative, the prefix /na-/or/ma-/appears in the beginning of the verb stem:

va(r) xe(z) verna-xez/ver ma-xez

biši(n) na-šin

vargardverna-gard/ver ma-gard

biyâna-yâ

var go verna-go/ver ma-go

bennis nanvis

borona-ro

vastuna-stu/ma-stu

As you see, the prefix /var/ changes to /ver/ in making negative /bi/,/be/, /bo/ and /va/are deleted.

Syntactic classification

From syntactic point of view, this dialect recognizes a whole series by the peculiarity of certain modal auxiliary verbs and other auxiliaries.

Modal auxiliary verbs

These verbs have some characteristics as follows:

- 1-Used before the main verb to change its mood.
- 2-Reflect the attitude of the speaker.
- 3-Can not be used without the main verb.
- 4-keep the meaning.

Modal auxiliaries, with their functions, are presented below:

1)/tanistan/ 'to be able to', 'can'

This modal auxiliary verb is used to express the idea of ability in following tenses.

a. Simple present tense:

singular	plural & polite form
metanom 'I am able to ...'	metanem 'We are able to... '
metani 'You are able to ...'	metanen 'You are able to...'
metana 'S/He/It is able to ...'	metanan 'They are able to...'

b. Present potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
betanom 'I may be able to... '	betanem 'We may be able to... '
betani 'You may be able to ...'	betanen 'You may be able to...'
betana 'S/He/It may be able to ...'	betanan 'They may be able to...'

c. Present perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
tanisto`m'I have been able to ...'	taniste`m 'We have been able to... '
tanisti`'You have been able to ...'	taniste`n 'You have been able to...'
tanista'S/He/It has been able to ...'	tanista`n 'They have been able to...'

d. Present perfect progressive tense:

singular	plural & polite form
metanisto`m'I have been able to ...'	metaniste`m 'We have been able to... '
metanisti`'You have been able to ...'	metaniste`n 'You have been able to...'
metanista'S/He/It has been able to ...'	metanista`n 'They have been able to...'

e. Simple past tense:

singular	plural & polite form
tanistom'I was able to ...'	tanistem 'We were able to... '
tanisti'You was able to ...'	tanisten 'You were able to...'
tanist(ek)'S/He/It was able to ...'	tanistan 'They were able to...'

f. Past perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
tanistabuyom'I had been able to ...'	tanistabuyem 'We have been able to... '
tanistabuyi'You had been able to ...'	tanistabuyen 'You have been able to...'
tanistabu(yek)'S/He/It had been able to ...'	tanistabuyan 'They have been able to...'

g. Simple future tense:

singular	plural & polite form
xatanistom'I will be able to ...'	xatanistem 'We will be able to... '
xatanisti'You will be able to ...'	xatanisten 'You will be able to...'
xatanist(ek)'S/He/It will able to ...'	xatanistan 'They will be able to...'

2)/monkenbuyan/ 'may'

This modal auxiliary verb is used to express the idea of possibility, and unlike other verbs, is not conjugated and its third person singular in simple present tense, that is, /monkena/ is used for all persons in the following tenses, before the main verb. It is important to say that, in this dialect, the

words /sâyad/ and /balkom/ or /balke/ is used instead of /monkena/, and we can say that /balkom/balke/ is used more than two others.

a. Present potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
monkenaborom. 'I may go'	monkenaberem. 'We may go'
monkenaberi. 'You may go'	monkenaberen. 'You may go'
monkenabera. 'S/He/It may go'	monkenaberan. 'They may go'

b. Present perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
monkenareftom. 'I might have gone'	monkenarefte`m. 'We might have gone'
monkenarefti`. 'You might have gone'	monkenarefte`n. 'You might have gone'
monkenarefta. 'S/He/It might have gone'	monkenarefte`n. 'They might have gone'

c. Present perfect progressive tense:

monkenamereftom. 'I might have been going.'
monkenamerefti`. 'You might have been going.'
monkenamerefta. 'S/He/It might have been going.'
monkenamerefte`m. 'We might have been going.'
monkenamerefte`n. 'You might have been going.'
monkenamerefte`n. 'They might have been going.'

