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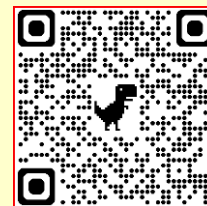
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## The Noun Phrase in Dosoftei's Writings. The Determiner

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### ABSTRACT

*In the present paper, we aim to analyze the noun phrase in Dosoftei's writings, focusing on the syntactic function of determiner. The paper will be divided into two parts, the first one dealing with the theoretical framework and the second one being dedicated to the analysis of the investigative corpus. After providing a definition of the noun phrase and a description of the kind of adjuncts it might select, we will provide an overview of determination and determiners. Then, we will observe the peculiarities of the determiner as a syntactic function introduced in the Basic Grammar of the Romanian Language. As far as the investigative corpus is concerned, we will first discuss the class of substitution of the determiner. We will then proceed to the description of complex noun phrases, in which determiners co-occur with other syntactic positions. We will first discuss the internal structure of each noun phrase and then we will provide examples to support our demonstration. We will take into account definite as well as indefinite determination. All in all, the examination of the investigative corpus will reflect the complex possibilities of structuring the noun phrase, illustrating the diversity of syntactic constructions in Old Romanian, as far as the determiner is concerned.*

**KEY WORDS:** definite determination, determiner, emphatic determiner, indefinite determination, noun phrase.

### 1. Introduction

In the present paper, we aim to analyze the noun phrases in Dosoftei's writings, paying particular attention to those which have determiners as adjuncts. We will first provide a theoretical overview of determiners and then we will proceed to the analysis of the investigative corpus. This paper is part of a larger group of papers aiming to analyze all noun phrases in Dosoftei's writings. We have previously published a paper whose purpose was to describe the noun phrases in Dosoftei's writings having quantifiers as adjuncts.<sup>1</sup>

The corpus is represented by Dosoftei's main writings, namely, *Psaltirea în versuri* (DPV.1673), *Cartea de rugăciuni* (DCR.1673), *Dumnezeiasca liturghie* (DDL.1679), *Psaltirea de-năles* (DP.1680), *Parimiile preste an* (DPar.1683) and *Viața și petreacerea svinților* (DVS.1682–6). We chose this corpus because of the great variety of syntactic patterns found in Dosoftei's writings. We will adopt the perspective exposed in the *Basic Grammar of the Romanian Language* (GBLR).

<sup>1</sup> For more details, see Mihai-Andrei Lazăr, *The Noun Phrase in Dosoftei's Writings. The Quantifier*, in *International Scientific*

Research Academy Congress, Istanbul, December 2024 Congress Book, pp.183-191.

## 2. Methodology

In our paper, we will adopt various methods: the descriptive method (in order to present the theoretical framework), the analytical method (in order to describe the structure of each noun phrase and provide examples to support our demonstration), the synthetic method (in order to offer a global perspective on those noun phrases in Dosoftei's writings which have determiners as adjuncts), as well as the argumentative method (in order to support our opinions).

## 3. The theoretical framework

### 3.1. The noun phrase

The noun phrase can be defined as that part of the sentence which has a noun, a pronoun or a number as its head, along all the constituents subordinated to it, known as adjuncts (e.g., *acea fată inteligentă pe care am întâlnit-o ieri*/that smart girl I met yesterday).

In traditional Romanian grammar, the syntactic function specific to the noun phrase is the attribute.

In modern Romanian grammar, the syntactic function of the attribute is abandoned and replaced by other five syntactic positions: the determiner, the modifier, the possessor, the quantifier and the complement.

### 3.2. Determination and determiners

In a broad sense, determination describes a semantic function specific to the noun phrase and fulfilled by the class of determiners (articles, demonstrative adjectives, indefinite adjectives, cardinal and ordinal numbers, as well as possessive adjectives). Determination has the function of integrating the head-noun in the sentence and of specifying its reference by individualising it, i.e., by limiting its extension to a class of individuals that is well-known to the speaker.

In a more specific sense, determination is a grammatical category characteristic of the noun and fulfilled by articles. Determination is thus divided into definite determination, if the referent of the head-noun is already known by the speaker (e.g., *câinele*/the dog), and indefinite determination, if the referent of the head-noun is new to the speaker (e.g., *un câine*/a dog) (Pană Dindelegan et al., 2023, p. 210).

