

TWO TYPES OF INFINITIVE IN TWO OF MARTIN CAMAJ'S LITERARY WORK

Kadire Binaj

University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Faculty of Philology, Department of Albanian Language, Prishtine. Kosovo. E mail: kadirebinaj1@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper examines two types of infinitive in two of Martin Camaj's literary work of various genres - in the novel "*Djella*" and in the drama "*Loja e mbasdekës*". In both works, the form *me* + past participle and the form *për të* + past participle (or *për* + neuter verbal noun) are used. The analysis of the usage of two forms of infinitive is done by starting from two different points of view: First, the usage relation between two forms of infinitive in each of these two works is shown separately. Through this analysis the form of the infinitive (two forms of it) is shown only in one work, without comparing with the other. The analysis focuses on the syntactic functions of the form of these two forms of infinitive and the frequency of their use. And second, the measurements are made by considering the time distance between the two works which serve as the corpus for analysis. This analysis then focuses on how much the usage relation of the two forms of infinitive may have changed within two works which belong to two different time periods, one to the early period and the other to the last period of author's work. "*Djella*" was the first novel of Martin Camaj. It was published in 1958. In the other side, drama "*Loja e mbasdekës*" is one of latest works of the author. So, by comparing those two works, we want to see if the standard Albanian had impact in Camaj's language, especially in the usage of two forms of infinitive: geg infinitive (*me* + *past participle*) and infinitive which is used in standard Albanian (*për të* + *past participle*).

Keywords: *Camaj, me + past participle, për të + past participle, the function, the frequency of use.*

Introduction:

Infinitive has an extensive and frequent use in Albanian language. It serves to designate an action as a process, without referring to any grammatical person, and it's characterized by the dual form of nominal and verbal. Çabej (1986:119) says that the infinitive is related to the development of a thought, to a mental abstraction and it shows the general idea of the verb. In Albanian language are used two forms of infinitive: infinitive *me + participle*, which is used in the Gheg dialect, and the form *për të + participle* which is used in standard Albanian. According to the Grammar of Academy (2002: 339), from the semantic content, the form *për të punuar* serves as infinitive, but in some basic functions of infinitive, such as subjective and

objective, it has a limited use and therefore it is called analytical form serving as infinitive with limited syntactic functions. On the other hand the form *me punue*, which is not in the standard Albanian, is used in all infinitive functions. This infinitive form, according to S. Riza (1996: 125), F. Altimari (2010: 113), B. Bokshi (2011: 159) etc., has been part of whole Albanian. For the infinitive loss in Tosk, Bokshi says that it has been influenced by medieval Greek, which had lost the infinitive. Also he says that another influencing element may have been the expansion of the participle form in Tosk.

Data analysis:

Infinitive in Camaj's work

Even in Camaj's work both forms of infinitive are used, which synchronically are treated as forms on the basis of participle (*me + participle* and *për të + participle*). However, the infinitive form *me punue* has a significantly more frequent usage.

Me + participle

The infinitive from *me + participle* is formed from the particle *me* and the participle form of the verb. In Camaj's work, the participle form of the verb, depending on the form of verb, is formed in any of these ways: 1. Without a suffix: *punue, la, kërcye* etc.; 2. With the suffix-*un*, which is used very rarely and it is not constant, because it is often replaced with the suffix *-ë* to the same verbs that sometimes are formed with *-un* and sometimes with *-ë*: *hap-un, mbledh-un, ndez-un* etc.; 3. With the suffix-*ë*, which in most cases is formed in those verbs that in standard Albanian form the participle with suffix-*ur*: *rrit-ë, ardh-ë, tret-ë, mbyll-ë*... and even to the verbs which in standard Albanian form the participle form with the same suffix: *dal-ë, marr-ë, sjell-ë* ; 4. With the suffix-*në* – in this case the stressed *-ë* of the base of the word changes into *-a*: *dha-në, la-në, za-në, përza-në, tha-në* etc. The Infinitive form *me + participle* has many syntactic functions and uses. Infinitive of this form expresses a process in a general way: it has the grammatical category of voice (*me ba: me u ba*) and in negative sentences takes the particle *mos*. It is used after the auxiliary verb *kam*, forming the future and conditional forms; it is used frequently after modal verbs with which it forms a compound predicate; it is used after aspective verbs indicating a certain stage of completion of the action or the enforcement of the action; it is used as an independent form in the imperative and interrogative sentences and more often it represents certain forms of subordinate sentences. The infinitive is also formed as compound form in the meaning of the past, like: *me pas la*, in counterpoint with which the form *me la* is called the present tense. Except the infinitive forms in which the subject of the infinitive is the same as that of the main part, forms that the infinitive has a different subject from the main verb are also used.

