Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hung. Tomus XLI (2), 211—215 (1987)

A HUNGARIAN DIALECTAL WORD OF KUMAN ORIGIN: *MONĀR*

ISTVÁN MÁNDOKY KONGUR

The word *monár* (*monār*) 'dry fog; foglike mist caused by the blazing sunshine in the sweltering heat of summer' is only known to the oldest inhabitants of the Nagykunság region (Karcag, Kunmadaras, Kunhegyes, Kisújszállás and Túrkeve), as well as to those in Ómoravica (Stara Moravica), Pacsér (Pačir) and Feketehegy (Feketić), communities founded by people from the Nagykunság two hundred years ago (they now belong to Yugoslavia). Most people use the word in the form *monár* (*monār*), infrequently as *munár* (*munār*), first of all in Karcag (communication by László Orvos Nagy, 88, Mrs Mihály Balogh, born Erzsébet Karászy Kocskor, 92, and Sándor Bodnár, 73) and in Túrkeve (Lajos Györffy, 88). The variants *monár* and *munár* must have existed side by side one or two centuries ago, and in the same proportion as today, for in the three Yugoslav villages the predominant form is *monár*, but *munár* is also known and used by some people (e.g. by József Kovács, 63, Stara Moravica; János Oross, 79, and Mrs József Kiss, born Mária Ádor, 68, Pačir; Lajos Józsa, 61, Feketić).

While only a few of the oldest people use the form *monár* (or *munár*), *mónárköd* [*mōnārköd*] is familiar to nearly everyone in the Nagykunság region as well as in the scattered communities around Budapest of people from the Nagykunság (Zsámbék, Érd, Dunakeszi, Dunaharaszti and Gyál, etc.), while even in the settlements adjacent to the Nagykunság region (e.g. Nádudvar, Püspökladány, Füzesgyarmat and Dévaványa) some people know of it, though most regard it as a typical word of the Nagykunság people.

Mónárköd is a compound word formed by folk etymology as can immediately be recognized; its anterior constituent is the folk variant *mónár* of the standard Hungarian word *molnár* 'miller' which only differs from the word *monár* 'dry fog; thin, gauzy, fog-like hot mist in summer' in its first syllable being long. Its posterior constituent is the Hungarian word *köd* 'fog'. Besides the phonetic similarities between the words *mónár* and *monár*, certain semantic motifs, such as the similarities in the outward form of the natural phenomenon of the vague, soft, white mist like flour dust and that of the sifting and hovering of flour dust when the mill is working also promoted this

Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest
Acta Orient. Hung. XLI, 1987

popular etymology. Some of the questionees worded it in the following way: ". . .from afar, *mónárköd* looks as white as when the mill is working and the flour is being ground in it . . ." (Bálint Dudás, 58, Karcag), or: ". . .we call it *mónárköd*, because it is just as nice a white thin gauzy mist as if the horizon was dipped in flour dust . . ." (István Perge, 77, Karcag).

The word *monár*, or its now extinct form variant *monar*, has a derivative with the adjectival suffix *-(o)s* [*-(o)š*]: *monaras* [*monåråš*] 'dim, wrapped in a milky, steamy mist, enveloped in dry fog, in a gauzy fog' which is exclusively known in the Nagykunság and its past and present diffusion, while it either never existed or became extinct in the neighbouring areas; in any case, my informants did not provide any data whatever concerning this word. It is to be noted that unlike the word *monár*, which occasionally occurs in the form *munár*, the word *monaras* never appears as *munaras*, or so far I have found no evidence to this effect. Similarly, the personal and place names of the Nagykunság only contain the variants with *-o-*, cf. e.g.: *Monar-hát*, *Monar-laposa* (place names in the outskirts of Kunhegyes); *Monar* (family name in Kunhegyes).

The word *monár* (*munár*) in use in the Nagykunság region, the anterior constituent of the word *mónárköd* formed by folk etymology, the root *monar* of the adjective *monaras* as well as the place and personal names *Monar* are of Kuman origin, their etymon being the Kuman-Kipchak **munar* 'dry fog; vague, hazy, misty hot summer fog, foggy sky; mirage'.

