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## AZERBAIJANI LANGUAGE AND NOSTRATIC THEORY

**Abstract:** The article is devoted to the genetic relationship between the Azerbaijani language and languages of the world. It is shown that the Azerbaijani language along with other Turkic languages included in the group of East Nostratic languages. Thus, as a member of the Altaic language family, the Azerbaijani language belongs to the Eastern Nostratic languages and has a genetic relationship with Uralskiy and Dravidian language families. In this regard, the evolutionary history of development of the Azerbaijani language has commonality with the East Nostratic languages. The genetic relationship between Azerbaijan and Nostratic languages in the light of comparison of particles is explained in the article.

**Key words:** Azerbaijani language, genetic relationship, particle comparisons, Altaic language family.

**Language:** English

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### Introduction

The matter of formation of languages from one ancient root is not a new problem for linguistics. But although studies conducted in this area in different countries (especially Russia, the US, Israel, Germany, and others), enough information collected about the typology of the vast majority of the world's languages, its vocabulary composition, habitat, the relationship with other languages, yet it was impossible to say the final word on the solution of the issue. In generalized form a few reasons of its can be shown: 1) the only linguistic method, which study the language affinity- comparative-historical method cannot not fully justify in comparing of different typology languages. Therefore, there is a sharp need in the re-development of the method in this direction, definition of the oldest and large-scale and at the same time application ways of the rich language facts. We think that credible results can be achieved in this area when a comparative-historical method to be applied properly. Rather, the application of the comparison on language coordinates both horizontally and vertically to be conducted in compliance with the law. To determine the affinity of languages, in principle, does not so depend on the reasons and time of the division of languages.

### Materials and Methods

One of the most difficult problems facing comparing in monogenesis issue is that in far relationship issues (it is natural, because the more ancient compliances gradually decrease) the discovery of very few compliances casts doubt on this relationship; 2) the diversity of languages in their spreading habitat even had created sharp differences in relative languages; 3) although the study of general trends in the evolution of languages (means universals) becomes urgent but the number of researches in this field cannot be accepted as sufficient; 4) like in other areas of science (especially in social and humanities), as well as the European centrism dominating in linguistics has been a clear hassle in conduction of this type of researches and it is obvious even now; 5) in addition to this type of studies, the advantage of the achievements of linguistics, history, ethnography, genetics, archeology, anthropology, geography and so on sciences are needed to use, but these kind of scientific integration are not yet at the required level. It is clear any historical achievement of any science gave an impetus to the development of other sciences, the formation of adjacent areas and directions.

There are elementary knowledge about the monogenesis of the language in both mythological sources in pre-science period (for example, on the legends on Babylon Tower, Oedipus riddles of the



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ancient Greeks, in the ancient Sumerians etc.), as well as in religious sources. Even in XVII century in connection with Biblical traditions there was an idea in Europe that the ancient Jewish language is older and other world's languages were derived from this language. Later as the reading of the texts in ancient languages became possible, this theory had lost its scientific importance.

A new era of the monogenesis theory started with in early XX century by Italian linguist A. Trombetti. Namely A. Trombetti for the first time not only sufficed with combining of certain families, but even proposed to compare the lexics of these languages. According to him, such comparison may provide a lot of material in favor of monogenesis theory. But A. Trombetti could not group macro family of languages according to this theory.

A new option that proposes consideration of application of comparative and historical method, which slightly got closer to theory of A. Trombetti and which had caused difficulty for each family of language and in general, for language macrofamily, put forward by the American linguist M. Svodesh in the 50-es of the XX century. Matching the languages of old and the new world Svodesh had put forward an idea of existing of big macro families of languages and relations between them. M. Svodesh, who founded the glottochronology method, also emphasized the difficulty of justification of monogenesis theory scientifically. He compared the language families and estimated that they were separated from proto language 10 thousand years ago. According to the researchers, despite the passage of such a long time, it is possible to compare these languages. [12, pp.308-309].

Let's tell beforehand that the studies in the field of monogenesis of languages () is of great importance in study of history of separate languages (of course, it includes languages from so called

macro-language family as the "nostratic" (V.M. Illich-Svitich), "boreal" (S. Starostin) or "Indo-Pacific Languages" (J. Gronberg) etc.).

