

# On Berber verbs of state

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Berber verbs of state are well known for their peculiarities, which are, for the most part, well delimited and solidly described. Yet, the status of these particularities in the grammar of the languages that display them, and their implications for the theory of grammar are still far from consensual.

In particular, the perfective paradigm of Berber verbs of state stands out in two respects: it is characterized by a reduced agreement paradigm, and it has the interpretation of a pure state (e.g., *xɣɣ* “he is light”). In all other paradigms, Berber verbs of state have a normal, full inflectional paradigm, and they express a process or a change of state. In this sense the perfective of Berber verbs of state has long been considered to be related diachronically to the category of nouns. In this talk, I explore the possibility of a nominal analysis of Berber verbs of state in synchronic grammar.