This paper looks at some constructions in standard Macedonian which express possessive relation implicitly, without any special possessive marker. They are illustrated in examples (1) – (4). In these constructions the possessor is not a dependent constituent of a NP, but a clause constituent and the possessed is usually expressed in a locative phrase in the same core close. They belong to the so called external possessive constructions (Payne & Barshi 1999, Baron et al. 2001)

1) Toj ja udri po rakata. ‘He hit her on the arm.’
2) Ne mozam da zboruvam, fatena sum (jas) vo glasot. ‘I can’t talk, I have a hoarse voice.’
3) Gledaj gi kakvi se (tie) crveni vo kosite. ‘Look at them! How strange they look with their red hair.’
4) Odnesi ja topkata kaj cicko Milan vo dvorot. ‘Take the ball to uncle Milan’s yard.’

The author discusses the semantic and pragmatic conditions within which the possessive interpretation occurs. The comparison with the corresponding explicit possessive constructions reveals that these constructions have specific discourse function in that they put the possessor in focus. A statistical analysis presented in Mitkovska (2005:136-138) demonstrates that they are more frequent in literary prose (3% of all possessive constructions) than in journalistic prose (0.3%). It is claimed therefore that they are employed in particular styles for achieving certain communicative goals.

