

Mongol *enggeske* and Turkic *englik* in the Yemen Polyglot

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In the tetraglot (Arabic, Persian, Turkic and Mongol) part of the Rasūlid Polyglot, *The King's Dictionary* of Yemen,¹ the medieval Arabian scholars usually arranged the entries in a kind of more or less thematic order. There are however some semantically incoherent sequences of words whose interpretation remains unsatisfactory. One of these sequences is found on page 205, column D, including entries (4) to (9), where the meanings of the Turkic and Mongol words are (4) 'musk', Turkic *yipar*, Mongol *jar*,² (5) 'firewood', Turkic اورن *odun*, or 'camp-fire', Mongol *tūdeg*,³ (6) 'book' or 'writing', Turkic *bitig*, Mongol *bičig*,⁴ (7) 'fire', Turkic *ot*, Mongol *qal*,⁵ (8) reading and meaning unsolved, and (9) 'work' or 'deed', Turkic *iş*, Mongol *ūile* [Classical id., Khalkha *ūil*].

The Arabic and Persian equivalents of entry (5) are also problematic, though each contains a word meaning 'fire': Arabic *nār* and Persian *atiš*, the same as in entry (7), but the rest remains obscure. The Mongol equivalent is questionable. Louis Ligeti mended the Arabic letters [xw^cr]⁶ to be read *tūdeg* [twd^ck] تو داك.

Elsewhere in the same tetraglot, p. 202, column A, entry (29), Turkic *odun* [ادرق^c drq, read اورون] 'firewood' appears together with Mongol [تلان و حال] *tl'n w h'l*. According to Ligeti, this is *tūlēn*

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¹ A photocopy of a manuscript of this important source was presented to Tibor Halasi-Kun in Beirut in the 1960s. He worked on its decipherment for many years with his American-Hungarian team including Peter B. Golden, Louis Ligeti and Edmund Schütz. The results of the team work appeared in 2000 in a splendid volume edited by Golden after the death of the three senior members of the team. See also Ho Kai-lung, "An initial study for Mongolian factors inside the Rasūlid Hexaglot" in CAJ 52 (2008), pp. 36-54.

² Classical Mongol *jīyar*, Khalkha *jaar*.

³ Classical Mongol *tūdeg*, see Norjin et al., p. 2462a: *tūdeg* (түүдэг) = *qarangγui söni keger-e γaday-a temdeg bolγaju tūlegsen sula γal* 'a bonfire lit in the dark night as a beacon light out in the steppe', Khalkha *tūūdeg* = *xeer tūlsen gal* 'a fire lit in the steppe', the first of three homonyms in Cewel, p. 569a, with Uygur-written *tūgūdeg*.

⁴ Classical Mongol and Khalkha id.

⁵ MNT *qal*, Classical Mongol *γal*, Khalkha *gal*.

⁶ In his system of transliteration (not transcription) [x] stays for the common element of initial/medial ځ [b], ڤ [t], ڧ [n] and ڧ [y] where the diacritic dots are omitted in the manuscript.

wa jāl, whose first element corresponds to Classical Mongol *tūliyen* ‘firewood’, so for the Mongol word in entry (7) one may reconstruct 𐰺 [l’] from عا [‘], ن [n] from ر [r], and thus *tūlēn* [تولان twl’n] from the aforementioned [xw[‘]r]. Cf. also Mongol *tūlēn* and Chagatay *otun* in MA (Poppe, p. 358b). The second element in the Mongol compound on p. 202A is mysterious: Arabic *wa* ‘and’ with *jāl*, an unidentified Mongol word? I wonder if this [wǰ’l] is to be read *čučal* جو جال [(j)wǰ’l] ‘firebrand’, *čučala* in Sonom Gara’s *Erdeni-yin sang*;⁷ Classical Mongol *čučal*, *čučala*, *čučali*, Khalkha *cucal*; in Norjin et al., p. 2834a: *čučali* = 1. *tülegsen modun-u örögesün üjügür ni sitayad örögesün üjügür ni sital ügei üledegsen keseg*: ‘remainder of a burnt piece of wood, one end of which is burnt, the other end remaining unburnt’, 2. *yal-un čegerlel* ‘taboo name of fire’.

