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NEW PERSPECTIVE OF TURKIC-MONGOLIAN AND TURKIC-TUNGUS-MANCHU LEXICAL LINKS: THE ALTAIC THEORY POSSIBILITIES FOR REVEALING ANCIENT LANGUAGE CONTACTS

Abstract
During 150 years history of Altaic studies, no contradictions arose while discussing the issues concerning the common origin of languages, language contact results and their further consequences, as well as the stratum of borrowed linguistic units into different levels of the language. Such studies performed various tasks within the framework of Altaic theory dwelling on a traditional idea of the Altaic languages affinity. However, there were certain attempts to reconsider this idea within the framework of counter-Altaic theory. The present paper performed 4 tasks. First, it explained not quite regular phonetic correspondences in certain words and drew parallels at the common Altaic level. Second, it showed that a considerable amount of quite similar words in Tungus-Manchu and partly Mongolian and Turkic languages are old borrowings that do not fit into traditional assumptions about areal links of Turkic, Mongolian and Tungus-Manchu languages. Third, it determined a corpus of lexical units that can be considered a result of the influence of already disappeared ancient Mongolian and Turkic languages on the lexical fund of Tungus-Manchu ones. Finally, it confirmed the validity of common Altaic reconstruction again and showed that without analyzing ancient borrowings, it is totally impossible to explain a number of important facts from the history of Turkic languages.