Because all theories about monogenesis of the language predicts the study of period of proto language (about 8-10 thousand years ago) the division after it (formation of first dialects and beginning of historical migration of languages)

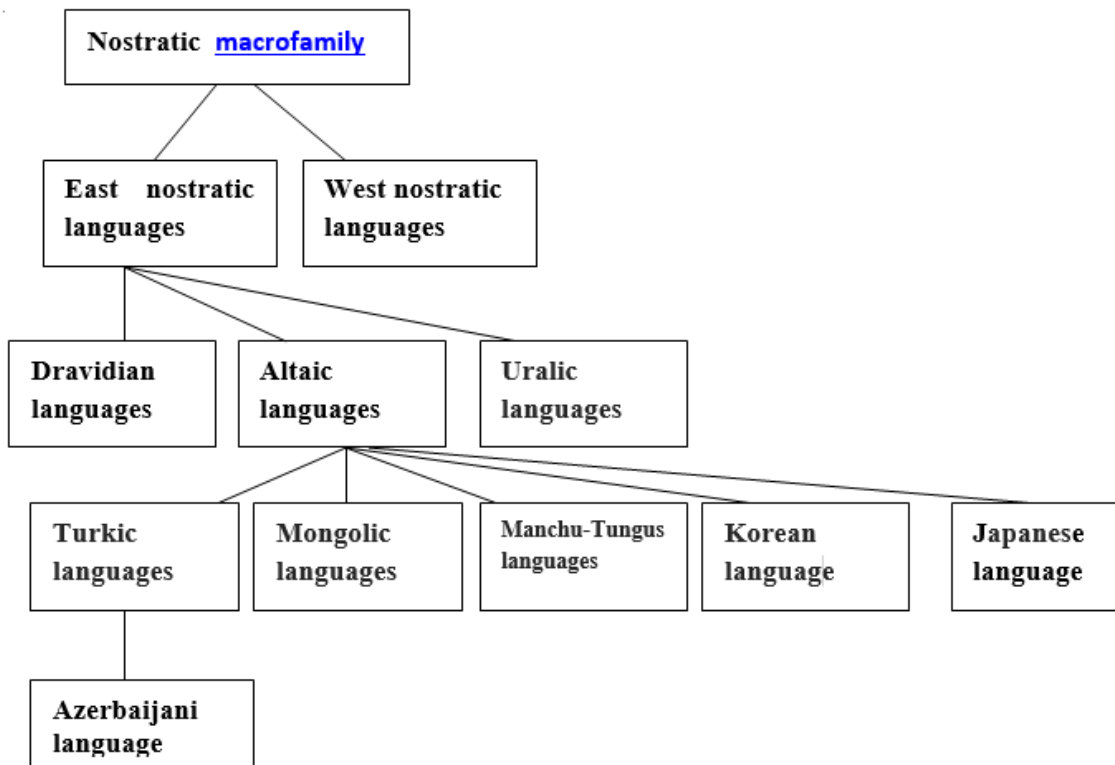
With this simple logic the comparison of any language, though hypothetical, with the restored protolanguage at different language levels opens wide horizons before history of this language, provides valuable information about its proto language period, differentiation from the proto language, formation and others. We are also acting on this principle, will try to clarify in our work the place of Azerbaijani language in nostratic language family, the relation to proto language based on our initial observations. By the way, let's note that we are determined to further expand research in this area.

According to nostratic division the world languages are mainly divided into two main groups: 1) east nostratic languages (Dravid, Ural and Altai languages); 2) western nostratic languages (Eurasia or Semitic-Hemitic, Indo-European, Kartvel languages). According to researchers, this division is carried out for the moment of using of vowels at the beginning of the word. Thus, the eastern nostratic languages are languages which keep the vowels sounds at beginning of word root stable. Western nostratic languages are languages in which root of word (especially at the beginning of root of the word) the ablaut was developed [19, p. 338].

Azerbaijani language together with other Turkic languages includes in the eastern nostratic group of languages. Schematically, this link can be shown as follows:

