

Adjarian's *Armenian dialectology* (1911)

Translation and commentary

Edited by

Hossep Dolatian

Languages of the Caucasus 4



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Acknowledgments

It's hard to remember what exactly motivated me to write this translation. A lot has happened in my life since I first start drafted the translation as an ugly Google Doc in Oakland.

But let's try to go down memory lane. After doing a grammar of Iranian Armenian in 2021, I realized that I'm deficient in my knowledge of dialectal Armenian. Being a perfectionist/completionist, I wanted to cover that gap the best way I know how – by reading something. Nikita and Hrach (I think?) recommended that I try reading Adjarian 1911. Ironically, I also hate reading, and especially reading Armenian texts that aren't OCR-ed or have a clickable table of contents. I decided to read that book, but I wanted to only read it once and never again. And so I decided to kill two birds with one stone by translating the book while reading. I didn't realize that I would then have to read the book multiple times to correct and doublecheck my translation. Ironic, isn't it?

I spent many an evening hour writing out this translation in 2022. It was a largely solo endeavour – me alone at my desk, waiting for bedtime. Along the way, people came around sometime (online) and gave moral support – especially Nikita Bezrukov, Hrach Martirosyan, and Bert Vaux.

During the translation process, I sometimes had a dead-end or two for the optimal Armenian translation. And when I would see a word that was not Armenian... Well, I had no choice but to bother people on the internet. I thank the many people who helped me out in that regard. Their names are distributed in footnotes and lists across the translation. I would try to collect them all into an itemized list here, but then I'd fear missing a name.

Eventually the draft was ready-ish for the public, and got to be presented at UCLA 2023, where further evidence was provided to me that the translation was not a waste of my time. Thank you to Peter Cowe, Hrayr Khanjian, and Anooshik Melikian for that.

Lo and behold when it even got reviewed by Robin Meyer who helped me see how my Classical Armenian was deficient. He and Nikita Bezrukov where then helpful comrades in tracking down further references for Adjarian's bibliography.

Well, I suppose I'm rambling at this point. Thank you friends from 2022 for helping me write this book. May I never have to translate a beast again.

Abbreviations

ABL	ablative	NEG	negative
ACC	accusative	NOM	nominative
AGR	agreement	NX	noun stem-extender
AOR	aorist	OBL	oblique
AUX	auxiliary	OPT	optative
CAUS	causative	PASS	passive
CN	connegative	PERF	perfect
DAT	dative	PFV	perfective
DEB	debitive	PERF.CVB	perfective converb
DEF	definite	PL	plural
DIM	diminutive	PL.POSS	plural possessor
DIST	distal	POSS	possessive
ECHO	echo	POSS.1SG	possessive first person
EPTCP	evidential participle	POSS.2SG	possessive second person
FUT	future	PRO	pronoun
FUT.CVB	future converb	PROG	progressive
GEN	genitive	PROH	prohibitive
IMP	imperative	PROX	proximal
IMPF	imperfective	PRS	present
IMPF.CVB	imperfective converb	PST	past
INCH	inchoative	PTCP	participle
IND	indicative	Q	question
INDF	indefinite	RPTCP	resultative participle
INF	infinitive	SBJV	subjunctive
INS	instrumental	SG	singular
CASE	case	SPTCP	subject participle
LOC	locative	TH	theme vowel
LV	linking vowel	VX	verb stem-extender
NARR	narrative		

