

WHAT'S IN A LANGUAGE NAME?

THE CASE OF BOSNIAN, CROATIAN, MONTENEGRIN, AND SERBIAN

WINTER QUARTER 2007

620 145
(2003):

267 669 (43,16%)
Montenegrins

198 414 (31,99%)
Serbs

48 184 (7,79%)
Bosniacs/
Bosniaks

31 163 (5,03%)
Albanians

24 625 (3,97%)
Moslems

1 860 (0,30%)
Yugoslavs



CONSTITUTION OF MONTENEGRO

Based on the historic right of the Montenegrin people, which was gained in centuries of struggles for freedom, to have its own state;

Article 1 State

Montenegro is a democratic, social and ecological state. Montenegro is a republic. Montenegro is a part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Article 9 Language and Alphabet

In Montenegro in official use is the Serbian language of ijekavian pronunciation. The Latin and Cyrillic alphabets are equal. In municipalities, in which the majority or significant part of the population is made up of national and ethnic groups, in official use are their languages and alphabets.

Alphabets

Latin			Cyrillic	Latin	М м	m
A a	Lj lj		А а	a	Н н	n
B b	M m		Б б	b	Њ њ	nj
C c	Nj nj		В в	v	О о	o
Č č	O o		Г г	g	П п	p
Ć ć	P p		Д д	d	Р р	r
D d	R r		Ђ ђ	đ	С с	s
Dž dž	S s		Е е	e	Т т	t
Đ đ	Š š		Ж ж	ž	Ћ ћ	ć
E e	Ś ś		З з	z	У у	u
F f	T t		З з	z	Ф ф	f
G g	U u		С с	ø	Х х	h
H h	V v		И и	i	Ц ц	c
I i	Z z		Ј ј	j	Ч ч	č
J j	Z Ø		К к	k	Џ ѓ	dž
K k	Ž ž		Л л	l	Ш ш	š
L l	Ž ž		Љ љ	lj	Ћ ћ	ć

Spelling

1. Piši kao što zboriš. vs. Piši kao što govoriš
'Write as you speak.'

Phonology

1. 33 phonemes in the standard language
2. phoneme /si/
šednica 'plenary meeting' vs. *sjednica*
šever 'north' vs. *sjever*
3. phoneme /zi/
koži 'of goat' vs. *kozji*
ženica 'pupil' vs. *zjenica*
4. phoneme /dz/
bič 'female dog'
5. jotation
đevojka 'girl' vs. *djevojka*
ćerati 'to drive out' vs. *tjerati*

Morphology

1. declension of adjectives and some pronouns
zeleni(je)m 'green.I.SG.' vs. *zelenim*
zeleni(je)h 'green.G.PL.' vs. *zelenih*
zeleni(je)m(a) 'green.D./I./L.PL.' vs. *zelenim(a)*
2. ijekavisms in adjectives and some pronouns
ovijeg 'this.G.' vs. *ovog*
dobrijega 'good.G.' vs. *dobroga*
3. ijekavisms in verbs
nijesam 'am-not' vs. *nisam*
4. numerous specificities in the Montenegrin language (pronominal, adjectival, of numerals, adverbial, prepositional, of conjunctions)

Syntax

1. examples from the writings of Petar I Petrović, Petar II Petrović Njegoš, Marko Miljanov Popović

Lexis

1. introduction of lexemes characteristic of Montenegrin dialects