

## PROCESSES OF ADJECTIVAL FORMATION IN DIMITRIE BOLINTINEANU'S WORK

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**Abstract:** *The paper aims to render as many as possible of the aspects regarding the formation of the adjective in Dimitrie Bolintineanu's work. Adjectives can be obtained either by derivation, by compounding or by conversion. Each of these grammatical proceedings presents different ways of the adjective formation. There are given examples of the main adjectival prefixes and suffixes, but also of the most frequently used patterns of compounding an adjective. The conversion of the various parts of speech into adjectives implies different forms of the verb, different types of pronouns as well as of numerals.*

**Keywords:** *adjective, derivation, compounding, conversion.*

The generation of the 1840s used a modern literary language. An important role in the language used by the writers of the forty-eighties plays Heliade Radulescu's *Grammar* from 1828 which provided for the adoption of the phonetic principle in writing the Romanian language, simplifying the Cyrillic alphabet from 33 to 28 letters and then in 1835, to 27 letters. The introduction of neologisms of Roman origin aiming to replace the Turkish and Greek words and also the enrichment of the linguistic thesaurus, not only by borrowings from abroad, but also by derivation, using more and more neologistic suffixes and prefixes, were important aspects of the language, too.

The works of such writers as: Asachi, Negruzzi, Alecsandri, Kogălniceanu, Alexandrescu, Bolintineanu, Alecu Russo testify the development of the literary language and of its styles "the writers of those times were journalists, wrote reviews, reports, speeches, moral analyzes and they were sometimes concerned with science. From their works, the renewal of the vocabulary, the grammatical rule or the stylistic figures passed into publishing and could take root in the masses." (Bulgăr, 1971: 14).

In addition to fixing the main phonetic rules and enriching the vocabulary, the writers of the 1840s were also concerned with grammar, syntax and stylistic construction, aiming to both the folkloric model and to that of the French literature.

The French model is brought into the country by young people who were sent to study in France and who learnt French. Besides M. Kogălniceanu, V. Alecsandri, I. Ghica, Al Russo, there are also sent to Paris by the *Frăția* society: C. Bolliac, N. Bălcescu, Dimitrie Bolintineanu: "Bolintineanu and Boliac are in the Romanian literature an almost exclusive product of the French civilization." (Haneș, 1904: 222).

Dimitrie Bolintineanu was one of the representatives of the forty-eighties who wrote after 1840, his first poem, *O fată tânără pe patul morții*, being appreciated even since the beginning by Ion Heliade Radulescu himself, who published it in *Curierul de ambe sexe*.

Bolintineanu's poetry was a novelty for that era, impressing through a unique expressiveness, through the fluidity of lyrics and the rhetorical cadence, through the inner harmony and musicality.

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The continuous trend that dominated the period of 1830 - 1860 was that of the normalization of the Romanian literary language, a trend that was observed at all the levels of language: phonetic, morphological, syntactic, lexical and stylistic.

The morphology of the language used during the 19<sup>th</sup> century studies, in fact, the formation of modern literary Romanian language, but one must take into account the fact that at that time, there were morphological differences from one region to another, both in terms of the lexeme and of inflexion.

The morphological traits are not very numerous, but they have the role to set the main directions of development of the Romanian literary language.

Starting from 1780 until 1880, there were a number of linguistic changes which led to a process of improvement and enrichment of the Romanian literary language, transformations which involved the participation of the Romanian writers of that period.

Along with the nouns and the verbs, the adjective is the part of speech which is the most commonly found in Dimitrie Bolintineanu's work. The adjective, with its various types, is the primary determinant of the noun, it often being an essential element of the nominal group.

In Dimitrie Bolintineanu's work, adjectives can be obtained either by derivation, by compounding or by conversion. Each of these grammatical proceedings presents different ways of the adjective formation. There are given examples of the main adjectival prefixes and suffixes, but also of the most frequently used patterns of compounding an adjective. The conversion of the various parts of speech into adjectives implies different forms of the verb, different types of pronouns as well as of numerals.

