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Codicological and linguistic structure of Kitabu Bulghatil al-Mushtaq fi Lughat at-Turk wa-l-Qifchaq

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the linguistic, codicological and structural features of the 14th-century manuscript *Kitabu Bulghatil al-Mushtaq fi Lughat at-Turk wa-l-Qifchaq* written by Jamaliddin at-Turki. Composed during the Mamluk period in Egypt, this bilingual glossary was intended to assist Arabic-speaking scholars learn the Kipchak branch of the Turkic language family. Despite its significance in the field of historical Turkology, the manuscript remains underexplored. This study provides a philological and comparative analysis of the manuscript's noun and verb sections, of the manuscript, identifying lexical correspondences and grammatical continuities between Kipchak Turkic and modern Turkic languages. The manuscript comprises two main sections: noun and verbs, each of which is further subdivided into chapters and subsections. The noun section contains rich thematic vocabulary, ranging from celestial terminology to everyday objects, with examples supported by Arabic and Turkic word pairs. The verb section is organized according to the Arabic alphabet and provides conjugations and derived forms that demonstrate remarkable morphological parallels with contemporary Turkic verb systems. This study highlights the manuscript's pedagogical value and its complex structure, particularly the distinctive diamond-shaped arrangement of word pairs and the systematic strategies employed by the author to maintain semantic coherence and the sequential order of verb entries. Particular attention is given to placed on identifying missing or disordered folios and considering their implications for reconstructing and interpreting the manuscript's original structure. Through rigorous linguistic comparison

and philological analysis, the paper demonstrates the continuity and resilience of lexical and grammatical features in the Turkic language tradition. This reaffirms the value of the manuscript as a critical intermediary in the historical interaction between Arabic and Turkic linguistic cultures. The research reveals that several folios were lost from the manuscript. It is believed that this loss occurred prior to foliation being added, as the lexical order between consecutive pages is disrupted and the catchword on page A does not correspond to the initial word on page B. Nevertheless, the folio numbers, added later, remain in the correct order, suggesting that the missing folios were absent when foliation was added. These findings make a valuable contribution to historical Turkic linguistics and manuscript studies, providing new insights into the codicological organization and pedagogical function of medieval Arabic – Kipchak glossaries. This comprehensive approach enriches our understanding of language contact and continuity within the Turkic world.

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Китабу Булғат әл-Мұштақ фи Луғат әт-Түрк уәл-Қыпшақ қолжазбасының кодикологиялық және тілдік құрылымы

Аннотация. Бұл мақалада Жамаладдин әт-Түрки тарапынан XIV ғасырда жазылған Китабу Булғат әл-Мұштақ фи Луғат әт-Түрк уәл-Қыпшақ атты қолжазбаның тілдік, кодикологиялық және құрылымдық ерекшеліктері жан-жақты талданады. Мәмлүк кезеңінде Мысырда құрастырылған бұл қос тілді глоссарийдің басты мақсаты – араб тілді ғалымдарға қыпшақ тармағына жататын түркі тілін үйрету және оны жүйелі түрде меңгеруге мүмкіндік беру болған. Тарихи түркология саласында аса құнды ескерткіш ретінде бағаланғанымен, аталмыш қолжазба әлі күнге дейін ғылыми тұрғыда толыққанды зерттелмей келеді, сондықтан оның маңызы ерекше назар аударуды қажет етеді. Зерттеу барысында қолжазбаның есімдер мен етістіктер бөлімдері филологиялық әрі салыстырмалы талдау әдістері арқылы қарастырылды. Осы талдаулар қыпшақ түркі тілі мен қазіргі түркі тілдері арасындағы лексикалық сәйкестіктер мен грамматикалық ұқсастық-

тарды анық көрсетті. Қолжазба екі ірі бөлімнен тұрады: есімдер бөлімі және етістіктер бөлімі, олардың әрқайсысы өз ішінде тарауларға және қосымша шағын бөлімдерге бөлінеді. Есімдер бөлімінде аспан денелеріне қатысты терминдерден бастап, тұрмыстық заттарға дейінгі кең ауқымды тақырыптық сөздер қамтылған. Бұл сөздер араб және қыпшақ тілдеріндегі балама жұптар арқылы берілген, сондықтан олар тілдік салыстыруға өте қолайлы. Етістіктер бөлімі араб әліпбиінің тәртібі бойынша жүйеленген және онда етістіктердің әртүрлі шақтардағы жіктелуі, сондай-ақ туынды формалары ұсынылған. Бұл мысалдар қазіргі түркі тілдерінің етістік жүйелерімен айқын морфологиялық параллельдер танытады. Зерттеу қолжазбаның педагогикалық маңызын, күрделі құрылымын және әсіресе сөз жұптарының ерекше ромб тәрізді орналасуын айқындайды. Сонымен қатар, автор семантикалық үйлесімділікті және етістіктердің бірізділігін сақтауда жүйелі тәсілдерді қолданғаны байқалады. Мақалада сондай-ақ қолжазбаның бастапқы құрылымын түсінуге кедергі келтіретін жоғалған немесе реті бұзылған парақтар мәселесіне де ерекше көңіл бөлінеді. Талдау нәтижесі көрсеткендей, бұл парақтар беттерге нөмір қойылмай тұрып-ақ жоғалған, өйткені "а" бетінің соңғы сөзі мен "b" бетінің алғашқы сөзі арасында логикалық байланыс сақталмаған. Алайда кейін қосылған нөмірлеу дұрыс ретпен берілген, бұл жойылған парақтардың нөмірлеу кезінде-ақ жоқ болғанын айғақтайды. Қорытындылай келе, филологиялық және салыстырмалы әдістер арқылы жүргізілген бұл зерттеу қолжазбаның түркі тілдерінің тарихи дамуы мен араб-түркі тілдік дәстүрлер арасындағы сабақтастықты сақтаудағы орны айрықша екенін дәлелдейді. Алынған нәтижелер мәмлүк кезеңіндегі араб-қыпшақ тілдік байланыстарын тереңірек түсінуге мүмкіндік беріп, түркі тілдерінің тарихи дамуын зерттеуге жаңа деректер ұсынады. Бұл еңбектің ғылыми маңызы – ортағасырлық глоссарийлердің педагогикалық және филологиялық дәстүрін айқындауда.

