Special Issue

The Dialect of Lesbos: Selected Topics

Message from the Guest Editor

The dialect of the Aegean island of Lesbos (hereafter Lesbian Greek) is one of the major Modern Greek dialects. It is spoken by a population of approximately 90.000 people, but in recent years, the frequency of its use has been decreasing, especially among the younger populations, who tend to shift their interest to Standard Modern Greek. Thus, Lesbian Greek could be characterized as an endangered linguistic variety, although recently, there are efforts to safeguard and revitalize it. Linguistically, Lesbian Greek belongs to the group of Northern Greek dialects, which are delimited by two phonological phenomena that are absent from the Southern varieties, namely, the deletion of the unstressed high vowels /u/ and /i/ and the raising of the unstressed /e/ and /o/. The dialect displays an interesting range of phonological, morphological and morphosyntactic phenomena, while its vocabulary reveals aspects of the diachronic evolution of the Greek language, missing from other Modern Greek varieties, and of contact with other languages, specifically, Turkish and Italo-Romance...

Guest Editor

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Languages (ISSN 2226-471X) is now in its eighth year since its inception in 2015. It is an Open Access journal which seeks to stimulate debates on key issues in languages and linguistics. We welcome papers at the cutting edge of different fields, ranging from applied linguistics to descriptive and theoretical linguistics. Submissions may consist of research articles and critical reviews as well as proposals for Special Issues where multi-disciplinary approaches and different perspectives on current issues are explored. We invite you to consider Languages as a forum for sharing your work.

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