"Djella"

Me + participle Gheg

In Camaj's novel "Djella", the infinitive form *me* + participle has an extensive and frequent use. It is used:

1. After auxiliary verb *kam* respectively *kisha*, thus forming the future and conditionals forms , ... *më shikoni si hana nëpër rrema e kam me u falë gjithçka*. (Djella, 2012: 23); *Cok kisha me ndejë, thosha, por puna më pret e s'kam si ta la shkollën mbyllë*. (Djella, 2012:35)
2. It has a frequent use after modal verbs with which it forms the compound predicate: *Kisha lexue dikund se shkrintari poet, jo kronist, duhej me pasë zemër të gjanë për njerëz..* (fq. 22)
3. It is also used after aspective verbs, thus indicating a certain stage of completion of the action or the enforcement of the action, and it functions as a compound verbal predicate: *Ashtu kulaç kanë nisë me u sjellë rrotull si gur mullinj.*(fq. 62)
4. Also, the infinitive form *me* + *participle* is used in various syntactic functions having various relationships with the structure from which it depends. As a result, it is usually used in the subordinate clauses. This form of infinitive may have the following functions:

- **As a subject:**

Ndoshta do të kishte qenë ma mirë për ty me u lidhë me ndoj familje ma të ngjitun. (fq. 52)

- **As an object:**

Me këtë Curri donte me vlerësue sa ma tepër trimninë e Gjyshit. (fq. 67)

Secili më lutej me u ndalë e me bujt aty se paku një natë, thoshin ata... (fq. 35)

- **As a determiner:**

Edhe unë jam grue si të gjitha gratë tjera në këtë katund e pres edhe unë kohën me përpjekë shtatin për burrë, me pjellë fëmijë... (fq. 97)

- **In adverbial clauses of time**

Para se me iu kapë malit, jemi ndalë te një krue e kemi hangër drekë... (fq. 103)

- **In adverbial clauses of manner**

The modal function is often intertwined with the comparative function. S. Prifti (1971: 375) says that the adverbial clauses of manner "First and foremost, are intertwined with comparative sentences, because of the qualitative aspect of the action that the sentence expresses as additional sentence which is shown by comparison". Such a combination of functions occurs particularly when the adverbial clause of manner is formed with conjunctions like *si*, *sikurse*, *siç* etc, by which the form of comparison is expressed:

Në mbramje, posa im atë hynte në derën e kurtit, ime amë hopte në këmbë as (as = si) me qenë pesëmbëdhjetë vjeçe... (p. 40)

- **In adverbial clauses of purpose:**

Mbasi pata shitë tokën, para se me u shpërngulë, shkova te miku i tim et me ndejë, me i thanë lamtumirë. (Djella: 52), ose me ndërtimin për + *paskajore*:

Për mos me shkelë në pusakët e shumët të ujit nëpër rrugë, ecte në maje të gishtave... (p. 29)

- **In adverbial clauses of result:**

*... e krahasosha veten me plakën e prrallës që vete tue mbledhë fjetet e leshit të dhenve nëpër ferra e driza me mendimin se do të bashkojë aq shumë sa **me i mbastue** të endi me të një petk.* (Djella: 27)

- **In adverbial clauses of condition:**

*Vetëm **me më ngucë** tepër, lehtas s'e vras njerinë!* (p. 65)

- **In adverbial clauses of concession:**

*Kur të merrna vesh na të dy, tanë bota **me u çue** (= edhe po të çohet tërë bota) s'e ndrron fjalën tonë.* (p. 59)

In the novel "Djella", the infinitive form *me + participle* is used 165 times.

" Djella "

Për të + participle

The infinitive form *për të + participle* (historically is treated as structure formed of particle *për* + neutral verbal noun) is used less frequent in " Djella". It is used in the active voice or passive voice, but does not express any meaning of time. The infinitive form *për të + participle* cannot perform all the functions of the infinitive. Demiraj (1998: 984) says that this form lacks all uses in the main, subjective, objective, conditional and concessive subordinate clauses. Also Camaj (1984: 166) says that this infinitive of Tosk origin has only one function as adverbial clause of purpose.

In the novel " Djella" , the infinitive of this form is used:

- **In adverbial clauses of purpose:**

This is a typical function with which this infinitive is found Camaj's work. In this function it can be preceded also by the particle *si* as an adverbial clause of manner, or with the particle *sa* as a limitation:

Sa për t'i kundërshtue ngase më kish prishë qetësinë në fillim të ditës, thashë se malësia paska rrallë burra të urtë. (Djella, 2012.: 51)

"Ke ardhë për të na thanë lamtumirë mbas sosjes së shkollës" tha Djella tue më dhanë me kuptue se ajo në këtë rast përfaqësonte mbarë familjen. (Djella, 2012: 96)

- **As predicative determiner:**

Për t'u habitë ishte puna se sa ma shumë qitsha krande në zjarm, aq ma tepër... (po aty, 90)

- **As determiner**

I kisha premtue Shpresës se kur të kisha shkue në qytet do të kisha gjuajtë kohën e përshatshme për t'i ba një vizitë. (po aty, 100)

In this novel, the infinitive form *për të + participle* is used 47 times. Of 47 times, 42 (89,36%) times is used in adverbial clauses of purpose, as predicative determiner 2 times (4,25%) and 3 times as determiner (6.38%).