Thus, a noun phrase is determined if a determiner (definite or indefinite) occurs within its structure, regardless of the type of determination (definite or indefinite) and of what part of speech the determiner is expressed by (Pană Dindelegan et al., 2023, p. 211).

If, within the noun phrase, two or more words belonging to the class of determiners occur, only one of them fulfills the function of enunciative integration (Guțu Romalo, I, 2008, p. 48).

Determination only characterizes noun phrases with nouns as their heads (Guțu Romalo, II, 2008, p. 79).

### 3.3. The syntactic function of determiner as described in the Basic Grammar of the Romanian Language

As a terminological distinction, the authors of the *Basic Grammar of the Romanian Language* depart from traditional Romanian grammar, where the term *determiner* was used to describe any term subordinated to another term (be it a verb, a noun, a pronoun, a number, an adjective, and adverb or an interjection), and the determiners subordinated to a noun, a pronoun or a number had the syntactic function of attribute. In modern Romanian grammar, determiners only occur in the structure of the noun phrase and differ from other components (quantifiers, modifiers, possessors and

complements)<sup>2</sup>.

Thus, determiners within the noun phrase might be expressed by:

- an article (the prototypical determiner), either definite: *casa/the house* or indefinite: *a house/o casă*;
- demonstrative adjectives, which might either precede: *această pisică/this cat* or follow the head-noun: *pisica aceea/this cat*, functioning as overdeterminers<sup>3</sup>;
- certain indefinite adjectives: *fiecare copil/every child*;
- the negative adjective *niciun/nicio (no): nicio remușcare/no remorse*;
- interrogative adjectives: *Ce alte probleme ai?/What other problems do you have?*;
- the possessive adjective functioning as a clitic: *maică-sa/his mother* (Pană Dindelegan et al., 2016, pp. 80-81).

Remark: if, within the noun phrase, there is no other word which might act as a determiner, cardinal and ordinal numbers, that would normally act as quantifiers and modifiers, respectively, become determiners themselves: *doi copii/two children//al doilea copil/the second child*<sup>4</sup> (Pană Dindelegan et al., 2016, p. 368).

## 4. Analysis of the investigative corpus

### 4.1. The class of substitution of the determiner

In Dosoftei's writings, the determiner occurs in two types of contexts: definite determination and indefinite determination.

#### 4.1.1. The prototypical determiner is the definite article (as a grammatical means of determination): *Ca arina de pre mare/Like the sand in the sea* (DPV.1673, p. 311).

Additionally, other means of expressing definite determination are the lexico-grammatical ones – the demonstrative adjective preceding the head-noun: *acela suflet/Ce nu-i va lipsi Domnul din cuget//that soul/That will bear God in mind* (DPV.1673, p. 89) and the possessive adjective preceding the head-noun: *Cunoscut-am astăzi că Domnul agiută/Al său pomazanic//Today I found out that God helps/People who are baptised* (DPV.1673, p. 45), as well as the

<sup>2</sup> The syntactic function of the determiner is realised through the semantic role of the subordinated term. For more details, see Adelina Patricia Băilă, (2018a), *Funcții sintactice vs funcții semantice în gramatica limbii române*, in „Dacoromania”, XXIII, no. 1, p. 20.

<sup>3</sup> Considering the fact that the syntactic position of the determiner is unique within the noun phrase, compared, for example, with the syntactic position of modifier, Alexandru Nicolae observes that this situation of overdetermination does not represent an exception from the condition of uniqueness of the determiner. For more details, see Alexandru Nicolae, 2011, *Pe marginea descrierii grupului nominal în Gramatica de bază a limbii române*. in *Studia linguistica et philologica. Omagiu profesorului Nicolae Saramandu*, București, Editura Universității din București, pp. 638-639. For more details regarding the uniqueness of the determiner, see Adela Drăguțoiu (2018), *Problema principiului unicității funcțiilor sintactice în gramatica românească*, in „Dacoromania”, XXIII, no. 1, pp. 54-55. For a comparison between the condition of uniqueness within the noun phrase and the verbal phrase, see Adelina Patricia Băilă (2018b), *Uniqueness in the Romanian Syntax*, in „Journal of Romanian Literary Studies”, XXI, no. 1, p. 704.

