Deponency and Syncretism in Persian[1]

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Abstract

In traditional Typology languages are classified according to whether they are inflectional or non-inflectional. This classification does not provide the means to demarcate languages; on the other hand, there is no uniform inflectional pattern. The concept of "canonical inflection" can offer some specific definitions to define the scope of inflectional and non-inflectional structures. Then different inflectional patterns can be investigated and as a result the deviation from the concept can lead us to find the non-canonical inflection. In this study the paradigm of one word along with different words of the same inflectional class is studied. Deviations from the canonical inflection are classified and as per canonical inflection two specific types of deviations i.e. deponency and syncretism are studied in the Persian language.

Keywords: *paradigm, canonical inflection, deponency, syncretism*