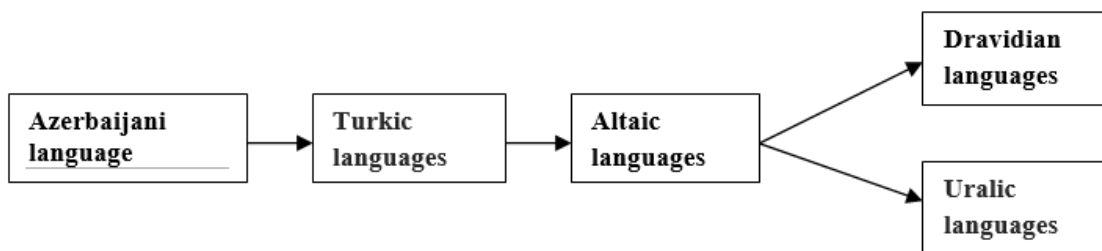
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So, as a member of the Altai language family, Azerbaijani language has closer genetic relationship with Dravidic languages (Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Brahui languages) which belong to the East nostratic languages and Ural (Finnish, and Samodi and Ugric language group) language families. In other words, the evolutionary way passed by the Azerbaijani language makes common with the history of the development of the eastern nostratic

languages and the compliance among them in this regard must be more compared to western nostratic languages (Euroasia, Kartvel and Indo-European languages). Another result: in Azerbaijani language (or in protoAzerbaijani language) for the restoration of pra-forms and checking of compliance of obtained results with proto language, first of all, the raw of large-scale comparison should be carried out in this direction.



Belonging of almost all of eastern nostratic languages to type of agglutinative language assures us a bit that we came to the right conclusion. Just after the end of the comparison in this area the final result should be compared with western nostratic languages and to be matched with proto-language. However, the conclusion achieved as a result of our

observations is that in Azerbaijani language a lot of compliances may be found with the western nostratic languages. It will be clear from the below given comparison.

Now, however, in particular let's compare the materials (particle) of two languages. We notice beforehand that the implementation of comparison at

grammatical level is not accidental. Because, we also agree with the provision that the comparison of the grammatical forms is most reliable and unavoidable fact for kinship.

### 1. Protostratic: \*ma–negation particle

Research shows that particles is structure with grammatical function belonging to very ancient layer of language. According to T.M.Nikolayevthe richness of particles distinguishesthe archaic structure of languages [16, p. 580]. Almost in world languages a large part of particles was formed from independent words and became stabilize. This trend is clearly felt in the Turkish languages. Thus, an important part of particles when connected with words with independent lexical meaning as suffixes are subjected to assimilation under the effect of the law of harmony and thus lost its phonetic independence. [15, p. 504]. Prof. G.Kazimov is about the same opinion about particles of Azerbaijani language: "Some of the important part of particles in Azerbaijani language formed in our language historically just like particles and stabilized as particle. Despite they were formed from main parts of speech, but had lost its connection with the origin and to define from which part of speech it was isolated requires a special study." [6, p.413].

It should be noted beforehand that we call the negation particle the \*mä part for nostratic languages according to generally accepted terminology. It is known that -ma \\ -mә in modern grammar books of Azerbaijani language is given as negation suffix. However, in other Turkic languages -ma\\-mә referred to the group of negation particles. But challenging it prof. F.Zeynalov rightly says that "...-ma, mә suffixes cannot be considered as particles. So, first of all, they belong to the category of negation suffixes. In Turkic languages, none of particles has such change of word content as suffix -ma, -me. The words with -ma, -me suffixes in structure are new forms that distinguished from previous words. If we consider -ma, -me suffixes that deny the action in these types of words as particle, then we have to consider -sız, -siz, -suz, -süz suffix inherent to adjective as particles, too" [11, p. 210].

-ma\\-mә negation particle had been used in Azerbaijani language since ancient times. Prof H.Mirzazade notes the wide use in historical grammar -man\\-mәn (-mam\\-mәm), -maz\\-mәz, -mar\\-mәr forms while talking about -man\\-mәn suffixes wrote that "According to actual materials of our language, we do not doubt on the fact that this prefix is original and ancient for Azerbaijani language" [7, p. 158].

-ma\\-mә negationsuffixes manifest itself with richer form of diversity in Azerbaijani dialects -ma\\-mә\\-m; -ḥa\\-ḥә\\-ḥ. In addition, the following versions of this prefix were noted: mo\\-mō (Kazakh dialect, Ayrim accent, sometimes Guba, Shamakhi,

Baku and dialects), -mm (Guba, Baku, Shamakhi dialects, Ismayilli, Maraza, Mugan accents), -mma\\mmә (dialect of Sheki, Zagatala-Gakh accent; Karabakh, Gazakh, Ganja, Nakhchivan, Ordubad, Tabriz and Yerevan dialects and accents), -ēlmә\\-ēlmә\\-ilmә (Shusha, Gulabli, Abdal, Novkhany, Guzdak, Ulajali, Kovlar, Akhtaj accents). [8, p. 188-189].

