

## ATARIKOAK

Nik behintzat aithortzen dut  
Zure zordun garela,  
Gure ilhunbetik khentzeko  
Zuzia zu zarela. (...)  
Eskaldunak hel bekizkit  
Haren ohoratzera,  
Zeren eskara eman duen  
Erdararen gañera.

(Hirigoiti, xvii. m.)

Laurogeiko hamarkadaren hasieratik Beñat Oihartzabal ikertzaile eta irakas-leak sintaxiaren hainbat alderdi, morfologiaren zenbait, dialektologia eta soziolinguistikaren beste hainbeste, hizkuntz ideien historiografiaren asko, euskal literaturarenaren garrantzitsuak, testu-kritika, hizkuntzaren historia eta haren egoera eta estatusa... aztertu ditu. Ehunetik gora sarrera dira ondoko haren bibliografia zientifikoan agertzen diren lan bikainak eta, are azken urteotakoetan ere, Beñat Oihartzabalek —hasi eta hojeita hamar urte geroago— bai hizkuntzalari-zangoaren, bai filologo-zangoaren gainean darama bere jarduna, trebe eta zuhur, gutxik ohi (eta ahal!) bezala, bidenabar.

Era askotarikoak dira Beñatek onduak: liburu osoak —pastoralaren azterketa eta edizioaz zein erlatiboez eta bestelako esaldi motez—, liburu zatiak, artikuluak eta oharrok, Euskal Herrian eta atzerrian argitaratuak, gehienetan bere kabuz baina usu lagunekin elkarlanean emanak ere; hauetan ezin ahantz *Euskal Gramatika Lehen Urratsak*, talde lan handiena. Aurki argitaratuko den Euskal Atlas Lingüistikoan ere jarri zuen bere aldetik.

Bibliografietan biltzen direnak ez dira, jakina, Beñatek hiru hamarkadotan egindako guztiak: 1984tik CNRS-eko ikerlari eta hamar urte geroago ikerketa-zuzendari erakunde berean, azken hamabi urteotan Baionako Iker-UMR5478 gunearren buru izan da. Euskaltzaindian ere hainbat kargu izan du (Iker Sailburu eta Euskaltzainburuordez landa) lehenik urgazle eta gero (1990ean) osoko kide bilakatu zentik. Berak aitzindari batez esan bezala, “ordea, ez da horretan ahitzen kontua, zeren, orok dakigunaz, idazlan edo hitzaldi horietako anitzen gibelean gordetzen baitira

## PREFACE

Since the early eighties, the scientific work of professor and researcher Bernard Oyharçabal has attained prominence in a vast number of areas, ranging from theoretical syntax and morphology, to dialectology and the history of grammatical thinking, as well as Basque literature, sociolinguistics, the history of the Basque language and philological criticism. His large bibliographical production is a clear testimony of the variety and the importance of his contribution to Basque studies. His rich trajectory in the academic world shows a rare capacity to address both linguistic and philological issues, to integrate a wide and profound knowledge of the Basque textual tradition with the most recent thinking in grammatical theory or the history of grammatical ideas. This ability to transit from one area to the other is a characterizing feature of his work, and something he has done masterfully, casting light in many ill understood problems, and opening the way to many fruitful research avenues.

His works encompass articles, chapters and books, in the Basque Country and abroad, but also the direction of important collective publications, such as EGLU (the descriptive grammar of the Basque Academy) or the monumental linguistic atlas, which should finally see the light within this year.

Many of Bernard Oyharçabal's achievements of course, are not registered in bibliography. He is a professional researcher at the CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) since 1984, and Directeur de Recherche since 1994. During the last 12 years he has been the head of the research center IKER (UMR5478), devoted to Basque linguistic and textual studies, and in whose creation he has been directly engaged. The research center brings together professors and researchers from the University Michel de Montaigne (Bordeaux 3), the University of Pau and of the regions of the Adour (UPPA) and CNRS, and it is nowadays the major reference for linguistic and textual studies in the continental side of the Basque Country. Besides, he has occupied several functions at the Royal Academy of the Basque Language, including the Vice-Presidency of the Academy. He is a full member since 1990.

Bernard Oyharçabal's academic and scientific achievements are all the more remarkable as they must be understood against the background of the social situation of the Basque language and the Basque speaking community three decades ago: Bernard Oyharçabal has been a determined and enlightened fighter for the rights and the chances of the Basque language in the French Basque Country. He belongs

oren jale bezain gogo higagarri diren antolamenduzko lanak, euskalgintza kasik osoki egituragabekoa zen garaietan hasiak, eta azken garaian euskalaritzak maila akademikoan izan duen bilakaeraren lekuko direnak. Bestalde, beste asko badira oraino Iparraldeko kultura elkarteen euskal ikerketen sustatzeko eta antolatzeko eginak, maila apalagokoak, ez bibliografieta agertzeakoak izanagatik, batere ez guiestekoak”.

Beñat Oihartzabal amiñi bat ezagutzen duenak badu haren jendartekotasunaren eta izaera gozoaren berri, eztabaida garratzak baino elkarrizketa aberatsen aldekoago, haren eiteak ezarian-ezarian erakarri, argitu eta urgatzi du bat baino gehiago euskal ikerketetan.

Aldez eta moldez beste hainbat euskaldun, euskaltzale eta euskalarik bezala —eta are horrelako deus ez baina gure hizkuntzaz interesatua den jende samaldak legez— Beñatekiko gure zorra gogoan izan dugu IKER zein *ASJU*-ko kideek eta argitaratzailoi begitandu zitzaigun horren aitorpen gisa aitzakia ona izan zitekeela haren hirurogei urtebetetzea liburu hau prestatzeko haren gorazarretan. Dozenaka lankide, lagun eta adiskidek nahi izan diote Oihartzabali beren lan baten eskaintza egin, dela lapurtar maisuak jorratu dituen alorretan, dela handik hara ere. Har ezazu, Beñat, gure esker onaren erakusgarri eta etorkizunean emango dizkiguzun opari ugarien pizgarri.\*

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\* Argitaratzailok gure esker ona adierazi nahi diogu lagundu gaituen hainbat lankide eta adiskideri eta, bereziki, bibliografiaren lehen zirriborroa eskuratu zigun Aurelia Arkotxari eta ingelesezko hainbat laburpen zuzendu dituen John Tynani.

to a generation that had to worry not just about science, but also about setting up an academic structure that would sustain it. Something we must recall even today.

People who know Bernard Oyharçabal have got to appreciate his kindness and his accessibility, his absolute lack of presumption (a difficult virtue in the academic world), his will to entertain a fruitful dialogue rather than a harsh discussion. Many are those who have profited from his knowledge and his good-will. As others who find themselves in the latter group, the members of ASJU and of IKER, including the editors of this volume, feel indebted to Bernard Oyharçabal, and we thought his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday could be a good excuse to show it. Dozens of colleagues and friends have happily accepted our invitation to contribute a piece of work to celebrate this occasion. Some of those works follow in the footsteps of his own contributions, some others try new horizons. Let all of them be so many expressions of gratitude to his work and his character. And a stimulus for important future additions.\*

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\* The editors would like to thank all those who helped in preparing and editing this volume. Special thanks go to Aurelia Arkotxa, who helped us with Bernard Oyharçabal's bibliography and to John Tynan, who helped us correct many of the English abstracts.