Кілт сөздер: араб-қыпшақ сөздігі, тарихи тіл білімі, мәмлүк дәуірі, түркі филологиясы, етістік жіктелуі, қолжазба зерттеулері, Булғат әл-Мұштақ, түркі этимологиясы, ортағасырлық лексикография, түркі тілдері, салыстырмалы грамматика.

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Кодикологическая и лингвистическая структура рукописи Китабу Булгат аль-Муштак фи Лугат ат-Турк ва аль-Кипчак

Аннотация. В данной статье всесторонне рассматриваются лингвистические, кодикологические и структурные особенности рукописи XIV века Китаб Булгат аль-Муштак фи лугат ат-Турк ва аль-Кипчак, созданной Джамалиддином ат-Турки. Этот уникальный двуязычный глоссарий был составлен в Египте в период Мамлюков и

изначально предназначался для арабоязычных ученых, которым необходимо было овладеть кипчакским вариантом тюркских языков. Несмотря на то, что рукопись имеет исключительное значение для исторической тюркологии, до настоящего времени она остаётся недостаточно изученной, и потому каждое новое исследование существенно расширяет представления о её содержании и значимости. Проведённое исследование основано на филологическом и сравнительном анализе, в ходе которого подробно изучены разделы имён и глаголов. В результате анализа выявлены как лексические соответствия, так и грамматические параллели между кипчакским тюркским и современными тюркскими языками. Структурно рукопись делится на две основные части – раздел имён и раздел глаголов, каждая из которых подразделяется на главы и подглавы. Раздел имён охватывает широкий круг тематических словарей: от терминов, связанных с небесными телами, до слов повседневного обихода. Эти материалы представлены в виде парных арабско-кипчакских лексем, что подчёркивает дидактическое назначение текста. Раздел глаголов систематизирован по алфавиту арабской письменности. В нём приводятся иллюстрации формообразовательных и словообразовательных форм, которые обнаруживают разительные морфологические параллели с современными тюркскими глагольными системами. Особое внимание уделяется сложной структуре рукописи, включающей характерное ромбовидное расположение словарных пар, а также приёмам автора, направленным на сохранение семантической целостности и логической последовательности. Исследование выявило проблему утраченных листов: нарушение лексического порядка между последовательными страницами свидетельствует о том, что часть материала исчезла ещё до внесения пагинации. При этом нумерация, добавленная позднее, остаётся последовательной, что указывает на давность утраты. В целом работа подтверждает преемственность и устойчивость тюркской языковой традиции, а сама рукопись предстает важным связующим звеном между арабской и тюркской культурно-языковой средой. Полученные результаты имеют важное значение для исторического тюркского языкознания и кодикологических исследований, так как раскрывают особенности педагогического и лексикографического подхода автора. Работа углубляет понимание языковых контактов и преемственности в тюркском мире.

Ключевые слова: арабско-кипчакский словарь, историческая лингвистика, мамлюкский период, тюркская филология, спряжение глаголов, исследование рукописей, Булгатил Муштак, тюркская этимология, средневековая лексикография, тюркские языки, сравнительная грамматика.

Introduction

To understand the Egyptian Mamluks and clarify the ethnic composition of the Kipchak and Circassian Mamluks, attention must be paid to their language, as this is an important part of their ethnic identity. Determining the language of the Mamluks who ruled Egypt and Syria during the 13th–15th centuries requires a comprehensive study of the relevant manuscripts. Ancient medieval manuscripts written in the Kipchak language should be considered a shared heritage of all Turkic peoples. Given that language materials in the ancient Kipchak language have been preserved in the modern Kipchak language, it can be said that manuscripts written in the Mamluk-Kipchak language play a significant role in the study of the social, ethnic,

political, literary, cultural and linguistic histories of modern Turkic peoples, particularly Kazakhs, Karakalpaks, Nogais, Tatars, Bashkirs, Karaims, Karachay-balkars, Kumyks, Crimean Tatars, Crimeans, Kyrgyz and Altai peoples of the Kipchak group (Aubakirova et al., 2015: 575). Historical documents are invaluable not only for examining linguistic features but also for reconstructing the cultural and social contexts of their respective periods, as well as for tracing the etymological roots of modern lexical units. Among the Turkic manuscripts, *Kitabu Bulghat al-Mushtaq fi Lughat at-Turk va-l-Qifchaq* (hereafter referred to as *Bulghat-il Mushtaq)* a 14th-century work by Jamaliddin at-Turki, merits detailed investigation. This manuscript has not been sufficiently explored by scholars and contains a glossary of Arabic terms translated into Turkic. Composed during the period when the Mamluks ruled Egypt (1250 – 1517) and both Arabic and Turkic were used as the main languages of science and administration, this manuscript served as an invaluable guide for Arabic speakers wishing to learn Turkic. Today, it continues to serve as a rich source for philological research.