-ma\\-mә negation particle was stabilized and spread in other Turkic languages, too:

**Prototurk.** \* -ma: Ancient Turkic. -ma; Qaraxan. -ma; T.Turk. -ma; Azer. -ma(-mә-); Turkmen. - ma; Gag. -ma; Salar. mi; Khalkh-ma; Mid Turkic- ma; Uzb. -ma; Uygur- ma; Karaim. -ma; Tatar. -ma; Bashk. -ma; Kyrg.-ma- (-ba-\\-be-\\-bo-\\-bö-\\-pa ~ -ba); Kazakh. ~ ma, -pa ~ -ba; Karachai-Balk. -ma; Karakalp. -ma; Kumyk. - ma; Nogai- ma; Yellow uyg.-ma; Khakass. -ma, me (-ba-\\-be- vә -pa-\\-pe-); Short.- ma; Oyrot. -ma; Tuva. ma(-ba-, -be-\\-pa ~ -ba ~ -va (-βa)); Tofalar. - ma; Chuv. -ma(-me-\\-m-); Yak-ma-, -pa ~ -ba, -ama ~ -ima [4, p. 893; 3, p. 1407; 17, p. 97].

Observations show that -ma\\-mә -negation particle are used widely not only in Turkic languages but tin general in Altay language family:

**Protomongol.\*bū:** Central mongbū., mong-written buu, dagurbū., xalxa mongbū., buryat. bi, mogol. bi. [13, p. 57].

**Prototungus. \*-me:** Manchuria. ume; Manchurian spoken language. eme"no"; Cjurcjenume; Nanay. em; Oroc. em.

**Proto-Japanese.** \*ma dubitative (epistemic impossibility or doubt expressing form of verb) . suffix: ancient Japanese -ma; Mid Japanese. -ma; Tokyo-ma-i. .

**Proto Korean.. \*mō-t-** adverb with negation content; bad, evil (adverb); Mid. Korea. mōt, mōtir; modern Korea. mōt [mōs], mōžil-. mozil. [4, p. 893].

Now let's us look at \*ma-negation particle in world language macro family:

**Semithic-hemitic language family:** \* m (j): Arabic. ma –negation particle "no", Harari. meʔ, ancient Egyptian. m, Coptic. me, Barber group: Silha. amia "no objection", ayer. ma, rendil. ma-; Kushit group. hamir -m, saho. afar mā-. Somalia. mā-, iraku. m-, elmolo.ma - \\ - m and so on. [13, p. 56; 5, p. 955; 3, p. 1407].

**Kartvel language family: \*ma-, mā\\mō:** Chan. mo (t), Svan. mā, mō, mād(e), mōd (e), mām(a), māma., Laskhuri (dialect). mā ~ mo, Upper Bal (dialect). mād, laz.mo (t). [13, p. 56; 5, p. 955; 3, p. 1407].

**Indo-European language family:** \*mē: ancient Indian., Avesta. mā, Sanskrit. mā. The ancient Persian. mā. khtan sac., ossetian. ma, armen. mi, greek. μῆ\\μᾶ, alban. mos, tokhar A\\B mā [13, p. 57; 5, p. 955; 3, p. 1407].



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### 2. Protonostratic\*da (d'e`Ha) strengthening and conjunctive particles

**da\da** act in Azerbaijani language both as particle and conjunction. **da\da** morpheme is used in Turkic languages, almost in all of them with very small phonetic difference and about in the same content:

**Prototurk:\*tā \*tā** :in the ancient Turkic *da* /dā / ta/ tā, in Turkey's Turkish. *da* /de(+do~dö)/ta /te,, in Turkmen.-dā /-dē, in Kazakh.*da* / de, kumyk., nogay *da* / de / ta / te, Volga Tatars.*da* /dā /ta, Bashkir. *da\ dā\ dā\ ta\ tā* "also, always, and uzb. *da*, Altay. *da* / de / t / te, Khakasia., Tuva. *daa* - *dā*, and Uighur *da*"and" [3, p. 540-541; 18, p. 109].

In Turkish languages, along with the *da\da* morpheme *daxi\|dahi* particles approximately having the same grammatical functionality have also been observed [11, p. 192]. Professor H. Mirzazade noted that *daxi* particle used in sentence to form the emotional meaning refinement, any strength being used after any word had been used historically in Azerbaijani language in more advantageous position than *da\da* particle. Further the researcher wrote, "words typical for Turkic languages like **dak\dah\dax** or **daki\dahi\dax** as a rule were used in Azerbaijani language in the form of *daxi*, *daxi* and in terms of meaning was slightly different from the meaning of *da*, *də* particles with simple form..." [7, p. 212-213].