1. Regarding the formation of the adjectival lexeme, there is to be noted the frequency of the phenomenon of derivation. In general, adjectives are formed with suffixes, but the derivation with prefixes doesn't miss either, although, because of the numerous adjectival suffixes, the derivation is more parasynthetic.

In recent studies, prefixes and suffixes have been considered to be derivative morphemes placed in front and at the end of the lexemes.

Adjectival prefixes, which mainly occur in D. Bolintineanu's work, are the same which, usually, have a high productivity in Romanian language: *ne-*, *i-*, *in-*, *im-*, *în-*, *îm-*, *de-*, *des-*, *dez-*, *anti-*, *re-*.

The prefix *ne-* appears both with a negative value or without a negative value: *nestins* (I<sup>1</sup>: 38), *ne-mpăcată* (I: 38), *ne-nsuflețit* (I: 75), *nebiruit* (I: 137), *necunoscută* (I: 146), *nemișcătoare* (V: 126), *nefericiți* (V: 130), *neînvinș* (V: 131), *nemăritate* (V: 132), *nesuferită* (V: 133), *nesimțită* (V: 146), *neputincios* (V: 150), *neînțeleș* (V: 154), *nemulțumit* (V: 154), *nedestulă* (V: 159), *neferice* (V: 167), *nedrept* (V: 190), *neputincioase* (V: 195), *nerușinate* (V: 206), *neodihnită* (V: 211), *nemeritate* (V: 211), *nemișcat* (V: 212), *neschimbată* (V: 237), *neînsemnată* (V: 247), *nevoită* (V: 284), *neatârnat* (V: 286), *neconsolat* (V: 326).

The prefix *in-* with its contextual variants *i-*, *in-*, *im-* and *în-*, *îm-* can be used both with a negative value or without it: *înstelată* (I: 7), *îmbălsămit* (I: 9), *întristat* (I: 24), *înzeit* (I: 36), *înamorat* (I: 37), *împletit* (I: 43), *împăcată* (I: 51), *împlinită* (I: 51), *învăluită* (I: 72), *însmălțat* (I: 74), *îngenucheată* (I: 75), *înfocate* (I: 153), *înspăimântate* (I: 169), *ghearăle-ncleștate* (I: 185), *însetabile* (I: 188), *abia-nverziți* (I: 196), *înflorit* (I:

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<sup>1</sup> It is to be noted that for giving the necessary examples there are used the volumes I and V, volumes which are part of the critical edition, published by T. Vârgolici, which includes Bolintineanu's whole work.

197), *înfocat* (V: 214), *înfiorător* (V: 337), *înșesat* (V: 355), *încântător* (V: 363), *îmblănit* (V: 364), *înfirat* (V: 364), *înspăimântător* (V: 368), *îndestulătoare* (V: 388), *învechit* (V: 457), *incapabil* (V: 462), *innobilat* (V: 463), *înrauritori* (V: 470).

Most of the adjectival derivatives with the prefix *in-* got into the Romanian language from French and Italian, some of them from Latin through French, while others were directly inherited from Latin: *incarnat* (I: 51), *indiscret* (V: 132), *injuste* (V: 302), *incomode* (V: 491).

Regarding the derivation with the prefix *in-* with a negative value, there is to be mentioned its connection with the suffix *-bil*: *incapabil* (V: 152).

The prefix *în-/îm-/in-* mostly occurs in the case of deverbal adjectives. In Bolintineanu's work the forms *în-*, *îm-* of the prefix are frequently found: *înavușit* (V: 119), *încolăciți* (V: 166), *înrautăți* (V: 166), *înmămurit* (V: 249), *înnorate* (V: 250), *înflăcărate* (V: 251), *încoronați* (V: 353), *încununat* (V: 354), *înșirate* (V: 355), *împărțită* (V: 378), *împovărat* (V: 381), *întunecată* (V: 400), *învălmășit* (V: 412), *înnarmat* (V: 428), *înjosit* (V: 440), *însănătoșit* (V: 472).