Materials and research methods

The manuscript was first edited and published by the Polish Turkologist A. Zajaczkowski in 1938[1]. It was destroyed in a fire that also consumed the former Eastern Institute of the University of Warsaw, in September 1939[2]. The second part of the work, devoted to verbs, was published in 1954, while the first part was reprinted in 1958 (Zajaczkowski, 1938; 1954; 1958; 1965). The contributions of Sh. Fayzullayeva (1969) are particulary valuable. The doctoral dissertation of Kazakh scholar G. Gaynutdinova[3], which examines the manuscript from a historical-linguistic perspective, is a foundational source for the current study. Additionally, the work of Turkish scholar Al-Turk Gulhan[4] provides notable insights, including a thorough comparative linguistic analysis of the Bulghat al-Mushtaq manuscript (Ganiyeva, 2025c: 218).

This study adopts a codicological, philological and comparative-historical approach to re-evaluating Bulghat al-Mushtaq. The codicological analysis examines foliation, catchwords and diamond-shaped line layouts to identify discontinuities between adjacent folios. Although folio numbers were added later, their uninterrupted sequence suggests that any missing leaves were lost before foliation.

From a philological perspective, the study documents grammatical rules and phonetic distinctions, paying particular attention to structural features such as noun pluralization, possessive marking, imperative formation and the seventeen verb paradigms in the inventory.

Comparative-historical and typological methods are employed to contextualize the vocabulary and morphology of the glossary within the broader Mamluk – Kipchak corpus. Where appropriate, alignments are drawn with the contemporaneous manuscript Tarjumon Turki Ajamiy wa-Moghuliy wa-Farsi in order to trace lexical continuities and etymological

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[1] Zajączkowskı A., 1938. Manuel Arabe de la langue des Turcs et des Kiptchaks (Epoque de l"État mamelouk). The Warsaw society of Sciennces and Letters publication of the Oriental Commission, N 2, Warszawa.

[2] Fayzullaeva Sh., 1969. Issledovanie yazika pamyatnika XIV v. "Kitabu bulg'at al-mushtaq fi lug'at at – turk va-l qifchaq" Djamalad - Dina at-Turki: diss. kand. filol. nauk (PhD diss.). Tashkent. 6p.

[3] Gaynutdinova G., 2005. Istoriko-lingvisticheskiy analiz tyurko-tatarskogo pis'mennogo pamiatnika XIV veka Džemal' ad-Dina at-Turki «Kitab bulgat al-mushtak fi lugat at-Turk wa-l-Kipchak": diss. kand. filol. nauk(PhD diss.). Kazan'.

[4] Al-Turk G., 2012. Kitābu bulġatu'l-muştāḳ fî luġati't-Türk we'l-Kıfçāḳ üzerine dil incelemesi. Yayınlanmamış Doktora Tezi, Gazi Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler. Ankara.

developments. Relevant extralinguistic factors (e.g. scribal practice and pedagogical function) are also considered. Cross-references to cognate Mamluk – Kipchak manuscripts in which the lexical order is preserved are employed to identify and verify textual lacunae where semantic or alphabetical continuity is interrupted.

Research background

One copy of Bulghat al-Mushtaq is preserved in the National Library of France, catalogued as number 293[5]. This manuscript has been extensively studied by scholars and is a key source for the present research. Another copy was identified in Kastamonu, Turkey (Salan, Karagözlü, 2022). This copy is not listed in any official catalogues and is currently held in the private collection of Mahmud Islamoglu, who acquired it from an antiquarian in Çankiri. Islamoglu asked his retired teacher, Tunçay Sakallioğlu, to examine the manuscript. Sakallıoğlu concluded that it is a dictionary of historical Kipchak Turkic, and he subsequently reached out to specialists in the field. This identification was later confirmed, establishing it as another copy of Bulghat al-Mushtaq. Although the manuscript was originally found in Çankırı, it is referred to as the 'Kastamonu copy' as it is currently housed in Kastamonu. Plans have been made to submit it to the official regional archive (Ganiyeva, 2025b: 288).

Analysis

Bulghat al-Mushtaq is composed of two main sections and four chapters. However, the author did not actually divide it into sections. When Zajaczkowski first studied the manuscript, he divided it into two parts: The Noun section and the Verb section. Similiary, Al-Turk Gulhan also divided the book Bulghat al-Mushtaq into two main sections and four chapters (Al-Turk, 2018: 1447). Jamaliddin at-Turki, the author of the manuscript, actually divided his work into four main chapters, two of which are explicitly numbered and contain subtitles: The First Chapter, The Second Chapter, The Chapter of Adverbs and The Chapter of Verbs. All the other thematic chapters and subsections are included within these divisions.