For Old Turkic *odun* (*ōdun*) and *otung* ‘firewood’ see Clauson, p. 60, and DTS, p. 374a. The form *otung* [‘wtwnk] ‘firewood’ also occurs in the fourteenth-century Uygur Totenbuch, figuratively meaning something to be annihilated: *sāziklig*₁₇₇ *bālgü otunglarig örtäp* ‘having burnt the firewoods of the signs of doubt’ and *siziklig*₂₀₇ *sakinčliḡ otunglarig örtäp* ‘having burnt the firewoods of the thoughts of doubt’. Egorov, p. 47, quotes Chuvash *vutä* and *vut* ‘firewood’ along with its numerous old and new Turkic cognates (*odun*, *odın*, *otun*, *otın*, *utın*, *utin*) and considers it a probable derivation of *ot* ‘fire’. See also Doerfer, TMEN II, p. 141, no. 585 (*otung*) and especially Sevortjan, pp. 421-422, who offers a detailed discussion of the word and the history of research into its origin.

In *The King’s Dictionary*, Golden, p. 309, entry (8) has Arabic جمرة النار *jamrat al-nār* ‘ember, live coal of the fire’, and Persian غار **gār*, for *aḡgar* ‘charcoal, a live coal’, with question mark, according to note 5. Concerning the missing Turkic word or words, note 3 states that the usual equivalent of ‘(char) coal’ is *kömür*. The unidentified Mongol word is يکشکا [‘ykšk’], and in note 4 the editor quotes my remark made on the margin of a draft, where I simply stated that the usual Mongol equivalent would be نور سون *nürsün* < *negüresün* ‘(char)coal’.

If we read an initial ھ instead of ځ in the Arabic compound, it turns to be حومرة النار [ḥmrh’ln’r] *humrat al-nār* ‘fiery red’; and reading the Persian word *gāza* غازه [g’zh] instead of *gār* غار ه [mended from عار ه ‘rh] we get the meaning ‘rouge for the face’ (Steingass, p. 878a), see also Tajik *goza* ‘rumjana’ = id. (Rachimi–Uspenskij, p. 479b). Now it is easy to read the Mongol unit يکشکا [‘ykšk’] as *engeske* انکسکا [‘nksk’] ‘rouge for the face’, Classical Mongol *enggeske* id., and the Turkic unit [‘nklxd] as *englik* انکلیک [‘nklɣk] id., cf. MK, MA *englik* ‘rouge, blusher’, see Clauson, ED, p. 185a, etc.⁸ The Istanbul Tetraglot discovered by Halasi-Kun and edited by Ligeti lists the following four words meaning ‘rouge’: Arabic *al-ḥumrat*, Persian *gāza*, Turkic *qizilča* قرلجا [q’zyljḥ]⁹ and Mongol *engeske* انکسکا [‘yn’ksk^a] (see Ligeti 1962, facsimile f. 159a and p. 29, also quoting MA *engeske* [Poppe, p. 161a], MNT *enggesge* ‘red (paint)’, Ordos *enges^sxe* = ulāⁿ

⁷ Verse 53d: *tülegsen čučala-yi ken ǰ-e sinǰilekün* ‘who would 7 examine the charred firebrand?’.

⁸ The Manchu Pentaglot Wuti no. 12627 (Tamura et al., I, p. 714a) has Manchu *fiyan*, Tibetan *rgya-sgeg*, Mongol *engkesge*, read *enggeske*, Turki *ang-lik*, read *änglik*, and Chinese *yānzhī*. Modern Uygur *änglik* ‘rouge’ is mentioned in *Leksika* ed. by Tenišev, p. 218-219 under the headword **eñek* ‘face’ etc., where the middle syllable of *engiske*, one of the many Mongolic elements in Tuva, just as in Räsänen’s *Versuch*, is erroneously compared with the final syllable of Azeri *saričagiz* ‘yellowish’. Butanaev, p. 34a, explains Abakan Turkic *iğışke* as a plant name (čistotel’, krovavik, tatarskaja rumjana) and as ‘rouge’ (rumjana).

⁹ See Turkish and Crimean *qizilja* ‘röthlich’, Turkish ‘die rothe Schminke’, Kazak *qizilša* ‘die Masern; eine Pflanze’ in Radloff, I, col. 829; Modern Uygur *qizilčä* ‘red beet; beet root’ in Nadžip, p. 626b, also *kızılça* ‘measles’ s. v. *kızla: muk* and *kıza: muk* in Clauson, ED, p. 684b (cf. Hungarian *kanyaró*).

xamxak 'name of a plant'¹⁰etc.). As to the MNT, the word is an attribute in all three occurrences and indicates the natural or painted redness of Senggüm's face (*enggesge qačar*), see de Rachewiltz, vol. I, p. 623. Mongol *enggeske buduy* translates Tibetan *rgya-skyegs/skeg* and Sanskrit *lāksā* in the *Mahāvvyutpatti* (Sárközi, no. 5916, Ishihiyama–Fukuda, no. 5897; also *Enggeske čikitü*, Sanskrit *Jātukarna*).