<sup>4</sup> For the possible confusions this shift in syntactic positions might generate, see Lavinia Dălălu-Nasta (2018), *Observații privind funcțiile sintactice din grupul nominal*, in „Dacoromania”, XXIII, no. 1, pp. 42-43.

semigrammatical ones – the possessive adjective functioning as a clitic: *soru-sa Roxanda/his sister Roxanda* (DPV.1673, p. 5).

**4.1.2. The prototypical determiner for indefinite determination is the indefinite article (as a grammatical means of expressing indefinite determination):** *mearse la un vârș de munte, care era de fusease cinstit de păgânii cei de demult/he went on top of a mountain, which had been honoured by ancient pagans* (DVS.1682–6, p. 269).

Besides, other means of expressing indefinite determination include the lexico-grammatical ones – indefinite adjectives: *cu multă tărie/with a lot of strength* (DPV.1673, p. 40), negative adjectives: *nice o sâință/no shyness* (DPV.1673, p. 61), relative adjectives: *În ce chip dorește cerbul de fântână./[...] Sufletul meu, Doamne, așa te dorește//Like the deer wants to drink water from the fountain/So does my soul want you, our Lord* (DPV.1673, p. 94), cardinal numbers used as adjectives: *umerile a doi preuți ce-l rădica/the shoulders of two priests carrying him* (DVS.1682–6, p. 29), as well as ordinal numbers used as adjectives: *a doua prescură/the second loaf of bread* (DDL.1679, p. 26).

**Remarks:**

- i) there are two situations in which the noun phrase is overdetermined:
  - (a) besides the main determiner of the noun phrase, an emphatic determiner, expressed by a demonstrative adjective placed after the head-noun, also occurs: *zilele acelea/those days* (DPV.1673, p. 6). The emphatic determiner can also be expressed by a demonstrative article: *jărtva cea direaptă/the right sacrifice* (DPV.1673, p. 16);
  - (b) double determination also occurs in the presence of an adjective functioning as a modifier and preceding the head-noun: on the one hand, the determiner is attached to the adjective preceding the head-noun but, on the other hand, it is also attached to the head-noun: *puternicul și svântul numele Lui/His powerful and sacred name* (DVS.1682–6, p. 174).
- ii) Very rarely, the determiner might be expressed by a noun in the genitive case, preceding the head-noun: *a poporului neștiință/the people's ignorance* (DDL.1679, p. 175-177) or by a personal pronoun in the genitive case, preceding the head-noun: *cu a lor păgânătate/with their paganism* (DPV.1673, p. 19).

**4.2. Syntactic patterns containing determiners**

Very often, the determiner co-occurs with other syntactic positions, illustrating a diversity of syntactic patterns, as follows:

**4.2.1. Definite determination**

**4.2.1.1. Definite determination expressed by a definite article**

- 1) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *capul cel de búor/the head of a bull* (DPV.1673, p. 3);
- 2) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *cugetătorii de Dumnezău/those who think about God* (DCR.1673, p. 147-149);
- 3) determiner + possessor (common noun in the genitive case): *puterea țărâi/the land's power* (DPV.1673, p. 3);

