

ON NUMERICAL CONSTRUCTIONS WITH A NUMERATIVE IN AZERBAIJANI

ZARBALIYEV HABIB MAMED oğlu

1. In the world languages there are two main types of numerical constructions: type 1: "numeral (quantifier - Q) - noun (N)" (i.e. Q-N), type 2: "numeral - numerative (Cl) - noun (i.e. Q-Cl-N).

The first type constructions are used in any language while the second ones are found in languages having a numerative system. There are also several variants of such constructions where rearrangement of the constituents takes place.

We deal with Q-Cl-N constructions which we call numerative constructions. The main object of our analysis is the Azerbaijanian constructions which are confronted with that of from the languages of other language families.

2. Analysing the data of a great number of languages J.Greenberg established the fact that logically in the constructions with numeral, numerative and noun six kind of constituents order are available. But practically only four kinds are used: Q-Cl-N, N-Q-Cl, Cl-Q-N, N-Cl-Q. Two kinds, i.e. Cl-N-Q and Q-N-Cl are not found [Greenberg 1975:29].

In Azerbaijani being the native language of the author as well as in other Turkic languages in the numerative constructions only such order of constituents is used: Q-Cl-N. For instance: *on nəfər tələbə* "ten students" (lit. "ten soul student"), *beş baş qoyun* "five sheep" (lit. "five head sheep"). However there are constructions like numerical constructions type of N-Q-Cl. Such constructions are usually used in enumeration: *Çəkilişdə iştirak edəcəklər: müəllim - iki nəfər, tələbə beş nəfər*, lit. "In the shooting of the film [they] will take part:

teacher - two soul, student - five soul".

For Indonesian, on the contrary, such order of the constituents is typical: *buku lima buah* "five books", lit. "book five piece". In this language such constructions are predominantly used in combination with the demonstrative pronoun *ini* "this" or *itu* "that": *buku lima buah ini* "these five books", lit. "book five piece this".

2.1. In the Turkic languages the system of numeratives is not so rich. However a number of authors hold just an opposite opinion [see: Khalilov 1978:48; Baskakov 1952:228; Buranov 1983:215]. For example, R. Khalilov, noting that Azerbaijani has a great number of numeratives, includes to the list of the numeratives in this language such words as *nafor* "soul", *baş* "head", *adad*, lit. "figure, cipher", *dana*, lit. "stone", *tika* "lit. piece", *parça* "slice", *cild* "volume", *qatar* "flock", *damcı* "drop", etc. According to him part of these words are original numeratives (*adad*, *dana*, *cild*, etc.) while the others are in fact nouns (*səbat* "basket", *qatar* "flock", etc.). The latter ones function as a numerative only in suitable constructions [Khalilov 1978:48].

We can agree with the author when he writes that not all these words are numeratives, but we can not agree to the point when he notes that all these words, being a component of suitable constructions, function as a numerative. In reality a number of these words are units of measure, while part of them are indeed nouns, but being a component of constructions they function as a unit of measure, not as a numerative. Numerative constructions are formed upon the pattern of the measured words. The author confuses these two notions. Therefore he can not explain why part of them so called numeratives can be omitted in the construction (cf. *üç adad kitab* "three [pieces of] books - *üç kitab* "three books") while the other part can't (cf. *üç kilogram et*

"three kilogram of meat", but not üç ^{*}ət). It can be explained by the fact that in the first case the noun (*kitab* - "book") is countable, and therefore the numerative *aded* can be used, but in the second case the noun (*ət* - "meat") is uncountable, and therefore the measured word *kilogram* is used [see: Zarbaliyev 1980: 67]. However, in spite of their similarity to measured words some of them (*vagon* "car", *sabat* "basket", etc.), are used in combinations formed both by countable nouns and by uncountable ones. Therefore in such constructions they can be omitted, but in this case the construction assumes a quite different meaning: Cf.: *iki sabat alma* "two baskets of apples" - *iki alma* "two apples". It should be noted, however, the countable noun *alma* "apple" in this construction becomes a quasi-uncountable, because in this case the contents of the basket become uncountable.

Analogous constructions are widely used in Russian. In this language besides there are also quasi-quantitative expressions kind of *vagon dyni* "a car of melons", *metr klejonki* "a meter of oil cloth", etc. In deep structure of these constructions lexeme *odin* is implied [Meičuk 1985: 28]. In Azerbaijani such elliptical constructions are not found. The same can be said about the Austronesian languages.

2.2. Some restrictions are put on using of some grammatical and lexical means in numerative constructions. In Azerbaijani as well as in other agglutinative languages (also in languages being drawn towards agglutination, e.g. in the Indonesian languages) restriction is applied in the usage of plural nouns. It is connected with that in Azerbaijani the singular form of noun has a collective meaning, and the collectivity "is semantically neither singular nor plural. It is a transnumeral category which is neutral in respect to number as opposed to the singulative, which involves countability..." [Greenberg

1974:29]. For instance, a construction like *beş baş inak* "five cows" (lit. "five head cow") is possible whereas a construction like *beş baş inaklar* (lit. "five head cows") is not. On the contrary in Russian the numeratives in such constructions can't be used in the singular. The presence of the plural (in the genitive) is compulsory: *sto golov korov* "a hundred cows" (lit. "a hundred heads cows"). It should be noted nevertheless there are some restrictions in Russian, too. For instance, by analogy with the *sto golov korov* one may not say *tri golovy korovy* (tri "3").

In Azerbaijani in Q-CI-N constructions a restriction is put on in the usage of the indefinite cardinals. For instance, constructions like *on nəfər talabə*, lit. "ten soul student" are available, whereas constructions like *çox nəfər talabə* (lit. "many soul student") are not. In Russian such a restriction seems to be absent. Cf.: *sem' golov korov*, lit. "seven heads cows" and *mnogo golov korov*, lit. "many heads cows".

2.3. In numerative constructions omission of some constituents is admissible. In Azerbaijani both the numerative and the noun can be omitted. Cf.: *iki adad fincan*, lit. "two piece cup" - *iki fincan* "two cups". The same can be found in some other languages, too. Cf.: *lima orang tani*, lit. "five man peasant" - *lima orang...*, lit. "five man..." in Indonesian. Such constructions can't be used without a numeral. Constructions like *kusok m'jasa* "a piece of meat" being used in Russian, are called as we have already noted, quasi-quantitative expressions. In deep-syntactical structure of such constructions the lexeme "one" is implied (i.e. *odin kusok m'jasa* "one piece of meat").

Without a numeral or any other quantificator a numerative can't be used in Indonesian, too. It puts some restrictions on the use of numeratives since they "may be met only if by chance it is question of counting the