In the recently published facsimile of the Tashkent manuscript of the MA Tetraglot we read Arabic *gumra* غُمْرَة [g'umr^h],¹¹ Persian *gāza* غَا زِه [g'zh], Turkic *englik* ا بَكْلِيك [ˈynklyk] and Mongol *engiske* or *engeske* ا نَكْيِسْكِه [ˈnkyskh] (see f. 109b, section C, in Hasanov et al.; the Turkic words are written in red ink).

¹⁰ See also in Rudnev, p. 94: Ordos *engesxe xamxak* = Chin. mian-peng. Another plant name with *enggeske* is *e.-yin modun* = Sanskrit *kimśuka* (Kow. I, p. 173b) 'Butea frondosa', see *gingšü-yin čečeg* translating Tibetan *kengshu'i me-tog* in Sonom Gara's *Erdeni-yin sang*, 260c the *kimśuka*-flower (see also in BT VII, p. 38, note to line 153), in the Mergen Gegen Bstan-pa'i rgyal-mtshan's version, f. 44a, *enggesken-ü sečig*. In the list of wares asked for in one of the pseudo-Mongol petitions compiled by Ming translators the word occurs in the compound *enggeske oo-a* 'rouge (and face) powder' or 'red powder', see Tumurtogoo, p. 278, no. 37b7. The word *enggeske* 'rouge' is unknown in Kalmyk and Buryat which have *ulan budg* and *ulaan budag/šere* 'red paint', resp. Pallas, *Nachrichten* I, p. 109, mentions Kalmyk *Ulan-Oo* 'rothe Schminke' and *Zagan-Oo* 'Bleyweiß'. Li Keyu's *Mongghul Qidar Merlong*, p. 380, contains two Huzu Monguor homonyms *ngusge*, the first means 'dove, pigeon' (*kudugu ngusge* 'pigeon' [*köte+ki enggeske*, where *kudu* is 'house', see Lessing, p. 493b: *köte* 'servants, retinue; tent' with reference to Ramstedt, but Ramstedt's *KalmWb.*, p. 241b, only has 'Suite, Dienerschaft'], *ulanu ng.* 'turtledove [*apulan-u e.*]', *ng. ndige* 'dove's or pigeon's egg' [*e.öndigen*]), the second corresponds to our Mongol *enggeske* 'rouge' (*ngusge budi-* 'to paint with rouge' [*enggeske budu-*], *ng. ghajar* 'place with "rouge grass"' [*e. yačar*], *ng. hajar* 'cheek; red cheek' [*e. qačar*], *ng. saagi-* 'to smear rouge' [*e. + Chinese cā* 'to rub' + Mong. *ki-* 'to do'], *ng. usi* 'rouge grass' [*e. ebesün*]). Bazil'xan, p. 773a, offers a further case of metonymy 'rouge' > 'plant name' or 'bird name': Khalkha *engeseg I* = Kazak *dalap (maylı qizil boyau)* 'rouge', Khalkha *oo engeseg* = Kazak *opa dalap* 'red powder'; Khalkha *engeseg II* = Kazak *širkey* 'mosquito, gnat', *šibin* 'fly; midge'. *šibin-širkey* 'swarm of midges/flies', cf. Shnitnikov, p. 235b. I have not found this meaning of the Mongol word elsewhere, not in Kow., Golstunskij (I, p. 72c: *enggeske* 'pritan' ja dlja šček i gub, rumjana'), Norjin et al., or Lessing. – As to Mongol *qamqay* and Turkic *qamyaq*, see Clauson, ED, p. 627b: *kamga:k, kamka:k*, 'salt-wort; a plant like a wormwood bush; camel thorn'; also in the Old Turkic *Vajracchedikā* (BT I), cf. my review in the OLZ 70 (1975), col. 590-592; Radloff, II, col. 490: Taranchi *qamyaq* Salsola sp.; Mongol *qamqay, qamqayul*, see MNT §105 *qamqa'ulsun keyisküitür* 'when the tumbleweed is blown by the wind'; Hua Yi yiyu *qamqa'ul* (= péng) 'espèce de soude', Mostaert, *Le matériel*, p. 87; Ordos *ul' xamxak* Salsola soda L. (d'après Potanin), *šürir' x.* and *budañ x.*, both 'nom d'une plante', Mostaert, *Dict. ord.*, p. 331b (the attribute of the first is '[red as] coral'; *xamxali* = *xamxak*, *ibid.*, see also the note on these words in de Rachewiltz, I, p. 414; Sun Zhu et al., p. 324, s. v. tumbleweed, Chinese *péng hāo*; Qauliči Sangday's poem *Salkin-du keyisügsen qamquul-un kelegsen-ni* 'What the tumbleweed blown by the wind said'; Norjin et al., p. 1204a: *qamqay* = *qamquul*, p. 1204b: *qamquul* = *nige nasutu ebesülig urymal*: *masi olan salayalday*: *nabči-ni miqaliy*. *büse sig bögerengkei kelheri-tei* 'an annual herbaceous plant with many branches, fleshy leaves and belt-like (?) globular shape, etc., for semantic reasons it is unlikely to have a common root with the following: *qamqayi-* 'to be flattened' = *qamq-a očiju qamsii-* (p. 1203b), *qamqal-*, *qamqara-* (p. 1204a) etc.; *Mongyol Kitad toli*, p. 559b *qamqay* = *zhū máo cài* ['swine hair plant'] or *zhā* ['purple'] *péng kē* and *qamquul* = *dà chì zhū máo cài*; *or ci* ['thorny'] *shā* ['sand'] *péng*; Bawden, p. 425b: *xamxag* 'Landesia; Salsola; Corispermum' etc., p. 426a: *xamxuul* 'Corispermum; Salsola; tumbleweed'; also Lessing, p. 926b; Öljijixutag, pp. 183-186: *xamxuul* Corispermum chinganicum (also *xamxag*), C. declinatum, C. elongatum, C. mongolicum, C. orientale, C. patelliforme, C. tylocarpum, 194-195: *xamxag, xamxuul* Salsola collina, S. australis; Jigjidsüren and Johnson, p. 264: *ajai/budan xamxag, üsleg manan x., üst x.* Bassia dasyphylla. "As plants mature, beautiful appearance with blue-pink [= Mongol *xöx yagaan* 'violet'], pink, and red colors." The etymology proposed beyond the Turco-Mongol relation and the Proto-Tungus form reconstructed in Starostin et al., I, p. 697, are dubious.

