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Turks and Iranians

Interactions in Language and History

The Gunnar Jarring Memorial Program
at the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study

Edited by

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Contents

Editors' preface	ix
<i>Björn Wittrock</i>	
Central Asia as a nexus of interactions, languages and entangled histories..	xi
<i>Peter Golden</i>	
The shaping of the Turks in Medieval Eurasia	1
<i>Prods Oktor Skjærvø</i>	
Turks and Turkic in the Khotanese texts from Khotan	13
† <i>Werner Sundermann</i>	
On the growing Turkicization of the Sogdian language.....	29
<i>Bo Utas</i>	
On the Differences between Middle and New Persian	37
<i>Judith Josephson</i>	
The Construction <i>hamē</i> + verb in Middle Persian	49
<i>András Róna-Tas</i>	
<i>Bayan</i> and <i>Asparux</i> . Nine notes on Turks and Iranians in Eastern Europe...	65
<i>Peter Golden</i>	
Turks and Iranians: Aspects of Türk and Khazaro-Iranian interaction	79
<i>András Róna-Tas</i>	
The treasure of Nagyszentmiklós: A golden contribution to the reconstruction of history.....	107
† <i>Árpád Berta</i>	
On West Old Turkic.....	119
<i>Lars Johanson</i>	
Old Turkic: Brief notes on areality, chronology, periodization, variation, contacts and functionality	131
<i>István Vásáry</i>	
The role and function of Mongolian and Turkic in Ilkhanid Iran	141

<i>Abdurishid Yakup</i>	
From Chaghatay to Modern Uyghur: Innovations in copies of Iranian morphosyntactic units.....	153
<i>Heidi Stein</i>	
Persian syntactic influence on Irano-Turkic texts (16th century).....	173
<i>Donald Stilo</i>	
On the non-Persian Iranian substratum of Azerbaijan.....	185
<i>Christiane Bulut</i>	
Convergence and variation in the Turkic varieties of Iran: Examples from Qashqâ'î	235
<i>Sohrab Dolatkhan & Éva Á. Csató & Birsal Karakoç</i>	
On the marker <i>-(y)akî</i> in Kashkay.....	283

Editors' Preface

This volume contains papers presented at the workshop “Turco-Iranica: Language and History” and the symposium “Turks and Iranians: A Common Historical and Linguistic Heritage” organized in 2006 by the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study (SCAS), Uppsala University.

In the 2005–2006 academic year, SCAS launched the “Gunnar Jarring Program”, dedicated to the memory of the famous Swedish Turcologist and his outstanding efforts in promoting Turkic and Iranian Studies. Within the framework of this program a group of eminent scholars specializing in Turkic and Iranian languages were invited to Uppsala as fellows-in-residence. The workshop and the following symposium, which marked the culmination of a fruitful academic year, focused on stages of Turkic-Iranian contacts from pre-Islamic times until various periods of the Islamic era, particularly the emergence and development of Iranian and Turkic varieties. They were intended as a contribution to the understanding of the interrelations between cultural-historical contacts and linguistic processes. The invited participants were scholars in Turkic and Iranian studies interested in how cultural relations are reflected in the development of the languages involved.

Two of the authors sadly passed away before the publication of this volume: Árpád Berta in 2008 and Werner Sunderman in 2012. Their departure is a great loss for scholarship in the field and for us personally. The editors have done their best to finalize their manuscripts without any substantial changes.

Uppsala, Mainz, and Budapest, September 2015

Éva Á. Csató, Lars Johanson, András Róna-Tas, and Bo Utas