The prefix *de-/des-/dez-* has been recorded in the Romanian language since the sixteenth century and it also appears in D. Bolintineanu's work: *desprețuit* (I: 174), *dezmierdător* (I: 90), *desprețuită* (V: 168), *dezonorată* (V: 281), *dezgustător* (V: 352), *dezlipite* (V: 363), *dezvelit* (V: 493).

The prefix *anti-* along with the old superlative prefixes: *arhi-*, *prea-*, *răz-*, *stră-* and with the new superlative prefixes: *extra-*, *hiper-*, *super-*, *ultra-* rarely occurs in Bolintineanu's texts. Examples may be: *strălucitor* (I: 70), *preastrălucite* (I: 105), *străbună* (I: 131), *strălucită* (I: 164) *antinațională* (V: 341), *antinațional* (V: 469).

The prefixes: *pro-*: *proscrie* (V: 130), *pre-*: *prescris* (V: 339), *sur-*: *surnumită* (V: 443), *semi-*: *semioficială* (V: 506) are also present.

It is well known that in the Romanian language there is a series of adjectival suffixes, a series which is well represented in Bolintineanu's work, too. The most common suffixes are:

-al/ -ial/ -ual/ - (i) onal: *virginale* (I: 180), *infernale* (I: 187), *original* (V: 136), *spirituale* (V: 167), *familială* (V: 219), *constituțional* (V: 222), *ministerială* (V: 237), *criminală* (V: 264);

-an: *moldovan* (I: 167), *momentanii* (V: 180), *italiane* (V: 185), *republicană* (V: 237), *european* (V: 200), *mahometan* (V: 356), *poporan* (V: 371), *scoțian* (V: 398), *egiptian* (V: 398);

-ant: *luminante* (I: 164), *intrigante* (V: 166), *ignorant* (V: 343), *arogantă* (V: 348), *degradante* (V: 399), *discordante* (V: 444);

-ar: *ordinară* (V: 305), *familiari* (V: 411);

-aș: *trufaș* (V: 163);

-bil: *culpabil* (V: 120), *favorabile* (V: 124), *pardonabilă* (V: 201); *mizerabil* (V: 213), *condemnabilă* (V: 270), *teribilă* (V: 344), *impresionabil* (V: 346), *serviabili* (V: 397), *proverbială* (V: 491);

-ean: *european* (V: 200), *țaringrădean* (V: 357);

-el: *rumenel* (I: 198), *aurel* (I: 198);

-esc /-icesc: *fecioresc* (I: 59), *nebuneasca* (I: 83), *dumnezeiesc* (I: 94), *românească* (I: 112), *tătărască* (I: 112), *turcesc* (I: 123), *domneasca* (I: 132), *omenescul* (I: 157), *nemțească* (I: 161), *vitejească* (I: 166), *ostășești* (I: 177), *părintească* (V: 119), *ungurești* (V: 204), *țărănească* (V: 241), *romanescă* (V: 311), *omenesc* (V: 314).

It should be noted that the suffix *-icesc* appeared round the 1800s as a result of the tendency of "including the neological adjectives in a morphological series usual at

the time.” ( Dicționarul, 1992: 43). Alongside the increasing influence of the Romance languages which involves borrowings that contained the suffix *-esc*, this one became the neological version of the suffix *-icesc*, which is more frequent in Bolintineanu’s, too.