Within the Turkic vocabulary, the word *munar* seems to be a typical Kipchak element as it only occurs in the dialects of the Kuman-Kipchak branch; cf. Dobr. Tatar (north Crimean dialect) *munar* 'dry fog', 'summer haze, steamy atmosphere', 'rainbow' (data by author), Nogay *munar* 'mgla; marevo' (*NoRS* 227), Karakalpak *munar*1. 'mgla'; 2. 'miraž'; 3. f o l k. 'nazvanie gromadnogo dereva' (*KkRS* 467), Kazak *munar* 'mgla; miraž; belësosť vozducha' (*KaRS* 247), 'küŋ͡gir tartqan bulīŋ͡gïr, buwaldïr awa' (*QTTS*[1] II, 149), 'kün ašïq kezindegi awadaġï küŋ͡gir buwaldïr' (*QTTS*[2] VII, 248), 1. 'ein Nebel bei Hitze, schwere schwüle, undursichtige Luft'; 2. 'die Luftspiegelung' (Radl. IV, 2185), Bashkir *monar* 'mgla, marevo' (*BaRS* 388), Kazan Tatar *monar* 1. 'mgla'; 2. 'marevo'; 3. 'miraž' (*TaRS* 375), 'räšä' (*TTAS* II [1979], 402), Kirghiz *munar*, *munarïq* 'lëgkaja mgla, mutnaja belizna vozducha, dymka, belësoe marevo' (*KiRS* 537).

The verbal form of the word can also be demonstrated in the Turkic languages, cf. e.g.; Kirghiz *munar-* 'marit', pokryvaťsja mutnovatoj belësosťju, pokryvaťsja lëgkoj dymkoj' (loc. cit.), and of course it has a great number of verbal and nominal derivatives in various dialects, e.g.: Nogay *munarlï* 1. 'mglistyj, pasmurnyj'; 2. p e r e n. 'nevesëlyj, mračnyj (napr. o nastroenii)' (*NoRS* 227), Kazak *munarlï* 'munartqan, munar basqan' (*QTTS*[2] VII, 249), Bashkir *monarlï* 'mglistyj' (*BaRS* 388), Kazan Tatar *monarlï*

'räšäle' (*TTAS* II, 402), etc.; Nogay *munarlan-* 'byť okutannym lëgkoj dymkoj mgloj' (*NoRS* 227), Kazak *munarla-* 'buwaldïr tartïw, küŋgirtteniw', *munartïŋqïra-* 'azdap munartïw, munarta tüsiw', *munarlandïr-*, *munarlat-*, *munart-* etc. (*QTTS*^{2} VII, 249), Kazan Tatar *monarlan-* d i a l. 'prinimaťmglistyj vid', (*TaRS* 375), etc. The meanings of the Turkic derivatives *munarlï* ~ *monarlï* are revealing analogues to the meaning of the Hungarian dialect word *monaras*.

The Kipchak word *munar* appears to be a derivative, probably a participle of the Old Kipchak verb **mun-* 'swirl, wheel; waver; tremble, vibrate; dazzle; loom, appear through mist; become dim; get dark' with the suffix *-(a)r*. The verb *mun-* cannot be traced in contemporary Kuman-Kipchak languages, but it can be detected in 11th–14th century Turkic literary documents from Asia Minor and Central Asia, cf.: *QB*, Kāšġ., *AtḪ*: *mun-* 'zabluždaťsja; stanoviťsja slaboumnym, vpadať v detstvo, vyživať iz uma', 'terjať rassudok, besiťsja (o životnych)' (*DTS* 348), 'to be mentally deranged or disturbed', 'being senile, feebleminded', 'losing control of oneself, going fighting mad' (Clauson 348), *İM mun-* 'to be possessed by evil spirits, mad' (Clauson loc. cit.), *İd.*: *bun-* 'ḫarifa' (Caferoğlu 36 [facs.]).

The derivatives of the Old Turkic verb *mun-* include *QB*, Kāšġ.: *munduz* 'glupyj, neumnyj' (*DTS* 349), Kuman *munduz* '(einfältig), unschuldig', "simplex" (Grønbech 166), as well as Kāšġ. *munġan* 'govorlivyj, bolitivyj; boltun' (*DTS* 349). Among contemporary Turkic occurrences Ottoman-Turkish *buna-* 'vpadať v detstvo, vyživať iz uma (ot starosti)' (*TSR* 134), Turkish dialectal *bun-*, *buna-*, *bundur-*, *bunsura-*, *bunuk-* 'beğenmemek, azımsamak, küçümsemek' (*DS* II [1965], 791, 793), *bonul-*, *bonal-*, *bongal-*, *boñal-*, *bungal-*, *bungunla-*, *bunsuk-*, *buñal-* 'usanmak, yorulmak, bunalmak, darda kalmak' (*DS* II, 737, 791) (cf.: Clauson 348) probably belong here.

The Old Turkic verb form *bun-* ~ *mun-* is perhaps further subdividable so that the final *-n* morpheme of the word is assumed to be a deverbal verb-forming suffix, that is, one forming the passive voice, with the ancient Turkic root remaining to be a verbal noun **bu-* ~ **mu-* 'chaos; confusion; dissolution; evaporation, steaming, fog formation' (for the *-n* passive-forming suffix cf.: Gabain 81; *DTS* 659; Clauson xliv). The assumption of the **bu-* ~ **mu-* verbal noun appears to be confirmed by Kāšġ. *bu* 'par' (*DTS* 119), most probably the nominal version of the presumed verbal noun.