d. Past potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
monkenareftabašom. 'I might go'	monkenareftabašem. 'We might go'
monkenareftabaši. 'You might go'	monkenareftabašen. 'You might go'
monkenareftabaša. 'S/He/It might go'	monkenareftabašan. 'They might go'

e. Simple future tense:

singular	plural & polite form
monkenaraftom. 'I may go'	monkenaraftem. 'We may go'
monkenarafti. 'You may go'	monkenaraften. 'You may go'
monkenaraf(tek). 'S/He/It may go'	monkenaraftan. 'They may go'

In simple future tense the auxiliary verb/xa-/is omitted.

3)/bayistan/ 'should', 'ought to', 'must' (inference)

This modal auxiliary verb is used to express the idea of necessity or inescapable obligations. It is not conjugated and the forms /bayad/, /bayis/ or /mebayis/ is used for all persons in following tenses.

a. Present potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
bayadborom . 'I should go'	bayadberem. 'We should go'
bayadberi. 'You should go'	bayadberen. 'You should go'
bayadbera. 'S/He/It should go,	bayadberan. 'They should go'

b. Past potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
bayisreftabašom. 'I must have gone'	bayisreftabašem. 'We must have gone'
bayisreftabaši. 'You must have gone'	bayisreftabašen. 'You must have gone'
bayisreftabaša. 'S/He/It must have gone'	bayisreftabašan. 'They must have gone'

c. Past progressive tense:

singular	plural & polite form
bayismeraftom. 'I had to go'	bayismeraftem. 'We had to go'
bayismerafti. 'You had to go'	bayismeraften. 'You had to go'
bayismeraf(tek). 'S/He/It had to go'	bayismeraftan. 'They had to go'

Auxiliary verbs

These auxiliary verbs combine with present, past and past participle forms of verbs to construct a number of tenses, such as: present progressive, present perfect, present perfect progressive, past perfect, past perfect progressive, simple future and also passive.

The most common auxiliary verbs in Torbatian dialect are:

1)-/buyan/ 'to be'

This verb is both used as a main verb and an auxiliary verb .It appears as a main verb in the following tenses:

a.Simple present tense:

singular plural & polite form

hastom'I am'	hastem'We are'
hasti'You are'	hasten 'You are'
has(tek) 'S/He/It is'	hastan'They are'

The short form of this conjugation is presented here as main verb after /?eštowki/ 'in hurry'.

singular		plural & polite form	
?eštowki-y-om	'I am in hurry'	?eštowki-y-em	'We are in hurry'
?eštowki-y-i	'You are in hurry'	?eštowki-y-en	'You are in hurry'
?eštowki-y-a	'S/He is in hurry'	?eštowki-y-an	'They are in hurry'

-/y-/ is the intermediate phoneme between the two vowels.

b.Simple past tense:

singular

plural & polite form

buyom'I was'	buyem'We were'
buyi'You were'	buyen'You were'
bu'S/He/It was'	buyan'They were'

In conditional sentences the conjugation of this tense is like simple progressive tense:

singular	plural & polite form
?age mobuyom'If I were'	?age mobuyem 'If we were'
?age mobuyi'If you were'	?age mobuyen'If you were'
?age mobu'If S/He/It were'	?age mobuyan'If they were'

c.Present perfect tense:

singular

plural & polite form

buyo`m'I have been'	buye`m'We have been'
buyi`'You have been'	buye`n'You have been'
buya'S/He/It has been'	buya`n'THEY have been'

d.Present potential tense:

singular

plural & polite form

bašom'I may be'	bašem'We may be'
baši'You may be'	bašen'You may be'

baša'S/He/It may be'

bašan'They may be'

d.Simple future tense:

singular

plural & polite form

xabuyom'I will be'

xabuyem'We will be'

xabuyi'You will be'

xabuyen'You will be'

xabu'S/He/It will be'

xabuyan'They will be'

This verb, in this dialect, as auxiliary verb is used in constructing past perfect tense and past potential tense.