Based on the content of the manuscript, it can generally be inferred that the manuscript consists of a noun section, includes all word classes except verbs, such as nouns, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns and numerals. This section is further subdivided into three chapters: The First Chapter, The Second Chapter and The Chapter of Adverbs. These three chapters contain subsections and other thematic chapters.

The second main section of the manuscript is the verb section (Bab al-Af'al), which the author divided into subsections according to the first letter of each verb's root. All the subsections are named after Arabic letters and are arranged in alphabetical order within the Verb section. In the introduction to the book, the author wrote the following about this division:

'Moreover, I divided it into chapters and sections, arranging the corresponding words'. (8b2) The noun section spans folios 8b-21b (13 leaves, or 26 pages), while the verb section extends from folios 21b-88b (67 leaves, or 135 pages). The entire glossary comprises 80 leaves (161 pages, including the final single-sided leaf). Words are arranged in a distinctive zigzag pattern to form diamond-shaped lines, each consisting of three word pairs. Five such diamond lines

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[5] https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10082257s/f1.item

appear per page, typically providing thirty Arabic-Turkic word pairs, excluding introductory or annotated folios. Arabic words appear in black ink on the right, with their Turkic equivalents in red on the left.

The manuscript contains four major *chapters,* which are as follows:

1. **Bab al-Awwal** (The First Chapter)
2. **Bab al-Thanī** (The Second Chapter)
3. **Bab az-Zarf** (Chapter of Adverbs)
4. **Bab al-Afʿal** (Chapter of Verbs)

The first three chapters constitute the noun section. In both Arabic and Turkic grammatical traditions, all non-verbal word classes are commonly designated under 'noun', which justifies this categorization. Each major chapter is further subdivided into fasl (sections), most of which are titled according to their theme, although only the first two chapters are labelled with numbers.

The First Chapter (Bab al-Awwal) presents 47 terms related to the sky. The chapter begins with seven religious terms: *Tāŋri – tangri,* God; *Yavloq* – The Great (an attribute of God); *Arzü berüçi* – The Provider (an attribute of God); *Kurrasa* – the Qur'an; *Paygʻanbar* – Prophet; *Yalavoç* – Messenger, prophet; *Färiştalar* – Angels(8b). In this chapter different thematic words related to the sky can be found.

The terms related to the sky: *Kök* – "sky" (BM8b/4.2), *Kün* – "sun" (BM8b/4.3), Q*uyaş–* *"the light of the sun"* (BM8b/4.4), Ay – "moon" (BM8b/4.5), *yariq– "moonlight, radiance of the moon"* (BM8b/4.6).

The terms related to constellations and zodiac signs: *Tämir qazuq* – identified with the Pole Star. *This word's Arabic translation corresponds to Sagittarius its Turkic variation is rendered as "Pole Star" in some sources.* (Atalay, 2006: III/40-13; Zajaczkowski, 1965 (I): 80 Garkavets et al., 2019), *Ikki böz ot* – corresponding to Ursa Minor refers to a constellation located near the North Pole. *Yetkan* – corresponding to Ursa Major, also known as "Bolshaya Medveditsa" in Russian, is another prominent northern constellation. *Çolban* – identified with Venus (Morning star). *Yağir soğin* – Taurus. *Ariqtoq* – Orion, the reference is to a group of three aligned stars in the northern sky – Mintaka, Alnilam, and Alnitak – part of Orion's Belt (Zack, Malcolm, 2018). *Oq Ayğir* – is the name of the brightest star in the night sky, Sirius, the "alpha" star of the constellation Canis Major. *Ülkär* – the planet Venus, *'Quş yöli'* – the Milky Way. In this chapter, we also learn that the word *'Quş'* holds significant meaning in Turkic astrology, where it is used to symbolize celestial omens and astrological forecasts. The phrase *'Quş yöli'* may be related to the word *'Quş',* as they are both related to the science of the sky, but they have nothing to do with the Turkic word *'Quş'* meaning *'bird'*. The meanings of the astrological terms in the manuscript *Bulghat al-Mushtaq* can be found in of Kabadayi Osman's Master`s Thesis, in which he worked in this scientific field[6].

Words relating to nature and natural phenomena include: *Tuman* – "fog" (BM9a/2.3), *yağmur* – "rain" (BM9a/2.4), *yel* – "wind" (BM9a/2.6), *yelesir* – "breeze" (BM9a/3.1) etc.

Second chapter. Words related to the Earth, other things on it and cities. This chapter comprises terrestrial and urban vocabulary, organised into sections called fasl, meaning 'chapter'. The second chapter consists of fourteen chapters, listed below:

1. Fasl(10a);
2. Fasl(11a);

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[6] Kabadayi O., 2007. Eski Türkçede Gök Bilimi (Astronomi) Terimleri, Yüksek Lisans Basılmamış Tezi, Kırıkkale.