*-ic*: *fluturatică* (I: 78), *misterică* (I: 184), *lunatică* (I: 191), *melancolic* (V: 205), *osianice* (V: 219), *limfatică* (V: 247), *aristocratică* (V: 412), *patriotic* (V: 477), *galvanică* (V: 482), *ecleziasitică* (V: 491);

*-inte*: *indiferinte* (V: 149), *inteligente* (V: 177), *exigintă* (V: 196), *ignorinți* (V: 228), *inocintă* (V: 244);

*-or*: *precursoare* (I: 24), *gălbioară* (I: 85), *rotunziору-i* (I: 164), *bălăior* (I: 199), *mândrioare* (I: 200), *grăscioare* (V: 356);

*-os-*: *umbroasă* (I: 23), *radioasă* (I: 38), *întunecos* (I: 39), *luxos* (I: 44), *noroasă* (I: 46), *apos* (I: 73), *fluturos* (I: 84), *azuros* (I: 91), *luminos* (I: 91), *păduroasă* (I: 101), *spumegos* (I: 101), *misterioși* (I: 104), *undoși* (I: 104), *sângeroasă* (I: 128), *prețioase* (I: 158), *văluoasă* (I: 164), *neguroasă* (I: 164), *viicioasă* (V: 123), *monstruos* (V: 124), *hazardoasă* (V: 134), *umbros* (V: 138), *scandaloasă* (V: 142), *voioasă* (V: 142), *fabuloase* (V: 236), *câștigoase* (V: 238), *superstițioasă* (V: 240), *bilioase* (V: 247), *noroioasă* (V: 290), *neguros* (V: 298), *scurpulos* (V: 304), *priincios* (V: 340);

*-tor-*: *râzătoare* (I: 9), *adormitor* (I: 12), *amăgitoare* (I: 24), *dezmierdător* (I: 90), *dănțuitori* (I: 126), *fugătorul* (I: 155), *dormitoare* (I: 155), *mugitoare* (I: 155), *scânteietor* (I: 198), *plângătoare* (I: 200), *întârzietoare* (V: 122), *trecător* (V: 167), *desfătătoare* (V: 203), *bănuitor* (V: 211), *crezătoare* (V: 359), *vieșuitor* (V: 366), *degradător* (V: 376), *observator* (V: 411), *târător* (V: 433), *lingușitor* (V: 433), *așteptător* (V: 479), *compătimitor* (V: 480), *privighetor* (V: 485), *înfiorătoare* (V: 488), *degradătoare* (V: 493).

2. The compounding of adjectives is based on different models. Of all these, the most common types are:

*- adjective + adjective*, a model which implies, particularly, the alignment with a hyphen, but not only. It also implies a coordination relationship or a subordination relationship between the two adjectives: *răuvoitoare* (I: 193), *răucrescut* (V: 117), *răufăcător* (V: 119), *ruso-maghiar* (V: 204), *anglo-saxonă* (V: 397);

*- adverb + adjective*, a model obtained both by joining the elements with a hyphen or by blending the adverb with the adjective: *bine-crescută* (V: 117), *binefăcătoare* (V: 124), *binecrescute* (V: 205), *binecuvântată* (V: 316), *înainte-mergătoare* (V: 423).

Rarely, there appear formations of the type: *voitor de bine* (I: 148).

There are also compound adjectives which are not based on an adjective, but on a noun. They are formed by blending or by means of prepositions such as *cu* and *fără de*: *un pilot cu minte* (I: 174), *fiastrii țării fără de rușine* (I: 138), adjectives which in the contemporary Romanian language are, most of the time, replaced by synonyms derived with suffixes and prefixes.

3. The phenomenon of conversion does not necessarily involve the change of the grammatical value of the adjective in other parts of speech, but, rather the reverse phenomenon, the transformation of verbs, pronouns, numerals, adverbs and nouns into adjectives, a type of conversion which implies the process of determining by agreement, excepting, of course, the adverb.

