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The journal TURKIC LANGUAGES concludes its fourth year of issue with articles and reports covering a wide spectrum of Turcological problems.

This time, particular prominence is given to the southwestern area of the Turkic world. Geoffrey Haig continues his research on voice in Turkish, suggesting a unified account of the passive, according to which passive is a detransitivizer. Claus Schönig investigates Mongolian loanwords in Oghuz Turkic as indicators of specific linguistic and cultural areas in Southwest Asia. The article by Winfried Boeder and Christoph Schroeder deals with similarities and differences with respect to relational coding in Georgian and Turkish noun phrases. Lars Johanson addresses the question of traces of the old Turkic copula verb *er-*, mainly in Oghuz languages. One contribution focuses on the northeastern area: Alisa V. Esipova's article, describing the transformative use of certain participles in Shor, a Turkic language of South Siberia.

In volume 3 of TURKIC LANGUAGES it was reported that the famous Turcologist Karl Heinrich Menges had passed away in Vienna on the 20th of September 1999 at the age of 91. The first contribution published in our journal in commemoration of this great scholar is an obituary written by Gerhard Doerfer, a not less well-known scholar, who graduated under Menges' supervision at the Freie Universität Berlin in 1954.

Sharon Inkelas, Aylin Küntay, Ronald Sprouse and Orhan Orgun report on a remarkable lexical project carried out in the Linguistics Department at the University of California, Berkeley. The *Turkish Electronic Living Lexicon*, designed primarily for linguistic research and accessible over the Internet, is a searchable database containing orthographic representations and phonemic transcriptions.

Elisabetta Ragagnin, Mainz, gives us a first report on a new project aiming at the documentation and description of the language of the nomadic Dukha, a practically unknown and endangered variety of Tuvan spoken in northern Mongolia. The undertaking is one of a growing number of descriptive projects in modern-day Turcology motivated by the need to collect fresh linguistic data in intensive fieldwork.

Erika Taube publishes a contribution appraising the work of the Tuvan scholar Dorug-ool Aldyn-oolovič Moṅguš, known for his linguistic work on almost all aspects of Tuvan. The article consists of a translation of a biographical sketch published in the journal *Bašqı* and some additional personal remarks by Erika Taube herself.

In the review section, Éva Á. Csató evaluates A. Sumru Özsoy's new textbook on Turkish morphosyntax. Arianne M. Dwyer deals with Gunnar Jarring's monumental book on the place-names of the Lopnor and Tarim area, a work based on the rich materials from Sven Hedin's expeditions. The book is, as the reviewer points out, much more than a list of place-names, but rather something like a dictionary of early modern Central Tarim Turkic.

Lars Johanson