- 4) determiner + possessor (proper noun in the genitive case): *creștinii Moldovei/the Christians of Moldavia* (DPV.1673, p. 3);
- 5) determiner + denominative modifier (proper noun): *pe muntele Sionul/on the mountain of Sion* (DPV.1673, p. 12);
- 6) determiner + possessor (demonstrative pronoun in the genitive case): *voinicimile acelor fără de trup/the mightiness of those without a body* (DPV.1673, p. 345);
- 7) determiner + possessor (indefinite pronoun in the genitive case): *sfârșitul fietecăruia/the ending of each one* (DPV.1673, p. 164);
- 8) determiner + possessor (personal pronoun in the genitive case): *Ce voia lui va fi tot cu Domnul/Și-n legea lui ș-a petrece somnul.//And he will act according to God's will/And he will respect His law even when he sleeps.* (DPV.1673, p. 11);
- 9) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective): *jărtva cea direaptă/the right sacrifice* (DPV.1673, p. 16);
- 10) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + quantifier (indefinite adjective): *grijea cea multă/the great care* (DPV.1673, p. 145, p. 154);
- 11) determiner + modifier (adjective): *dintelui ros/of the chewed tooth* (DPV.1673, p. 373);
- 12) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective): *mărirea cea vestită/the great might* (DPV.1673, p. 378);
- 13) determiner + possessor (pronominal phrase in the genitive case): *darul Svinției Sale/the gift of His Highness* (DCR.1673, p. 131);
- 14) determiner + modifier (adjectival phrase): *omul fără lege/the lawless man* (DPV.1673, p. 81);
- 15) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner: *pravoslavnica lege/the orthodox law* (DPV.1673, p. 4);
- 16) external quantifier (indefinite adjective) + determiner: *toată viața/all cattle* (DPV.1673, p. 3);
- 17) determiner + complement (possessive adjective): *cu frații săi/with his brothers* (DPV.1673, p. 7);
- 18) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective): *în durerea sa/in his pain* (DPV.1673, p. 15);
- 19) determiner + modifier (adverb preceded by a preposition): *Dumnezăul de înainte/the previous God* (DPV.1673, p. 35);
- 20) determiner + modifier (adverbial phrase): *Domnul din direapta/our Lord sitting to the right* (DPV.1673, p. 7);
- 21) determiner + modifier (relative clause): *sălașul unde odihnește/the place where he rests* (DPV.1673, p. 5);
- 22) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + modifier (adverb preceded by a preposition): *cu mila ta de înainte/with his previous mercy* (DPV.1673, p. 18);
- 23) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adverb preceded by a preposition): *mila ta cea de înainte/your previous mercy* (DPV.1673, p. 204);
- 24) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *păgânii aceia ce sânt dintr-Agara/those pagans coming from Agara* (DPV.1673, p. 7);
- 25) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + modifier (relative clause): *N-svânta mitropolie ce este-n*



- Suceavă/In the sacred mitropoly built in Suceava* (DPV.1673, p. 9);
- 26) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *din scaunul său ce șede/În ceri/From the chair he sits on/In heaven* (DPV.1673, p. 12);
- 27) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *besearica cea svântă carea fi-i de slavă/the sacred church where we worship you* (DPV.1673, p. 21);
- 28) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *păsările toate, ce sânt zburătoare/all the flying birds* (DPV.1673, p. 23);
- 29) external quantifier (indefinite adjective) + determiner + modifier (relative clause): *cu toț credincioșii ce-are Izrailul/with all the faithful people living in Israel* (DPV.1673, p. 32);
- 30) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (participial adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *Țara cea dorită,/Carea-i giuruită/Lui Iacov iubitul//The desired land/Belonging/To beloved Iacov* (DPV.1673, p. 103);