3.1. The most common type of conversion into adjective is the one of the verb which implies the transformation of three forms: past participle, present participle and

gerund. Adjectives coming from verbs in the past participle are common in Bolintineanu's work: *îngrădit* (I: 8), *sângerat* (I: 39), *rănite* (I: 79), *deșteptată* (I: 88), *adorate* (I: 92), *aruncată* (I: 119), *isprăvită* (I: 130), *rupt* (I: 134), *degradat* (I: 147), *turbate* (I: 155), *bătute* (I: 157), *scăpată* (I: 157), *doriți* (I: 174), *logodită* (I: 178), *uniți* (I: 179), *blestamate* (I: 183), *deșirate* (I: 185), *tăcute* (I: 198), *vestiți* (I: 201) etc..

Another commonly used form in Bolintineanu's work is that of the adjective coming from the agreed gerund: *arzânde* (I: 42), *râzândă* (I: 44), *gemânda* (I: 47), *spumegânde* (I: 83), *îmbătândă* (I: 97), *tremurândă* (I: 166), *gălbenindă* (I: 191), *suferindă* (I: 191) etc..

Regarding the conversion of the pronoun into adjective, it is to be noted that only the determinative non-personal pronouns: the demonstrative, the interrogative, the relative, the indefinite, the negative and the personal determinative pronouns: the emphatic and the possessive can become adjectives.

The pronominal demonstrative adjectives have in Dimitrie Bolintineanu's poetry and prose both literary and popular forms, the determination being acquired either by postponement or they can be placed before the noun: *această frumusețe* (I: 6), *ast fermec* (I: 6), *acea durere* (I: 6), *d-aceste dulci dureri* (I: 7), *din astă lume* (I: 9), *ast pământ* (I: 14), *aste triste rele* (I: 14), *acești plopi* (I: 22), *acele vise dulci* (I: 22), *astă perlă* (I: 23), *ast cântec* (I: 28), *aste lacrimioare* (I: 31), *acel loc* (I: 48), *p-acest Bosfor* (I: 65), *seara aceea* (V: 163), *țărani aceia* (V: 209), *toată ziua aceea* (V: 231), *pe băiatul ăsta* (V: 485).

The interrogative and relative adjectives are put in front of the noun: *din a cărui undă* (I: 21), *a cărei dulce bază* (I: 90).

Indefinite pronouns become indefinite adjectives more when they are placed in front of the noun than in postponement: *un negru oarecare* (I: 8), *alt aur* (I: 11), *orișice lumină* (I: 22), *pe tot anul* (I: 22), *vro dorință* (I: 23), *un alt amor* (I: 23), *pentru noi toți* (I: 30), *orice dimineață* (I: 77), *vrun adăpost* (I: 79), *orice an* (I: 79), *pe fiecare oară* (I: 93), *altui vas* (I: 138), *orice simpatie* (I: 151), *toate stelele* (I: 191), *fiecare om* (I: 257), *orice tânără zâmbire* (I: 291), *oricare prunc* (I: 298), *la o vârstă oarecare* (V: 354), *vreo țeapă* (V: 400), *trepte multe* (V: 400), *niște bănuieli oarecari* (V: 407), *niște semne oarecari* (V: 407), *oriîncare parte* (V: 447), *de câteva zile* (V: 449), *oarecare datorie* (V: 456), *o conțință oarecare* (V: 458), *vreo mănăstire* (V: 478), *de oarecari lipsuri* (V: 502), *în fiecă prânz* (V: 504), *oarecari păreri de rău* (V: 480), *oarecare însemnătate* (V: 491).

The pronominal negative adjective is usually put before the noun: *nicio umbră* (I: 95), *nicio frică* (I: 115), *nicio teamă* (I: 146), *niciun cap plecat* (I: 150), *niciun suflet mare* (I: 160), *nicio floare* (I: 160), *niciun cârmaci mintos* (I: 245), *nicio față răsătoare* (I: 246), *nicio grea mustrare* (I: 328), *niciun înțeleș* (V: 473).

3.2. As in the case of the pronouns, not all the numerals can be converted into adjectives. However, most of them become adjectives.

