

D. Romagno, *The Extension of a Linguistic Category: Middle Voice in Homeric Greek between Subject Affectedness, Reflexivity and Possession*

Abstract

*This paper addresses the function of the transitive middle in ancient Greek, with the aim of providing an answer to the following question: what is the relationship between the unaccusative middle and the two-argument manifestations of the category? The results of a study on Homeric poems are reported and a pattern of extension of the middle is proposed to account for the various types of transitive middle in a unitary model, that is consistent with the prototypical and archetypical function of the Indo-European middle.*

A. Nocentini, *Quirites: fuoti dal mito*

Abstract

*The origin of Latin Quirītes, which is considered a synonym of cives Romani, i.e. 'Roman citizens', has been disputed by linguists, historians, and jurists without a convincing result. The Latin terms that can be directly involved are Quirīnus, the name of the indigenous Roman god, and Uirītes, the name of the minor divinities which form his retinue and is an abstract derivative of uir 'man'. In the inherited lexicon of the Indo-European languages there are evident tracks of an initial alternating pattern  $\sigma$ -/k-, like in the Greek doublet αὔλος 'tube': καυλός 'stalk', corresponding to Lithuanian aũlas 'legging': káulas 'shinbone'. The explanation of these doublets may be found in various types of morphological pattern largely widespread among the languages of the world and known as 'echo-formations', like English hocus-pocus. In the languages where such patterns are grammaticalized, like Turkish, a doublet as dergi **m**ergi 'journals and similar things' consists of dergi 'journal' and mergi, an echo-word with an initial non-etymological m-. A similar pattern with an initial non etymological k- in the echo-word forming the doublet Uirītes Quirītes with the meaning of 'all the men individually considered' is supposed to be at the origin of Quirītes.*

C. Muru – M. Zinzi, «...dalla Greca nella lingua Franca fosse ridotto in pubblica forma»: *un testament esempio del multilinguismo della Costantinopoli del XVII secolo*

Abstract

*The article aims at offering a historical-sociolinguistics oriented study of Italo-Romance varieties spread outside the peninsula. In particular, it proposes the edition and linguistic comment of an unpublished document produced in the 17th century Constantinople. Such text, a complex notary deed made up of a testament in Greek, of translations of such document, and chancellery parts in an Italo-Romance variety, is significant since it contains the glottonym lingua franca. Therefore, the paper has a threefold objective: describing and analysing the varieties employed, shedding light on the connection between orality and writing, and studying the occurrences of the glottonym lingua franca.*