2)/dištan/ 'to have'

This verb is both used as main verb and auxiliary verb. It appears as main verb in the following tenses:

a.Simple present tense:

singular

plural & polite form

darom'I have'

darem'We have'

dari'You have'

daren'You have'

dara'S/He/It has'

daran'They have'

b.Simple past tense:

singular

plural & polite form

dištom'I had'

dištem'We had'

dišti'You had'

dišten'You had'

diš(tek) 'S/He/It had'

dištan'They had'

In conditional sentences the conjugation of this tense is like simple progressive tense:

singular

plural & polite form

?age medištom'If I had'

?age medištem'If we had'

?age medišti'If you had'

?age medišten'If you had'

?age mediš(tek)'If S/He/It had'

?age medištan'If they had'

Example: ?age pulmedištom , hâlâ de ?injenebuyom.

'If I had money, I would not be here now'

c. Present perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
dištom'I have had'	dištem'We have had'
dišti'You have had'	dišten'You have had'
dišta'S/He/It has had'	dištan'They have had'

d. Past perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
dištabyom'I had had'	dištabyem'We had had'
dištabyi'You had had'	dištabyen'You had had'
dištabu(yek)'S/He/It had had'	dištabyan'They had had'

e. Past potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
dištabašom'I might have'	dištabašem'We might have'
dištabaši'You might have'	dištabašen'You might have'
dištabaša'S/He/It might have'	dištabašan'They might have'

f. Simple future tense:

singular	plural & polite form
xadištom'I will have'	xadištem'We will have'
xadišti'You will have'	xadišten'You will have'
xadiš(tek)'S/He/It will have'	xadištan'They will have'

This verb, in this dialect, as auxiliary verb is used in constructing present progressive and past progressive tense.

3)/mestan/ 'to want'

This auxiliary verb, like other mentioned auxiliaries, is both used as main verb and auxiliary verb. It is used as main verb in the following tenses.

a. Simple present tense:

singular	plural & polite form
mayom'I want'	mayem'We want'

mayi'You want'	mayen'You want'
maya'S/He/It wants'	mayan'They want'

b.Simple past tense:

singular	plural & polite form
mestom/mayistom'I wanted'	mestem/mayistem'We wanted'
mesti/mayisti'You wanted'	mesten/mayisten'You wanted'
mes/mayis(tek)/ 'S/He/It wanted'	mestan/mayistan'They wanted'

c.Present perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
mayisto`m'I have wanted'	mayiste`m'We have wanted'
mayisti`'You have wanted'	mayiste`n'You have wanted'
mayista'S/He/It has wanted'	mayista`n'They have wanted'

d.Past perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
mestabuyom'I had wanted'	mestabuyem'We had wanted'
mestabuyi'You had wanted'	mestabuyen'You had wanted'
mestabu'S/He/It had wanted'	mestabuyan'They had wanted'

e.Present potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
mestabašom'I may want'	mestabašem'We may want'
mestabaši'You may want'	mestabašen'You may want'
mestabaša'S/He/It may want'	mestabašan'They may want'

This tense is used in conditional sentences:

?age mestabašibedari ,darhowlirbebendi.

'If you may want to go out, close the door of the house.'

or hesitation:

balkommestabašahamejârpurkena.

'S/He may want to let all know.'

f.Simple future tense:

singular	plural & polite form
xamestom'I will want'	xamestem'I will want'
xamesti'You will want'	xamesten'You will want'
xames(tek)'S/He/It will want'	xamestan'They will want'

The auxiliary verb /xâstan/ 'to want' is used to construct simple future tense. That is, by present stem of auxiliary verb /xâstan/ plus past verb form of the main verb, this tense is conjugated.

singular	plural & polite form
xaraftom 'I will go'	xaraftem 'We will go'
xarafti 'you will go'	xaraften 'You will go'
xaraf(tek) 'S/He/It will go'	xaraftan 'They will go'

4)/reftan/ 'to go', 'to become'

