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Titel: Linguistic topics at Turkologentag 2016: Second European convention on Turkic, Ot...

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Ort: Wiesbaden

Jahr: 2017

PURL: https://resolver.sub.uni-goettingen.de/purl?666048797_0021 | LOG_0030

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Linguistic topics at *Turkologentag 2016*: Second European Convention on Turkic, Ottoman and Turkish Studies, Hamburg, September 14–17, 2016

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Astrid Menz. 2017. Linguistic topics at *Turkologentag 2016: Second European Convention on Turkic, Ottoman and Turkish Studies*, Hamburg, September 14–17, 2016. *Turkic Languages* 21, 281–285.

This report reviews the contributions on Turkic linguistics at *Turkologentag 2016* held September 14–17, 2016 at Hamburg University, Germany.

Keywords: conference report, Turkologentag, Turkish linguistics, Turkic linguistics

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Between 14 and 17 September 2016 an international scientific conference focusing on Turcology, Turkish and Ottoman Studies, *Turkologentag 2016*, took place at Hamburg University, Germany. This was the second time that *Turkologentag* was jointly organized by a local organizer, in this case the Department of Turcology of Hamburg University and the Society for Turkic, Ottoman, and Turkish Studies (Gesellschaft für Turkologie, Osmanistik und Türkeiforschung, GTOT). The first *Turkologentag* was held in 2014 at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich, Germany, locally organized by the Institute for the Near and Middle East. The predecessor of the *Turkologentag* was the conference series *Deutsche Turkologenkongferenz*. The first of these conferences took place in 1987 in Bamberg, Germany. When it comes to participants, the target group of this conference widened over the years from German Turcologists to German speaking Turcologists, and finally European (including Turkish) Turcologists, which is clearly visible in the conference proceedings that initially were German-only publications. The first English contribution, published in the proceedings of the 1999 conference, was the only non-German contribution in this volume. The proceedings of the 2002 conference contain several English as well as the first Turkish contribution. The organizers of the 2014 conference consequently opted for a change of name as well as an official change in the scope of the target group. Since 2014, the conference aims at reaching all European researchers in the fields of Turcology, Turkish, and Ottoman Studies. More than 400 participants from 25 countries and their contributions were selected to attend the *Turkologentag* in Hamburg. The contributions were divided in altogether 12 scientific sections. Two of these sections were explicitly dedicated to

language topics, the section for *Linguistics* and a section for *German-Turkish Languages Research*. The sections on *Cultural Studies* and *Social Sciences and Migration Studies*, as well as the section *Studies on Central Asia/Volga Region/Siberia* also contained contributions with linguistic topics. In what follows, I will briefly present the language-related contributions.

The panel *Turkic Languages and Literatures under Persian Influence*, jointly organized by Elisabetta Ragagnin and Benedek Péri, was held on the first day of the conference in the section on *Studies on Central Asia/Volga Region/Siberia*. In her paper titled *Turkic-Persian language contact in Iran*, Ragagnin gave a general overview of the Persian linguistic influence, while the other three papers in this section were dedicated to more specific problems regarding literature and language: Benedek Péri, *Two sides of the same coin: Fuzûlî's The Weed and the Wine and the Anonymous Book of Secrets*; Ferenc Péter Csirkés, *Sadiqi Beg and the Politics of Turkic in Safavid Persia*; Réka Stüber, *The Language of Wisdom: Evidence from the Qutadgu Bilig for Persian syntactic interference*.

In the section *Linguistics*, five panels were held, one of which was a thematically organized panel, while the other four contained individual contributions on Turkic languages.