3. Fasl (11b);

4. Fasl (11b);

5. Concerning the military, its weapons, and other items. Chapter on the homeland12a;

6. Grains and related items 12b;

7. Concerning animals 12b;

8. Names of beverages 14a6;

9. Fasl 14b7;

10. Names of diseases 15a;

11. Names of predatory animals and others 15a;

12. Names of insects 16a;

13. Names of birds 16a;

14. Numerals 17a;

The third one is The Chapter of Adverbs which include 5 chapters in it:

1. Two types of adverbs: adverbs of place, time, and occasion17b;

2. Adverbs of place 18b;

3. Fasl 19a;

4. Pronouns 20b;

5. Fasl (this chapter includes some rules regarding plural and possessive suffixes) 20b.

Based on the structure and the content, it appears that all detailed chapters *(fasl)* beyond the first chapter are organized under the second chapter *(Bab al-Thanī),* despite the author's inconsistent labeling. This can be inferred from both thematic progression and structural headings.

In the noun section, as well as nouns, words from other parts of speech are also included. For example, adjectives such as: ***sovuq*** (cold)9a5.2, ***issi*** (hot) 9a5.3; numbers***: bir*** (one)17a3.5, ***ikki*** (two) 17a3.6, and ***uç*** (three) 17a4.1; adverbs of time: ***bugun*** (today) 17b5.4, and ***erta*** (tomorrow) 17b5.5; adverbs of place: ***yuğaru*** (above) 18b3.1, and ***aşğa*** (below) 18b3.2; pronouns: ***bu*** (this) 19a5.6, ***man*** (I) 20b2.3, and ***san*** (you) 20b2.4 etc.

Furthermore, rules and examples related to certain syntactic and lexical affix formations are also provided. In particular, the following rule is given regarding the plural suffix-*lar,* the following rule is given: "If you want to use words in the plural form, add the suffix-*lar,* for example, ***toşlar*** (stones) 20b4.1, ***otlar*** (horses) 20b4.2, ***qötirlar*** (donkeys) 20b4.3*, **kişilar*** (people) 20b4.4".

Although the grammatical rule above was written by Jamaliddin at-Turki in the 14th century, it has remained a common feature of Turkic languages to this day. This can also be inferred from the manuscript's explanations of other suffixes (possessive, case and personal – numerical). Not only have the suffixes (-lar) been preserved in exactly the same form, but the root words (toş, ot, qötir, kişi) have too, and they are still used today in many Turkic languages (Jafarov & Ganiyeva, 2024).

The Verb Chapter (from folios 21a to 89a) spans 67 leaves, corresponding to a total of 135 pages, including the final single page. It is further subdivided into smaller sections, each entitled by an Arabic letter in alphabetical order. Each section contains Arabic verbs beginning with that letter, alongside their Turkic translations.

The subsections of the Verb Chapter in the manuscript and the Kipchak verbs they contain are listed below:

1. The letter Alif (ٱ)(21a – 37a): oldi21a, berdi21b, yedirdi22a, yedi22a, satun oldi22b, yoturdi 22b, oyandi 23a, oyandurur23a, yandurdi 23b, sondurdi23b, söndi24a, turğurdi24a,

azarladi24b, bitti24b, tutti24b, eleşti25a, duknaladi25a, utandi25b, kördi 25b, yugurti26a, döqundi26a, iş berdi 26b, yari ayladi 26b, çiqardi27a, qöbti27a, uvladi27a, boyidi27a, öl öldi 27b, jölandi27b, tez keldi27b, uvdi27b, yazdi28a, kösterdi28a, qizdurdi28a, sizdurdi28b, qaynatti28b, yomonladi29a, halok etti29a, yiqti29a, keçti29a, qaturdi29b, öldi29b, ilaşturdi30a, yuvundi30a, duruşti30b, yiydi30b, azad etti31a, uvdadi31b, baqirdi31b, sindi32a, sataşdi32a, yoluqti32a, buluşti32b, qarişti32b, surtundi32b, yirtildi32b, qopti32b, banļadi33a, kuyundi33a, şoşildi33b, şişti33b, oçildi33b, yondi33b, söyuldi33b, kelitti33b, kesildi34a, qoqdi34a, kundi34a – total 68 verbs;

2. The verbs beginning with the letter Ba (ب) are given. However, the title of the chapter is omitted(34b-37a):öpmaniz34b, tukurdi34b, yaşadi34b, siydi34b, yutti35a, sotti35a, tukti35b, taşildi35b, öl etti35b, öl ayladi 35b, tokardi35b, soçti35b, yatti36a, uşudi36b, qoldi36b – 15 verbs;

3. The letter of Ta (ت) (37a – 43b): tamaşa etti 37a, ögrandi37a, söyladi, sözladi37b, urdi37b, körundi38a, osildi38b, tebrandi38b, naz etti39a, yalin öldi39a, baqti39b, çinqirdi39b, savuldi40a, tukeldi40b, burç öldi40b, keresliq etti40b, saçradi41a, yalvardi41a, tuskurdi41b, qusti41b, ingirdi42a, eglandi42a, kelendi42b, uvlandi43a, siçti43a – 25verbs;

4. The verbs beginning with the letter Xo (خ) are given. However, the title of the chapter is omitted(43b-45a): yirtgil43b, çiqti43b, tikti43b, qopti44a, savaş etti 44a, ziyon etti44b, top etti44b, muhurladi45a– 8verbs;