This verb, as main verb, in the meaning of 'to go' is conjugated in all tenses, and in the meaning of 'to become' is used in the following tenses. Because in second meaning it is always preceded by an adjective, in these examples adjective /pir/'old' appears before this verb.

a. Simple present tense:

singular	plural & polite form
pirmorom'I become old'	pirmerem'We become old'
pirmeri'You become old'	pirmeren'You become old'
pirmera'S/He/It becomes old'	pirmeran'They become old'

b. Simple past perfect:

singular	plural & polite form
pirraftom'I became old'	pirraftem'We became old'
pirrafti'You became old'	pirraften'You became old'
pirraf(tek)'S/He/It became old'	pirraftan'They became old'

c. Present progressive tense:

singular	plural & polite form
darompirmorom'I am becoming old'	darempirmerem 'We are becoming old'
daripirmeri 'You are becoming old'	darenpirmeren 'You are becoming old'
darapirmera'S/He/It is becoming old'	daranpirmeran 'They are becoming old'

d. Present perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
pirrefto`m 'I have become old'	pirrefte`m 'We have become old'
pirrefi 'You have become old'	pirrefte`n 'You have become old'
pirrefta 'S/He/It has become old'	pirrefta`n 'They have become old'

e. Past perfect tense:

singular	plural & polite form
pirreftabuyom 'I had become old'	pirreftabuyem 'We had become old'
pirreftabuyi 'You had become old'	pirreftabuyen 'You had become old'
pirreftabu(yek) 'S/He/It had become old'	pirreftabuyan 'They had become old'

f. Present potential tense:

singular	plural & polite form
pirreftabašom 'I may become old'	pirreftabašem 'We may become old'
pirreftabaši 'You may become old'	pirreftabašen 'You may become old'
pirreftabaša 'S/He/It may become old'	pirreftabašan 'They may become old'

g. Simple future tense:

singular	plural & polite form
pirxaraftom 'I will become old'	pirxaraftem 'We will become old'
pirxarafti 'You will become old'	pirxaraften 'You will become old'
pirxaraf(tek) 'S/He/It will become old'	pirxaraftan 'They will become old'

3. CONCLUSION

This research is a fieldwork and has been done as follows. Torbatian dialect is a current language variation and its corpus has been collected by tape-recording and after transcribing, the materials have been analyzed on the basis of mood and modality. Mood is a category for which verb is inflected and it is used to indicate the syntactic relation of the main clause to other clauses in the sentence or to indicate the attitude of the speaker toward what she or he is saying as certainty or uncertainty, wish or command, emphasis or hesitancy. Mood, in this dialect, can be classified in two different ways: Morphologically and syntactically. From morphological point of view, this dialect distinguishes three moods: Indicative, Subjunctive and Imperative. Indicative mood indicates that a

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It is true that the ultimate aim of dialectology is to broaden and deepen our knowledge about language by taking into account all the facts about linguistic variation that can be assembled. As mentioned earlier, there are so many varieties of this dialect in Torbate Heydariye which must be studied as soon as possible because under the effect of immigration, education, broadcasting (newspapers, magazines, radio and TV), travelling and ... this dialect and will be eradicated and there will be no speaker of the dialect. Hence, it is very essential and also of prime importance to have some written evidence about this dialect. On the other hand, it is useful to know the relation between the Torbatian dialect and the standard language.

Phonetic Alphabets

š=oral alveo-palatal voiceless fricative
 ž= oral alveo-palatal voiced fricative
 ʃ= oral alveo-palatal voiceless affricate
 ʒ= oral alveo-palatal voiced affricate
 x=oral uvular voiceless fricative
 q=oral uvular voiced abrupt release
 ʔ=oral glottal voiceless abrupt release
 â= back low vowel
 a=front low vowel

Abbreviations and symbols:

`= stress
 :=length
 ()= optional
 / = or

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How to cite this article:

Mehrabi A. Mood and modality in torbatian dialect. J. Fundam. Appl. Sci., 2016, 8(2S), 1926-1941