The panel titled *Five Dimensions of Distance in the Turkic Language Family*, was organized by Lars Johanson, whose contribution introduced five parameters, genealogical distance, typological distance, lexicostatistical distance, intelligibility distance, and perceived distance, which can be used to measure the distance between various Turkic varieties. The ultimate aim behind measuring the degrees of distances between the various Turkic languages is to gain new insights into their family-internal relations. The remaining three contributions of the panel presented case studies for the degrees of distance between various linguistic varieties spoken in different regions of the Turkic-speaking world: Irina Nevskaya, *Chalkan's distance to Shor and Southern Altai*; László Károly, *On the Yakut-Mongolic-Tungusic triangle: Its consequences on language distance*; Éva Á. Csató & Astrid Menz, *The intimacy of Eastern European Turkic: Gagauz and Karaim*.

The remaining four linguistic panels comprised contributions to Modern Turkish and Turkic Languages. Some of the announced contributions, however, had to be cancelled because their speakers could not travel to Germany due to the confusing situation at Turkish universities in the aftermath of July 15.

Diana Hayrapetyan from Yerevan State University talked on *Reduplications and duplicate forms with synonymous components of Modern Turkish*.

Gülschen Sahatova attempted an alternative evaluation of the use of *-miş* in the Turkish dialect of Cyprus: *-dl vs. -mlş: Vermittelte Evidentialität am Beispiel des Zyperntürkischen* (Conveyed evidentiality on the example of Turkish from Cyprus).

Mevlüt Erdem's *Asymmetry and dissymmetries on the accusative and dative marking in Turkic languages* discussed cases where the accusative and dative cases are not isomorphic in Turkic languages. He looked into the question of to what extent the accusative or dative marking of the verbs affects syntactic operations and

their codification in the mental lexicon, and claimed that there is no one-to-one mapping, at least for some verbs, between grammatical relations and morphological markings in Turkic languages.

Irina Nevskaya & Saule Tazhibayeva, in their lecture on *Diminutives and honorifics in North-West and North-East Turkic*, compared the diminutive forms and their pragmatics in Kazakh, a Kipchak Turkic language, to those in Shor, a Siberian Turkic language. They looked at the areal distribution of such diminutive morphemes, their etymologies, and at the patterns used for diminutive forms of personal names in the Turkic languages under study.

Bülent Özkan, from Mersin University, reported on his project of establishing a database-supported corpus platform for Turkish that will enable a researcher to build a corpus matching her research question: *Türkçe için kendi kendine derlem platformu oluşturma projesi* (The project of a self-composing corpus platform for Turkish).

Lusine Sahakyan, in her talk on *Microtoponyms in the district of Chayeli (Province of Rize)* presented the findings of her fieldwork on names for smaller geographical units like pastures, meadows, etc. While most of the toponyms in the area where she worked are Armenian words, some are mixed Turkish-Armenian compounds.

Ahmet Aydemir, in his paper *Typen von Finalsätzen im Tuvinischen* (Types of purpose clauses in Tuvan), spoke on on adverbial clauses of purpose in Tuvan. He demonstrated the various types with data from written standard Tuvan, as well as from various dialects.

Sema Aslan Demir presented a paper with the title *Türkmencede ER- ekfilinin (copula) yan cümledeki izleri* (Traces of the copula ER- in dependent clauses in Turkmen) on the function of the copula as a predicator in dependent clauses in Turkmen. The use and function of this copula in Turkmen is unique among the Oghuz languages.

Sultan Tulu's contribution titled *Dede Korkut'ta sıfat-fiilli tamlama grupları* (Participle phrases in the Kitab-ı Dede Qorqut) deals with some passages in the *Kitab-ı Dede Qorqut*, where it is unclear whether the passage in question should be read as a converb consisting of participle + locative or as the participle followed by the particle da/de.

In a session on Cultural Studies Astrid Menz, in her talk *Neues von Dr. Kvergić*, presented a hitherto unknown typewritten dictionary by the (in-)famous Hermann Feodor Kvergić, whose contribution to the formation of the Sun Language Theory in the 1930s is still debated.