- 31) external quantifier (indefinite adjective) + determiner + two modifiers (relative clauses): *a toată gânaniia ce să trage pre pământ, ce are în sâne suflare de viață/all bug which crawls on the ground, which has in itself the breath of life* (DPar.1683, p. 111);
- 32) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + two modifiers (common nouns preceded by prepositions): *cu mădulările mele de la trup și de la suflet/ with my limbs from my body and from my soul* (DPV.1673, p. 344);
- 33) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *glasul meu de rugă/my praying voice* (DPV.1673, p. 39);
- 34) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative adjective) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *împăratul acesta cu slavă/this honored emperor* (DPV.1673, p. 54);
- 35) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *greșeala mea cea de tinerețe/the mistake I made in my youth* (DPV.1673, p. 56);
- 36) external quantifier (indefinite adjective) + determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *ca tot omul de supt soare/like every man living under the sun* (DPV.1673, p. 108);
- 37) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *binele tot de pre lume/all the good on earth* (DPV.1673, p. 155);
- 38) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *vierăi cei graș de la luncă/the fat boars living in the meadows* (DPV.1673, p. 184);
- 39) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + denominative modifier (proper noun): *cu doamna sa Elena/with his lady Helena* (DPV.1673, p. 5);
- 40) determiner + possessor (personal pronoun in the genitive case) + denominative modifier (proper noun): *cu doamna lui Maria/with his lady Mary* (DPV.1673, p. 4);
- 41) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + apposition (proper noun): *cu doamna sa, cu Ana/with his lady Ann* (DPV.1673, p. 4);
- 42) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + apposition (common noun): *preacuvioasa Martha, maica preacuviosului Simeon/Martha the pious, pious Simeon's mother* (DVS.1682–6, p. 15);
- 43) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *să roagă svântului tău nume,/Ce-i vestit de cinste preste lume//They pray to your sacred name/Which is praised for its honour all over the world* (DPV.1673, p. 144);
- 44) external quantifier (indefinite article) + determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *Toț puternicii cei tare,/Ce-i sânteț supt ascultare.//All the mighty ones/Who are under his rule.* (DPV.1673, p. 234);
- 45) external quantifier (indefinite adjective) + determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *Spre tot lucrul său ce-au fapt de-atunce./Towards everything he has done ever since.* (DPV.1673, p. 323);
- 46) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + two modifiers (adjectives) + modifier (relative clause): *vasul mirului celui neadevăsat, pre tine vărsat, ce l-ai priimăt/ the vessel of the unspent myrrh, that you have spilled on you and that you have received* (DCR.1673, p. 157);
- 47) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + possessor (possessive adjective preceding the head-noun) + modifier (relative clause): *iubitul său Zinon, ce-l plângea/his beloved Zinon, whom he was wailing* (DVS.1682–6, p. 22);
- 48) determiner + possessor (common noun in the genitive case) + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective): *calea păgânilor cea strămbă/the unrighteous way of the pagans* (DPV.1673, p. 11);
- 49) determiner + possessor (common noun in the genitive case) + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + quantifier (indefinite adjective): *hiara codrilor cea multă/the many beasts living in the forests* (DPV.1673, p. 112);
- 50) determiner + possessor (proper noun in the genitive case) + quantifier (indefinite adjective): *din răgulele Domnului toate/from all of God's rules* (DPV.1673, p. 285) etc.