Of the numerals that can become adjectives in Bolintineanu's work can be identified:

-cardinal numerals: *două vorbe* (I: 15), *cinci hadini* (I: 17), *cinci nopți* (I: 31), *două cucuvele* (I: 32), *trei minute* (I: 67), *șease luni* (I: 69), *patru musulmani* (I: 85), *de șapte zile* (I: 199), *doi inși* (I: 254), *trei oi și un berbec* (I: 257), *două muri* (I: 261), *două roze pe doi crini* (I: 273), *două arcuri* (I: 285), *doi ascheri* (I: 327), *două primăveri* (I: 328), *cinci ani* (I: 330), *trei zile* (I: 332);

- ordinal numerals: *pentru-ntâia oară* (I: 93), *întâia dată* (I: 94), *ca cele dintâi flori* (I: 146);

- collective numerals: *îmbele maluri* (I: 19), *ambele armate* (I: 168);
- distributive numerals: *câte-un suflet* (I: 147), *zece câte zece robii leși* (I: 176).

3.3. The conversion of adverbs into adjectives involves, most of the time, their transformation into invariable adjectives: “the process of adverbialisation of the adjectives produced a reverse action: some adverbs became adjectives keeping both their grammatical values, while others can be used with an adjectival value, remaining invariable.” (Mihai, 1963: 210).

Examples may be: *capul meu e rece* (V: 344), *un fior repede* (V: 373), *lucrul era grabnic* (V: 378), *o vindecare repede* (V: 393), *o mișcare repede* (V: 401), *un adăpost sigur* (V: 406), *făcuseră cerc aparte* (V: 411), *astfel de soartă* (V: 422), *pe acest coborâș repede* (V: 425).

3.4. The type of conversion the least used by Bolintineanu in his work is the passing of a noun into an adjective, a process that requires a semantic change: *pe buzi fecioare* (I: 32), *ca bradul copilaș* (I: 177).

4. Adjectival phrases along with the phraseologies represent another way of enriching the vocabulary present in D. Bolintineanu’s work.

One of the basic features of the adjectival phrases is that “although they have a proper meaning, their constitutive elements keep largely their initial sense” (Găitănanu, 2002: 74).

In general, one can identify two types of adjectival phrases consisting of:

- preposition (*ca, de, cu, din, fără, în, la, pe...*) + noun: *de ajuns* (I: 6), *cu minte* (I: 12), *arii de teroare* (I: 81), *câmpuri fără flori* (I: 110), *drum de pace* (I: 124), *viitor de aur* (I: 125), *pe cai în spume* (I: 136), *cu buze de rubin* (I: 147), *domnul de Moldova* (I: 151), *sunt de ajuns* (V: 117), *om cu învățătură, cu inteligență, cu voință foarte* (V: 118), *nu este de mirare* (V: 124), *o filozofie cu totul rece* (V: 125), *un om cu spirit* (V: 130), *fiii de arme* (V: 159), *o femeie fără inimă* (V: 181), *un om cu inimă* (V: 204);

- adjective + other parts of speech: *lucru de mirat* (I: 153).

In general, Dimitrie Bolintineanu’s work has many of the defining features of the literary language of the nineteenth century, especially of the language used between 1830 - 1860, when there were largely put the bases of the literary Romanian language.

Referring to the adjectival formation by using different internal processes of enriching the vocabulary, one can notice that Dimitrie Bolintineanu is worth to be mentioned among the representative writers of the epoch because he followed, most of the time, the rules of the language in general, and he did not necessarily use a particular vocabulary or specific structures that could differentiate his work from the language that he himself used to speak.

Dimitrie Bolintineanu is the poet who, according to Ion Pillat, although he “has a poetic personality inferior to Eliade, Alexandrescu or Alecsandri, is perhaps more representative, because his lower personal factor does not oppose to the epoch and it easily filtered the literary trends of those times, rendering them unaltered.” (Pillat, 1931: 152-153).

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