5. The verbs beginning with the letter Ro (ر) are given. However, the title of the chapter is omitted(45b/1.1-45b/2.3): buyurdiniz45b, yamladi45b, kiravu qöydi45b – 3verbs;

6. The letter Za (ز) (45b/2.4 – 47b): artti45b, arturdi45b, ziyarat qildi46a, uvlandurdi46a, taşti46b, utrukladi46b, tumaladi, dukmaladi46b, tayindi47a, kilitladi47a – 10verbs;

7. The letter Sin (س) (47b– 49b): tiqti47b, işitti48a, safar etti48a, ketti48a, köçti48a, söydi48b, dinsözdurdi48b, tek turdi48b, uzdi49a, uğurladi49a, salam edarbiz49b, ismarladi49b – 12verbs;

8. The letter Shin (ش) (50a – 53b): yiladi50a, töydi50a, dönuq oldi, dönuqlik verdi50b şukr etti50b, tilandi51a, qarişladi51a, sökdi51b, yirtti51b, şişladi52a, sökuldi52a, qişladi52b, kişanladi52b, qoçti53a, yölsiz bordi53a – 15 verbs;

9. The verbs beginning with the letter Sod (ص) are given. However, the title of the chapter is omitted(53b– 56a/5.3): aya qasğil53b, kirçak etti53b, kuydi53b, yoyladi54a, ayiğlandi54a, ovladi53b, kiyikladi53b, urdi53b, böyunladi55a, kişnadi55b, çağirdi55b, köruşti55b, böyadi56a, oğdi56a, çiqti56a, yaradi56a – 16verbs;

10. The letter Dod (ض) (56b – 57b): vurdi56b, toş berdi56b, yavqilunur56b, boyundan oldi57a, kuldi57a – 5 verbs;

11. The verbs beginning with the letter To (ط) are given. However, the title of the chapter is omitted(57b – 60b/2.3): diladi57b, sançti57b, pişurdi58a, bukti58a, saçratti58a, qamladi58b, uzatti58b, tegirtti58b, ökutti58b, balçiqladi59a, kömdi59b, tama` etti59b, böşadi60a, xoş öldi60a, uçti60b – 15 verbs ;

12. The letter Zo (ظ) (60b/2.4 – 61a): urundi, zulm etti60b, aqsadi60b – 3 verbs;

13. The letter Ayn (ع)(61a – 65a): bildi61a, saydi61b, tiridi61b, eklandurdi62a, kör öldi, qorğu (öldi)62a, quçti62b, ayladi62b, suvsadi62a, keçti63a, işladi63b, isirdi63b, qölladi64a, aqsurdi64a baqsatti64a, çaynadi64a, yöğurdi64b, derladi64b – 18 verbs;

14. The letter Ghayn (غ) (65a – 68a):yopti, qapi yopti, etmek yopti, bağladi, kilitladi65a, qisğandi65b, botti65b, qoqti66a, yirladi66a, dekşirdi, ibraqti66b, yuvdi66b, qiz oldi67a,

duzatti67a, qaynadi67a, yondi67b, utti67b, utturdi67b, yanğiladi67b, içxurdi68a, örtti68a
– 21verbs;

15. The letter Fa (ف) (68a – 71b): oçti68b, sökti68b, sevindi69a, sevindurdi69a, istadi69a, töşadi69b, ayirdi69b, tökindi, qaridi70a, bitladi70a, burdi70b, biçti, biçindi71a, ayrildi71a, anğladi71a – 15verbs;

16. The letter Qof (ق) (71b – 76b): aytti71b, durdi71b, ölturdi72a, öqutti72b, kesti72b, çemuldi73a, qovurdi73a, qöpordi73b, yozuqladi73b, yandurdi74a, axturdi74a, qutuldi74a, ozdirdi74b, yomonladi74b, duzatti75a, buqağladi75b, öldurdi, depeledi75b, biturdi76a, qaliğdi76a, ulaşti76b – 21 verbs;

17. The letter Kaf (ك) (76b – 79a): yozdi, çizdi76b, yalansöyledi77a, söndurdi77b, öldi77b, dağladi77b, yetti78a, qaridi78a, böldurdi78a, çizlaşti78b, içişti78b, assi ayladi78b, supurdi79a – 13 verbs;

18. The letter Lom (ل) (79a – 81a): kiydi79a, böldi79b, yumruqladi79b, kiydurdi79b, tikti80a, körundi80a, yapişti80a, sordi80a, sorandi80b, yaladi80b – 10 verbs;

19. The letter Mim (م) (81a – 83a): töldurdi81a, tölu oldi81a, sumkurdi81a, öldi81b, siladi81b, tuzlatti82a, yirdi82a, uyurladi82b, sayruv oldi83a, sökel oldi83a – 10 verbs;

20. The letter Nun (ن) (83a – 86a):indi83, qöndi83b, silkitti83b, sikti84a, alsildi84a, artti84b, unutti84b, qurutti85a, nur qildi85a, suqtadi85b, pişti85b, buzdi85b, qiğirdi, çağirdi 85b, muzad etti85b, uyuqladi85b, urdi86a, pişman öldi86a – 18 verbs;

21. The letter Ha (ه) (86.a – 87.a): duşti86b, yuturdi86b, esti86b, keskiladi86b, quyuldi86b, qaçurdi87a – 6 verbs;

22. The letter Vov (و)(87.a – 89.a): bahişladi87a, kir etti87b, siğdi88a, dartti88a, uzatti88a, köndurdi88a, şişti88b, kirdi88b, yetti88b, dekdi88b, topti89a, döğurdi89a, ilitti89a – 13 verbs.