#### 4.2.1.2. Definite determination expressed by a demonstrative adjective preceding the head-noun

- 1) determiner + two modifiers (relative clauses): *acest strein, pre carele Maică-sa vâdzând pre cruce spândzurând, bocindu-l striga și ca o maică îl glăsuia/this stranger, whose Mother, upon seeing him hanging on the cross, was wailing, calling him and speaking to him like a mother* (DCR.1673, p. 225-227);
- 2) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *aceale slove toate ce să tâlcuiesc/all those letters which are translated* (DPar.1683, p. 258);
- 3) determiner + modifier (adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *depreună cu acei cuconi tineri ce mai sus s-au dzâs/together with those young children previously mentioned* (DVS. 1682–6, p. 255);
- 4) determiner + possessor (common noun in the genitive case, preceding the head-noun): *acel a păcatului prav/that sinful dust* (DDL.1679, p. 169);

- 5) determiner + modifier (personal pronoun preceded by a preposition) + modifier (adjective): *acea de la Tine bogată milă*/that rich mercy of Yours (DDL.1679, p. 54);
- 6) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *mare această de spăsenie taină*/this great mystery of the humble (DDL.1679, p. 109-110);
- 7) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition) + modifier (adjective): *pre cei meșteri de cuvinte necuvântători*/those speechless masters of words (DCR.1673, p. 123);
- 8) external quantifier (indefinite adjective) + determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *toate acele de spăsenie cerșeturi*/all those beggings of the humble (DDL.1679, p. 187);
- 9) determiner + quantifier (cardinal number used as an adjective) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *aceale două vârvuri de copaci*/those two treetops (DVS. 1682–6, p. 27);
- 10) determiner + two possessors (common nouns in the genitive case): *aceaea scrisoare a maică-sa și a femeii sale*/that letter from his mother and from his wife (DVS.1682–6, p. 155);
- 11) determiner + possessor (personal pronoun in the genitive case) + modifier (adjective): *acea înșelăciune a lor deșartă*/their useless trickery (DVS.1682–6, p. 236);
- 12) determiner + denominative modifier (proper noun): *acesta-mpărat Ual*/this emperor Ual (DVS. 1682–6, p. 21);
- 13) determiner + modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + possessor (proper noun in the genitive case): *acel svânt sunet a Duhului Svânt*/that sacred sound of the Holy Spirit (DPar.1683, p. 244);
- 14) determiner + possessor (proper noun in the genitive case) + modifier (participial adjective): *acesta psalom a lui David, de sine scris*/David's psalm, written by himself (DP.1680, p. 656);
- 15) determiner + modifier (adverb preceded by a preposition): *acest pomnoco de acmu*/the sacrifice I made now (DCR.1673, p. 133);
- 16) determiner + three modifiers (adjectives) + two modifiers (relative clauses): *Dumnezeu acel sângur bun și milos, Carele întru nalturi petreci și cele smerite prăvești*/that good and merciful God, Who lives in heaven and watches over the humble (DDL.1679, p. 179);
- 17) determiner + modifier (pronominal phrase preceded by a preposition) + possessor (common noun in the genitive case): *acea de la Svinția Sa a svinților cinste*/that honour of the saints from His Highness (DVS.1682–6, p. 12);
- 18) determiner + modifier (adjective) + three modifiers (relative clauses): *această svântă carte, de o am tălmăcit rumânește pre limbă prostă, carea, iubii lui Dumnăzău și cinstii cetitori, cu drag să o primiți și să o cetii fără urât*/this holy book that I translated into Romanian with great effort and that, esteemed and loved by God readers, I invite you to receive and read with pleasure (DVS.1682–6, p. 14);
- 19) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition) + denominative modifier (proper noun): *acel nepriiatin de svinți Leon Împărat Armenie*/the Emperor Leon who hated the saints (DVS.1682–6, p. 32);
- 20) determiner + complement (common noun preceded by a preposition) + denominative modifier (proper noun) +

modifier (relative clause) + two modifiers (adjectives): *acel călcătoriu de leage Antalt, care toată lumea au turburat, cumplit și aspru*/that lawbreaker named Antalt, who unsettled everyone, terrible and harsh as he was (DVS.1682–6, p. 41) etc.

#### 4.2.1.3. Definite determination expressed by a possessive adjective preceding the head-noun

- 1) determiner + modifier (adverb preceded by a preposition): *a noastre greșele de mainte*/our previous mistakes (DPV.1673, p. 182);
- 2) determiner + modifier (relative clause): *cu a ta bunătate ce fi să vestește*/with the kindness you are famous for (DPV.1673, p. 20);
- 3) determiner + modifier (participial adjective) + modifier (relative clause): *Printr-ale tale graiuri cinstite/Ce-ai zâs cu rostul, Dumnezeu svinte*//Among your honoured languages/That are meaningful, sacred Lord (DPV.1673, p. 37);
- 4) determiner + modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + modifier (relative clause): *pentru-a nostru vecinic crai ce-au păfât liubov*/for out eternal philandered that fell in love (DPV.1673, p. 374);
- 5) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): *cu ale saleș lunicăciuni de păcate*/with his sins (DDL.1679, p. 122-123);
- 6) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective): *dintr-a tale cămări multe*/from your many cellars (DPV.1673, p. 236);
- 7) determiner + modifier (adjectival phrase): *a tale porunci fără smântă*/your right orders (DPV.1673, p. 282);
- 8) determiner + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (ordinal number used as an adjective): *a noastre fărălegi ceale dintăi*/our first iniquities (DP.1680, p. 484).

#### 4.2.1.4. Definite determination expressed by a possessive adjective functioning as a clitic

- 1) determiner + modifier (relative clause): *de la fiu-său ce are*/from his son (DPV.1673, p. 13);
- 2) determiner + denominative modifier (proper noun): *fiu-său Ilie*/his son Ilie (DPV.1673, p. 5);
- 3) modifier (participial adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + apposition (proper noun): *cu luminat cinstiță doamnă-sa, Maria*/with his beloved lady Mary (DPV.1673, p. 7);
- 4) determiner + apposition (proper noun) + modifier (relative clause): *la vară-sa, Elisaveta, ce era stearpă și bătrână*/to his cousin Elisaveta, who was infertile and old (DCR.1673, p. 183).