¹¹ According to de Bieberstein-Kazimirski, II, p. 503a: 'sorte de cosmétique préparé avec de la plante وَزَس [wars] que les femmes mettent au visage pour donner de l'éclat au teint; safran'. See II, p. 1519, وَزَس [warsun] 'Wars, plante tinctoriale appelée Memecylon tinctorium, pour teindre en jaune; elle dure vingt ans, bonne pour faire disparaître les taches de rousseur', hence [warisun] 'teint avec la plante [wars]', and [warsiyun] 1. 'qui est d'une nuance rougeâtre (pigeon)', 2. 'fait de bois appelée [nužār] (gobelet). (Ce bois est très-estimé.)'; II, pp. 1280-81 [nužārun] 'tamarin: sorte d'arbre qui croit dans les montagnes et du bois duquel on fait des vases'. Dozy, II, p. 226: *gamar* 'pommade', II, p. 796a: *wars* 'curcuma, safran d'Inde ...', II, p. 682a: *nužār* 'le meilleur bois ...'.

In the entry of Turkic *än* 'face, complexion'¹² of his *Versuch*, p. 45a, Räsänen cites a handful of forms of *änlik/enlik* 'rouge, blusher' as a derivation of the headword *än* (cf. also QB *englig* 'having cheek(s)' quoted in DTS, p. 175a, and cognate of MK *änäk* 'chin'. Among his data he also mentions the Soyot word *engiskä* 'rumjana = rouge; dikaja svekla = wild red beet', but this is certainly a loan from Mongol *enggeske*. Nevertheless, the Mongol word, too, may be related to the stem of Turkic *eng* 'face, complexion', although its derivation is not clear.¹³

¹² See also Clauson, ED, p. 166a, *ej* 'complexion', the second of three homonyms, and p. 185a, *ejlik* 'red cosmetic, rouge', *Chagatay ejlik* etc., Radloff, I, col. 717, Taranchi *änlik* 'rothe Schminke', I, col. 737: Turkish *änlik* = *änlik* 'rothe Schminke, anchusa tinctoria (eine Pflanze, die zur Bereitung von rother Farbe gebraucht wird).

¹³ There are a few nouns with similar ending: *adasqa* 'raw hide of a horse or cattle starved to death: pejorative a nag', *amisqa* 'eyelid' < *ani-* 'to close the eyes', *asqa* 'scree, boulder rocks', *kereske* 'balustrade', *kömüske* 'eyebrow' (maybe a cognate of *kömüg* 'shed; roof, overhang'), *kösüg/köske* 'transport', *onisqa* 'riddle' (maybe a cognate of *oni* 'notch' and *onisun* 'lock; device'), *tojosqa* 'brick', *turasqa* 'skin of a dead animal' (< *tura-*).

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