"Loja e mbasdrekës"

Me + participle

Even in the play "Loja e mbasdrekës" the infinitive form *me + participle* is used more frequent than the infinitive form *për të + participle*. In this play, the infinitive *me + participle* is used:

- After the auxiliary verb 'kam', thus forming the future and conditional forms:

Kanë me folë burrat me kumt të trashë për me u dhanë rëndësi fjalëve të veta... (Loja e mbasdrekës, 2012: 17)

- After modal verbs, forming a compound predicate:

Por disa punë të vjetra, thonë këndej, s' duhet me i përpushë. (p, 20)

- As an independent form, in interrogative and imperative sentences:

Çka me folë me të? AND Në bjeshk' pra tash me dalë!

- In subordinate clauses, with certain syntactic functions:

- **As a subject:**

S'ashtë mirë me folë para njerëzve të huej se çka ashtë tue u ngranë mbrendë, në shtëpinë time. (p. 59)

- **As predicative determiner:**

Tue e shikue këtë fëmijë se si vëren, nuk të bahet me besue se ashtë shuerdhec e i pagojë. (po aty, 20)

- **As an object:**

Mbasi qenka veshë për çudë, atëherë e ka ndërmend me ba para nesh teatra, si thotë ai. (p. 34)

- **As a determiner:**

Fëmijë ashtë ky e ka kohë me nxanë të flasë e të shkrujë. (p, 16)

- **In adverbial clauses of manner:**

Ban ashtu si mos me qenë aspak e vërtetë kjo punë! (p, 30)

- **In adverbial clauses of purpose:**

Kam ardhë me kuvendë me Zekën, jo kështu në kambë e në dorë, por përngeshëm... (p. 27) ose me ndërtimin për + paskajore: Mbasi patët rrasë brijtë me mish të njomë, ngrehët lojë gjyqesh për me dënue të gjallë a të vdekun. (p, 107)

- **In adverbial clauses of result:**

Çka i shkon ndërmend këtij njeriu që thotë se qenka kaq i kujtueshëm, sa me shkruie edhe libra! (p, 29)

- **In adverbial clauses of condition:**

Mendojnë ashtu në krye, por nuk e thonë pse i zen gjarpni me ba me e marrë vesh une (= po ta merrja vesh)!

- **In adverbial clauses of concession:**

Një fis me u çue (= edhe po të çohet një fis) s'ia ndërron mendën tim shoq, jo ma unë, grueja e tij! (p, 29)

In this play, the infinitive form *me + participle* is used 260 in total.

"Loja e mbasdrekës "

Për të + participle

Even in the play "Loja e mbasdrekës" the infinitive form *për të + participle* has a less frequent use compared with the other form *me + participle*. However, this form is used:

- After the auxiliary verb 'kam', forming future forms:

Po edhe ky ka për t'u kujtue një ditë se ka edhe të tjera mjete për t'i lidhë trimat për kuji. (Loja e mbasdrekës, 2012: 21)

- In adverbial clauses of purpose:

Për të ble fjalë që t'i qesë mandej në letër u sillka ky këndej? (Loja e mbasdrekës, 2012: 16)

- **As predicative determiner:**

Ashtë për t'u qa me lot si flitet keq për ta, bile edhe donë me shkrue... (p. 76)

- **As determiner:**

Po edhe ky ka për t'u kujtue një ditë se ka edhe të tjera mjete për t'i lidhë trimat për kuji. (Loja e mbasdrekës, 2012: 21)

Findings:

Infinitive of this form is used 50 times in total. In this work it is used mostly in adverbial clauses of purpose. So, *për të+ participle* is used 35 times (70%) in adverbial clauses of purpose, 6 times (12%) as predicative determiner, 4 times (8%) as determiner and 5 times (10%) after the auxiliary verb 'kam', thus forming the future forms. The future form *kam + participle* of the infinitive form *për të + participle* is used only in the play "Loja e mbasdrekës", whereas in the novel "Djella" the future with 'kam' is formed only with the infinitive form *me + participle*.

Conclusions:

From the analysis made in two literary works of Martin Camaj, it was clearly shown that he uses two forms of infinitive. But, this usage varies from frequency of use and from the syntactic functions in which they are used. As a result, in the novel " Djella" the infinitive form *me + participle* is used 165 times (77.83%) , whereas *për të + participle* 47 times (22,16%). *Me + participle* is used with a much larger variety of functions, whereas *për të + participle* is used mainly in adverbial clauses of purpose. However, *me + participle* used 15 times and *për + me punue* used 5 times in adverbial clauses of purpose, shows that Camaj used both infinitive forms with the same function to avoid repetitions.

Even in the play "Loja e mbasdrekës " the ratio of the two forms of infinitive use is not so different. *Me + participle* is used 260 times in total (83.87%), whereas *për të + participle* 50 times (16.12%). Even in this work *për të + participle* has the most frequent use in adverbial clauses of purpose (35 times) 70% and 5 times as part of the future *kam+ për të + participle*. The use in adverbial clauses of purpose is also shown through the infinitive form *me + participle* (16 times), and Geg infinitive preceded by prepositional particle *për - për me punue* (8 times).

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