#### 4.2.2. Indefinite determination

##### 4.2.2.1. Indefinite determination expressed by an indefinite article

- 1) determiner + modifier (adjective): *o porumbiță albă*/a white dove (DVS.1682–6, p. 302);
- 2) determiner + modifier (participial adjective): *într-un cămin înfocat*/in a fireplace without fire (DVS. 1682–6, p. 190, p. 214);
- 3) determiner + modifier (adjectival phrase): *ca nește hiară fără de cuget*/like some stupid beasts (DPV.1673, p. 38);
- 4) determiner + modifier (gerund): *ca un oaspe tinzând cort afară*/like a guest spreading his tent outside (DPV.1673, p. 240);

- 5) determiner + modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + modifier (adjective) + modifier (demonstrative pronoun preceded by a preposition): **un svânt bărbat frumos, de-aceia ce sta pregiur apa aceia fântâni/a beautiful holy man, of those sitting round the water of that fountain** (DVS.1682–6, p. 80);
- 6) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition) + modifier (gerund): **ca un vânt de roadă șuerând/like a wind blowing in the dew** (DP.1680, p. 685-686);
- 7) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (relative clause) + modifier (adjectival phrase) + modifier (adjective): **un eparh orecare, ce-l chema Hurasadem, ascuțat la mânie și la muncit măiestru/a certain eparch named Hurasadem, who was impulsive and hard-working** (DVS.1682–6, p. 152);
- 8) determiner + two modifiers (adjectives): **un porumb mare, alb/a large, white dove** (DVS.1682–6, p. 71);
- 9) determiner + modifier (adjective) + modifier (participial adjective) + modifier (adjectival phrase): **Așe-i deșert omul ca o haină slabă./Stricăta de molii și fără de treabă./Man is desert as a feeble cloth./Moth-eaten and useless.** (DPV.1673, p. 88);
- 10) determiner + modifier (adjective) + modifier (participial adjective) + three modifiers (relative clauses): **ca o grădină sufletească răsădită de Dumnezău, ce o au răsădit cu de toț pomii sufletești, la răsărit, în Edenul cel cugetat, în svinta besearică, carea cetind iubitul creștin să satură de toată dulceața și să adapă de viața veacinică/a garden of the soul seeded by God, that He has seeded with all the trees of the soul, in the east, in Eden, in the holy church, from which the beloved Christian, upon reading it, tastes all the sweetness and enters eternal life** (DP.1680, p. 278);
- 11) determiner + modifier (adjectival phrase) + modifier (participial adjective): **un mieluşel fără de prihană în pântecele Mariei păscut/ann innocent lamb grazing in Mary's belly** (DCR.1673, p. 109).

#### 4.2.2.2. Indefinite determination expressed by an indefinite adjective

- 1) determiner + modifier (relative clause): **gâlceavă multă/Ce făcea asupra-mi/the cool scolding he gave me** (DPV.1673, p. 85);
- 2) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): **în tot felul de hrană/in all kinds of meal** (DPV.1673, p. 3);
- 3) determiner + quantifier (cardinal number used as an adjective) + modifier (relative clause): **alți cinci ai în carii nu va hi arătură, nice săcerătură/other five years in which there will be neither ploughing nor reaping** (DPar.1683, p. 166);
- 4) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): **alte multe basne de dumnădzăi/many other tales about gods** (DPar.1683, p. 279);
- 5) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + modifier (relative clause): **alte multe bătrâne [mănăstiri] ce-ș da cuviința/many other old [monasteries] which were built accordingly** (DPV.1673, p. 4);

- 6) determiner + modifier (adjective) + modifier (adjectival phrase): **toate limbi păgâne și fără de lege/all the pagan, lawless languages** (DPV.1673, p. 26);
- 7) determiner + modifier (adjective): **vro stâlpăre mică/a certain small twig** (DPV.1673, p. 84);
- 8) determiner + modifier (adjective) + apposition (common noun): **cu alți svinți măcenici soțai sfântului Evdoxie/with other sacred martyrs accompanying saint Evdoxie** (DVS.1682–6, p. 22);
- 9) determiner + quantifier (indefinite adjective) + modifier (adjective): **alte multe svinte besearici/many other sacred churches** (DVS.1682–6, p. 224).