If we pay attention to the grammatical meanings expressed by the Turkic verbs in the table, it can be inferred that the author consistently adhered to a fixed order of grammatical structures:

1. Sözladi and *Söyladi* – past tense, singular, 3rd person (-di suffix);

2*. Söylar* – future tense (not a participle), singular, 3rd person (-ar suffix);

3. *Söylamak* – verbal noun, infinitive form (-moq, sometimes -mak);

4. *Söyladim* – past tense, 1st person, singular (-dim suffix);

5. *Söylarman* – future tense, 1st person, singular (-(a)rman suffix);

6. *Söylarmiz* – future tense, 1st person, plural (-(a)rmiz suffix);

7. *Söyladik* – past tense, 1st person, plural (-dik suffix);

8. *Söyladin* – past tense, 2nd person, singular (-din suffix);

9. *Söylarsan* – future tense, 2nd person, singular (-(a)rsan suffix);

10. *Söylarsiz* – future tense, 2nd person, plural (-(a)rsiz suffix);

11. *Söyladiniz* – past tense, 2nd person, plural (-diniz suffix);

12*. Söyladilar* – past tense, 3rd person, plural (-dilar suffix);

13. *Söylarlar* – future tense, 3rd person, plural (-(a)rlar suffix);

14. *Söylağil* – imperative mood, singular (**-ğil** suffix);

15. *Söylamağil* – negative imperative, singular **(-mağil** suffix);

16. *Söylaniz* – imperative mood, plural (-niz suffix);

17. *Söylamaniz* – negative imperative, plural (-maniz suffix).

This pattern of seventeen verb forms applies uniformly to all the Turkic verbs in the manuscript. Even when some forms are absent, the sequence remains unchanged. The

same order of suffixes is consistently maintained throughout the entire *Verbs Chapter* of the manuscript.

The Arabic translation of the verb forms given above corresponds to the verb تحدَّثَ *(tahaddasa)*, which is a verb of the fifth-form (Form V) – following the *tafaʿala* pattern. Its conjugation in the manuscript follows these templates: ***tafaʿala, yatafaʿalu, al-faʿilu*** (active participle), ***tafaʿiltu, atafaʿalu, natafaʿalu, tafaʿalna, tafaʿilta, tatafaʿilu, tafaʿaluna, tafaʿaltum, tafaʿalu, yatafaʿaluna, tafaʿilu, la: tatafaʿil, tafaʿalu, la: tatafaʿalu.***

These patterns form the basis of the conjugation of all the verbs in the manuscript, and the author diligently preserved the prescribed order of verbs throughout the manuscript.

Results

To preserve the sequence of the Bulghat al-Mushtaq, the author wrote an Arabic catchword on each 'a' page (recto) that was intended for the corresponding 'b' page (verso). Each catchword was written in smaller script at the bottom of the preceding 'A' page to aid sequencing. These insertions are in Arabic only; no such catchwords appear in Turkic. However, disruptions in the sequence occur, often as a result of missing leaves. During this study, certain inconsistencies were identified in the noun section of Bulghat al-Mushtaq, suggesting the loss of leaves at two points: between folios 13a–13b and 14a–14b. Notably, the untitled folio 13b, which contains vocabulary pertaining to food, is located between Fasl 2.7 ('Animals') and Fasl 2.8 ('Beverages'), and lacks a chapter heading. The catchword القرق at the end of folio 13a is not compatible with the initial word اللُّقَمَة on folio 13b, further indicating that at leats one leaf is missing between them.

A reconstruction of the manuscript sequence can be attempted through comparative analysis with other Turkic glossaries. In particular, parallels with Tarjuman Turki offers potential solutions: in that manuscript, the section The Chapter on Food and Related Words' in that manuscript contains vocabulary that closely corresponds to the terms found on folio 13b of Bulghat al-Mushtaq.

Furthermore, another inconsistency of a similar nature is evident in the Noun section of Bulghat al-Mushtaq. At the end of folio 14a, a large heading in bearing the title The Chapter on Beverages, appears, yet folio 14b immediately opens with a glossary of kinship terms, which is incongruent with the preceding heading. This discrepancy suggests that one or more leaves were lost between folios 14a and 14b. A comparative analysis with Tarjuman Turki is useful here: in that manuscript, the material on beverages appears as a subsection of The Chapter on Food etc., which helps to reconstruct the intended structure of Bulghat al-Mushtaq.

Specifically, it is possible to infer the loss of six folios between the following folios in the Verb Chapter of the manuscript: 34a–34b, 43a–43b, 45a–45b, 49a–49b, 53a–53b, and 57a–57b.