Altogether four panels dealt with Turkish in the diaspora. One of them took place within the broader section *Social Sciences and Migration Studies*. Organized by Kutlay Yağmur under the title *What can we learn from the second wave of Turkish-maintenance studies?*, the panel discussed sociolinguistic topics related to the presence and especially the maintenance of Turkish as a heritage language in Europe, Australia and the USA. Different maintenance patterns in various regions, as well as intergenerational differences, were the scope of the four presentations in

this panel: Memet Aktürk-Drake, *How do Turkish speakers in Sweden differ from the rest of Western Europe?*; Feyza Altınkamaş & Hülya Özcan, *Immigrant bilingualism at home contexts: Voices of the young bilinguals*; Mehmet-Ali Akıncı, *From first to third generation Turks in France: What researches show us about language practices*; Kutlay Yağmur, *Intergenerational differences in language maintenance and shift patterns of Turkish: Speakers in Australia and the USA*.

Three thematic panels were related to Turkish-German language research.

In a panel given the title *Remembering, Learning, and Moving Multilingualism* Annette Herkenrath gave a presentation *Remembering multilingualism: Oral narratives of Turkish speakers in Germany* illustrating the thematic organization of memories in discourse and the grammatical procedures that occur.

Emel Türker-van der Heiden & Gözde Mercan's paper *Learning Turkish as a second/foreign language: Genitive and possessive structures* was related to the acquisition of the Turkish genitive construction by native speakers of Norwegian.

Till Woerfel, Christoph Schroeder & Juliana Goschler presented a study on the differences in acceptability of manner-of-motion verbs with so-called path satellites between monolingual and bilingual speakers of Turkish, *The encoding of motion by Turkish-German bilinguals—Evidence for a German-Turkish variety*. The findings of their study are taken as one piece of evidence for the development of a Turkish variety in Germany that is influenced by certain characteristics of German.

The panel titled *Acquisition and Use of Turkish by Turkish-German Bilinguals* was organized by Yazgül Şimşek together with Zeynep Kalkavan-Aydın and Jochen Rehbein. It focused on the evaluation of fieldwork results and research on the acquisition of Turkish by bilingual children in Germany. The first contribution, by Zeynep Kalkavan-Aydın *Sprachbiographien und Spracherwerb deutsch-türkisch bilingualer Kindergartenkinder—Daten aus dem SPREEZ-Projekt* (Language biographies and language acquisition of German-Turkish bilingual pre-school children), investigated the language acquisition of pre-school bilinguals. The remaining three contributions dealt with spoken and written language data of students between 12 and 18 years old: Yazgül Şimşek, *Tense and aspect in written texts of Turkish-German bilingual students*; Esin Işıl Gülbeyaz, *Syntaktische Entwicklung in der Erst- und Zweitsprache* (Development of syntax in first and second language); Nur Bülbül, *Textsortenbasiertes Schreiben im Türkischen am Beispiel von Sachtexten des Türkischunterrichts der Sekundarstufe I* (Turkish text production on the example of non-fictional texts for Turkish classes secondary schools, 1st to 5th year).

The third panel on Turkish-German language research was titled *Continuity, Contact, and Dominance Patterns (Turkish-German, Turkish-French)*. Due to a cancellation, the French-Turkish aspect was not discussed; the two remaining contributions concentrated on the German-Turkish situation. Carol Pfaff, in her talk on *Continuity and contact-induced change in Turkish in Germany: Pronominal and demonstrative usage in three generations of children and adolescents in Berlin*, presented findings from her 20 years of studies of Turkish-German bilingualism and its effects on Turkish. Birsal Karakoç & Annette Herkenrath, in their contribution *The*

pragmatics of evidentiality in bilingual Turkish: A corpus-analytical approach, reported on their corpus-based research on how the cognitive-mental category of “evidentiality”, linguistically realized in Turkish by the grammatical markers *-mİş* and *-(y)mİş*, is realized in the Turkish of bilingual children.

The numerous and diversified contributions at the conference in Hamburg indicate the importance of linguistic studies within the broader field of Turcology. The fact that four panels dealt solely with the presence of Turkish in Northwest Europe clearly shows that linguists and Turcologists are collaborating productively.