

## Werk

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## Editorial note

*Turkic Languages, Volume 19, 2015, Number 1*

This issue of *TURKIC LANGUAGES* contains articles of both general and more specific nature.

Delio V. Proverbio deals with an East Old Turkic text in Tibetan script, demonstrating that it is the complex product of “hyperphonetic” transcription, a kind of pronunciation guide for non-Turkic Buddhist monks. The paper is a contribution to the discussion on the phonological status of the grapheme *a-chuñ* as written in non-Tibetan texts. The claim that its seemingly random occurrence in some cases is the result of careless use of the Tibetan alphabet is challenged by the author, who introduces a new way of viewing the allographic context.

Éva Á. Csató and Aynur Abish examine comparative constructions in Karaim and Xinjiang Kazakh, showing that contact-induced changes may make highly endangered languages more complex than large and more vigorous languages.

Astrid Menz deals with the Gagauz suffix *-(y)ka*, copied from Slavic and used to derive feminine forms of nouns referring to persons. Like clitics, it is unaccentable and nonharmonic. Since its use is not obligatory, it can be regarded as not fully integrated into the language.

Ahmatjan Tash and Jinyu Zhang analyze so-called “psych verbs” in Uyghur, interpreting morphological causatives as lexical causatives and light verb constructions with *qil-* as analytical causatives corresponding to English constructions with *make*.

Birsel Karakoç deals with the positioning of Turkic interrogative markers (Q-clitics), examining the possible patterns in some Oghuz and Central Asian Kipchak languages and determining some general tendencies. The internal positioning of the Q-clitic in predicates and its free syntactic mobility are found to be typical of Turkish.

Sema Aslan Demir discusses semantic and morphosyntactic properties of the Turkmen markers *-Ay* and *-KA*, which are used to modify questions in the direction of speculative-dubitative meanings. It is suggested that *-Ay* has developed from conveying volitional notions to bearing meanings of epistemic possibility.

İbrahim Ahmet Aydemir examines morphosyntactic, syntactic, semantic and discourse functions of four types of interrogative structures in the South Siberian language Tuvan: polar, content, alternative and tag interrogatives. An interesting feature is that Tuvan, like other languages in the area, possesses interrogative verbs.

Bayarma Khabtagaeva analyzes compounds of Turkic origin in Yeniseian and discusses various morphological patterns found in them. Among the branches of the Turkic language family, only Siberian Turkic (Yenisey Turkic and Altay Turkic) has had direct contact with Yeniseian.

Mehmet-Ali Akıncı delivers a brief report on the successful 17th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics, where 155 papers and six plenary lectures were presented.

Igor Kormushin, Irina Kul'ganek, Dmitrij Nasilov and Irina Nevskaya contribute an obituary for Sergej Kljaštornyj (1928–2014).

Our field has lost two other internationally leading scholars in the last months. Talât Tekin passed away in Bodrum on November 28, 2015, at the age of 88, and György Hazai in Budapest on January 7, 2016, at the age of 83. TURKIC LANGUAGES will return to their lives and oeuvres in a coming issue.

*Lars Johanson*