While the Arabic alphabet contains 28 letters, the chapter of Verbs includes chapters named after 17 of these letters, presenting verbs beginning with a total of 22 letters. Verbs starting with the 6 letters ث (tSa), ج (Jim), ح (Ha), ي (Yo), د (Dal), and ذ (Zal) are entirely absent from the manuscript. Some of the verbs currently lacking headings in the manuscript may originally had titles assigned by the author.

For example, the sequencing word at the end of page 34a is يَغْتَاضُوْنَ (they get angry), but the corresponding page 34b gives the verb لَا تَبُوسُوا (do not kiss) instead. All the verbs that

follow this word up to page 37a begin with the letter ب **(b),** yet there is no chapter heading for this letter in the manuscript. This suggests that a page containing the chapter heading for the letter ب **(b)** is missing between pages 34a and 34b.

Similarly, after the chapter on ت **(Ta)** (folios 37a–43b), verbs beginning with خ **(Xo)** appear without a corresponding heading between folios 43b and 45a. It is unlikely that the scribe simply erred here. At the end of page 43a, the catchword is تَغَوَّطَ (he defecated), while at the beginning of page 43b it contains the verb اخْرِق **(tear),** which is in the imperative mood. Considering that the first verb on each folio is usually in the past tense and third person singular, the presence of an imperative verb here suggests that a leaf is missing.

Similar discrepancy occurs on fol. 45a, where the catchword is لَأَ تَخْتِمُو **(do not seal),** yet fol. 45b begins with رَسَمتُمْ **(you drew).** Instead of a verb beginning with خ **(Xo),** the expected next item, the folio opens with a verb beginning with ر **(Ro),** and no chapter heading is preserved. This again indicates the loss of a leaf.

On folios 49a and 49b, the catchwords are يسرق **(he steals)** and نُسَلِّمُ (we hand over), respectively. Although they begin with the same letter س **(Sin),** they are semantically incompatible, suggesting either a missing page or a scribal error.

The same issue apperars between folios 53a and 53b. The catchword تَشْوَرونَ **(you consult)** on folio 53a does not correspond to صَفِّقُ **(I clap)** on folio 53b, indicating the loss of a leaf, most likely the one containing the chapter heading for the letter ص **(Sod).**

Lastly, the catchwords ضَحِكتم **(you laughed)** and طَلبَ **(he requested)** on folios 57a and 57b are likewise incompatible. This discrepancy also suggests the existence of a missing leaf, probably the one that have included the heading for the letter ط **(To)** (Ganiyeva, 2025a: 485).

Conclusion

The manuscript Kitabu Bulghat al-Mushtaq fi Lughat at-Turk wal-Qifchaq stands as a significant linguistic monument which sheds light on the linguistic, grammatical, and cultural dynamics of the Mamluk era. By analyzing its lexical structure, verb conjugations, and grammatical rules, this study confirms the close structural similarities between Kipchak and modern Turkic languages. The persistence of root words and affixational patterns over the centuries highlights the importance of the manuscript as a historical source for Turkic linguistics.

The findings reveal that the Noun section encompasses not only nominal vocabulary but also adjectives, numerals, pronouns, and adverbs, which are organized thematically. In the verb section, verbs are arranged alphabetically according to the Arabic script, with Kipchak equivalents presented in consistent morphological patterns. The preservation of grammatical categories such as tense, mood, person, and number reveals striking similarities with forms still in use today in modern Turkic languages. Furthermore, the inclusion of paradigmatic verb conjugations in both Kipchak and Arabic highlights the manuscript's value as a comparative linguistic tool.

However, the research also identifies structural issues, including several missing leaves. Despite these lacunae, the manuscript maintains a high degree of internal consistency and linguistic depth. Comparative analysis with Tarjuman Turki provides a potential framework for reconstructing the lost portions of Bulghat al-Mushtaq.

Overall, this study offers valuable insights into manuscript transmission and preservation. It reaffirms Bulghat al-Mushtaq's role as a bridge between Arabic and Turkic linguistic traditions, encouraging further scholarly engagement.

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The research concept, manuscript examination, material analysis, and preparation of scholarly annotations were jointly conducted by both authors.

B. Jafarov was responsible for establishing the theoretical framework, working with the primary sources, and performing the academic analysis of the material.

B. Ganiyeva was responsible for systematising the materials, preparing translations, drafting the manuscript, and editing the final version of the article. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Авторлық үлес:

Зерттеу тұжырымдамасын әзірлеу, қолжазбаларды зерттеу, материалдарды талдау және ғылыми түсініктемелер дайындау авторлар тарапынан бірлесіп орындалды.

Б. Джафаров зерттеудің теориялық негізін қалыптастыруға, бастапқы дереккөздермен жұмыс істеуге және материалды ғылыми тұрғыдан талдауға жауапты болды.

Б. Ганиева материалдарды жүйеледі, аудармаларды дайындады, мақала мәтінін жазды және соңғы нұсқасын редакциялады. Екі автор да мақаланың түпкілікті мәтінімен танысып, оны бекітті.

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Б. Ганиева проводила систематизацию материалов, подготовку переводов, написание текста статьи и редактирование окончательного варианта. Оба автора ознакомились с финальным текстом статьи и утвердили его.