#### 4.2.2.3. Indefinite determination expressed by a cardinal number used as an adjective

- 1) determiner + modifier (relative clause): **umerile a doi preuți ce-l rădica/the shoulders of two priests carrying him** (DVS.1682–6, p. 29);
- 2) determiner + possessor (common noun in the genitive case): **trupuri trei a vitej/the bodies of three mighty ones** (DPV.1673, p. 368);
- 3) determiner + possessor (personal pronoun in the genitive case): **2 cuconi a lor/their 2 children** (DVS.1682–6, p. 72);
- 4) modifier (adjective preceding the head-noun) + determiner + modifier (relative clause): **pomenirea a svinți 6 măcenici, ce purta scuturi pre lângă Maximian/the mentioning of 6 sacred martyrs, wearing shields and accompanying Maximian** (DVS.1682–6, p. 34);
- 5) determiner + modifier (common noun preceded by a preposition): **cu 8 lanțuțe de aramă/with 8 chains made of copper** (DVS.1682–6, p. 79);
- 6) determiner + possessor (personal pronoun in the genitive case) + apposition (two proper nouns) + modifier (relative clause): **cu 2 cuconi ai lui, Antonie și Petr, carii era încă brudii/with their 2 children, Antony and Peter, who were still young** (DVS.1682–6, p. 34);
- 7) determiner + possessor (personal pronoun in the genitive case) + emphatic determiner (demonstrative article) + modifier (adjective): **cu 2 ai ei cuconi cei geameni/with her 2 twin children** (DVS.1682–6, p. 138);
- 8) determiner + modifier (participial adjective): **cu 2 hulturi înhămaț/with 2 harnessed vultures** (DPar.1683, p. 279);
- 9) determiner + three modifiers (adjectives preceding the head-noun): **În una svântă, săbornică și apostolească Beserică./In a single sacred, ecumenical and apostolic Church** (DDL.1679, p. 73-74);
- 10) determiner + two modifiers (adjectives): **slobodzi 2 lei sireapi asupra ei, foarte mari/he unleashed two very big untamed lions on her** (DVS.1682–6, p. 18);
- 11) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective): **cu 7 ai săi ucinici/with his 7 apprentices** (DVS.1682–6, p. 40);
- 12) determiner + modifier (adjective) + modifier (participial adjective): **2 voinici chipeși și luminați/2 handsome and enlightened mighty men** (DVS.1682–6, p. 86).

#### 4.2.2.4. Indefinite determination expressed by an ordinal number used as an adjective

- 1) determiner + modifier (adverb preceded by a preposition): **șanțuri dintâi, de mainte/the first, previous ditches** (DPV.1673, p. 239);
- 2) determiner + modifier (relative clause): **A șaptea dzî astădz o ai svințit-o, carea de demult o ai blagoslovit cu**

*odihna lucrurilor./Today you sanctified the seventh day, when we are supposed to rest.* (DCR.1673, p. 201-203);

- 3) determiner + modifier (proper noun preceded by a preposition): *a doua dz̃ de Paște/the second Easter day* (DPar.1683, p. 200);
- 4) determiner + possessor (possessive adjective) + modifier (adjective): *la a doa a ta Hristoase și groaznică venire/at your second and terrible coming, Jesus Christ* (DCR.1673, p. 243).

## 5. Conclusions

In Dosoftei's writings, determination might be definite or indefinite. Definite determination is expressed by definite articles (as a grammatical means), possessive and demonstrative adjectives preceding the head-noun (as lexico-grammatical means) and possessive adjectives functioning as clitics (semigrammatical means). In contrast, indefinite determination is expressed by indefinite articles (as a grammatical means) or by indefinite adjectives, relative adjectives, as well as cardinal and ordinal numbers used as adjectives (as lexico-grammatical means). The determiner might function as the unique adjunct within the noun phrase or it might co-occur with other adjuncts, namely quantifiers, modifiers, possessors and complements. All in all, the syntactic patterns we have identified reflect the complex possibilities of structuring the noun phrase in Dosoftei's writings, illustrating the diversity of syntactic constructions in Old Romanian in the corpus to be analyzed, as far as the determiner is concerned.

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