*daxi* particle is widespread in Turkic languages: *daği\da:ği\taği* - turkmen., gum., kyr., kkalp., uyg., gaz., nogay., tat.; *daxi\daxi\dayi\daxi* -T.turk.,Az and in their dialects, *,taxi*-bash. dial., *texi*-uyg.dial.and so on. [18, p. 122]. There are different opinions on *daxi* particle in turkology: K. Brokelman supposed that *taqi* and "also", "as well" particle serves first of all for moving of word coming after it to front and only later served for combination of words. According to G.Klouson, *taqi* is used mostly as adverb and conjunction [18, p. 123].

It should be noted that some researchers have linked *t daxi* particle with *da\da* particle from the etymological point of view \|. [18, p. 123]. For example, such a scheme has T.Takin had shown the phonetic evolution of *daxi* particle in following scheme:

*aqi>dak>\*dah>da\de* [9, p276-277; 10, 560-562], but nevertheless, there are those who challenge the unity of the roots of these particles. One of them, according to M.Adamovich *dA* and *mA* (the matter is strengthening *mA* particle which are noted in Uygur civilized texts and the first Islamic-Turkish texts) particles formed with falling of *yita* and *yeme* particles' first syllables which used in ancient Turkic writing texts in a row in balanced form [1, p. 175-181]. It can be expressed as: *(yi)ta-dA*; *(ye)me-mA*.

But M.Ergin supposed that *dA* particle was derived from *mA* particle [2, p. 104].

**Protomongol: \*da** mong. written text *da\ de*, *xalxa. dā\dē*, *baolan.de*, *buryat dā*. and the others.

**Prototungus:\*da** Nanaian., Udeg.-*da\-dā\do*, even. (Lamut), *-dā\- dē\-tā\-tē* and others.

**Korea: -to \-do**;

**Semithic-hemitic language family \*d(H)**: Berber language group ancient Libyan, Eastern Numidia *d* "and together" Tuareg Ahaqqar., eastern taullemmet., *tayret.*, *d*, *əd*, *dā* *d*, *qhadamesd*, *əd*, *silha*. and *b. d* "and, together"; *∴* Kusit group *beca-t*, *bilin.dembya.*, *kuara-di* "together (postpositive)," in somalian *-da* strengthening particle; *∴* Chad group, Hausa *da* "together" and "etc.", *kulere. tu*; *bade dā*; *tera. ndə*; *gidar. di*; *mokulu. ti*; *kanakuru dā*. *agav. -di*, *angas* "as well" and others. [13, p. 214; 5, p. 169-170; 3, p. 540-541].

**Kartvel language family:\*da** Georgian *da*, can., megrel., laz. *do* "joining conjunction" [13, p. 214; 5, p. 169; 3, p. 541].

**The Indo-European language family:\*da.** Het *ta* "and" ancient Slavic., the ancient Russian., Ukr., Polish *da*, Belarus *di*, Bulgarian. *da~ ta*, Serbo-Croatian *dá*. [13, p. 214; 3, p. 541].

According to American researcher A. Bomhard particle *da* is used as suffix in other Indo-European languages and by expanding its function even performs the function of dative-locative cases: Proto-Indo-European: *\*-d<sup>h</sup>e*, *\*-d<sup>h</sup>i* the suffixed particle: Sanskrit *sa-ha* (Veda. *sa-dha*) "together", *i-ha* "here" (Prakriti-*dha*), *ku-ha* "Where?", *a-dhi* "at"; Avesta. *da* "here", *kuda* "where?"; Greek locative affix. *-θι*, "da\da", *oiko-θι* "oiko-θι" "at home", *πό-θι* "Where?"; The ancient Slavic. language. *kv-de* "Where?", *sv-de* "here" [5, p. 169].

### Conclusion

Both comparisons indicate that (the number of comparisons can be increased in dozens), the facts in the Azerbaijani language make significant compliance not just in eastern nostratic languages, but in the western nostratic languages. Given that the researchers refer the splitting of protonostratic language, more precisely, in the initial dialects to 8-10 thousand years ago, then presence of this kind of appropriate facts in our language during thousands of years makes it important to involve to extensive research in the terms of monogenesis theory of Azerbaijani language. We believe that the achievements in this sphere would once again prove that Azerbaijani language is the direct heir to the proto language and its age is measured in thousands of years.

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