A derivative with the verbal suffix *-n* of the verbal noun **bu-* ~ **mu-* is the already mentioned Old Turkic *bun-* ~ *mun-* and the hypothetical Old Kuman **mun-*, while its derivative with the nominal suffix *-n* is the Ottoman-Turkish *bun* 'krizis; zatrudniteľnoe položenie' (*TRS* 134). It is noteworthy that the Old Kuman verb **mun-* assumed to have existed on the basis of the Old Turkic *bun-* ~ *mun-* can only be traced in Yakut of all contemporary dialects regarding the available Turkic lexical material: *mun-* 'bluždať, plutať' (*JaRS* 244). Other primary derivatives include *buġ*, *buğ*, *boġ*, *boğ*, *muġ*, *buh*, *būq*, *buw*,

bïw, păv, bū, pū, etc. 'vapour, steam; evaporation, steaming; fog; smoke, etc.' with the nominal suffix *-ġ* (*-ğ, -h, -q, -w, -u*) (cf. Sevortjan II, 229–230), Kāšġ. *bus* 'tumannyj, mglistyj, pasmurnyj' with the suffix *-s* (*DTS* 127), Chagatay *pus* 'Nebel, Trübung' (Kúnos 162), Bashkir *boş* 'par' (*BaRS* 109), Chuvash *păs* 'par; parovoj' (*ČuRS* 280), Osmanli *pus* 'lëgkij tuman; dymka' (*TRS* 727) with the suffix *-s*; Turkish *buğu* '(vodjanoj) par' (*TRS* 132) with the suffix *-(ġ)u*. It is out of context here to analyze the other derivatives (e.g. *buwaq, buwdaq, buğum, bulut*, etc.) (for some of them see: Sevortjan loc. cit., and Räsänen 85–86, 343–344; Doerfer II, N° 791, 795) or the possible Mongolian connexions proposed by Räsänen (loc. cit.); these will be the subject-matter of another undertaking.

Phonologically, the Kuman *munar* tallies with the Hungarian *monár* (*munár*), with the first constituent of the dialect word *mónárköd* and the root of the dialectal *monaras*; the phoneme *u* of the Turkic languages often changes into *o* after *b* and *m*, e.g. *borsó* < *buršağ, boroma* < *burama, Bodoglár* (a place name in the Kiskunság region) < *Budaqlar* (name of a Kuman tribe), etc. Another relevant example is the above-mentioned place and family name *Monar* as well as the place name *Monor*, Pest county; incidentally, the first occurrences of the latter also took the form *Monar*, cf.: 1398: *Monar* (*ZsigmOkl.* I, 576); 1401: *Monar, Monor* (László Bártfai Szabó: *Pest megye történetének okleveles emlékei 1002–1599-ig.* [Literatury documents of the history of Pest county] Budapest 1938, 118). The latter names are also of Kuman (or perhaps Pecheneg) origin. (Personal names like *Munar, Munarbay* and *Munarbek*, etc., are especially very frequent among the Kazak, Karakalpak, Kirghiz and Uzbek people today, too.) As was demonstrated above, the meaning of the dialectal words *monár, mónárköd* correspond to the Turkic *munar* ~ *monar*, and the dialectal *monaras, monaros* is also semantically close to its Turkic equivalent *munarlï* ~ *monarlï*. This permits the conclusion that the above-discussed Hungarian words are of Kuman origin and fit in well with the series of other dialect words of Kuman origin in use in the Nagykunság, which denote natural phenomena (e.g.: *igar, imor, kaprang, szágom, zúzgár* ~ *iszkár*, etc.).

As was revealed above, the word *munar* does not occur either in Old Turkic or in Old Kuman-Kipchak literary records, so its first occurrence must be *munar* 'dry fog; a foggy mist formed in the sweltering summer heat' reconstructed from the Hungarian dialect word of Kuman origin. Its date can be established around the settlement of the Kumans in Hungary, that is the middle of the 13th century (cf. the author's article entitled *Mónárköd* published in Hungarian in *NyK* LXXXV [1983], 391–393).

Abbreviations

AtḤ	*'Atabatu'l-ḥaqayiq*
BaRS	*Baškirsko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1958.
Caferoğlu	A. Caferoğlu, *A b û-H a y y â n, Kitâb al-İdrâk li-lisân al-Atrâk*. İstanbul 1931.
Clauson	G. Clauson, *An Etymological Dictionary of Pre-Thirteenth-Century Turkish*. Oxford 1972.
ČuRS	*Čuvašsko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1982.
Doerfer	G. Doerfer, *Türkische und mongolische Elemente im Neupersischen. I. Mongolische Elemente* . . . Wiesbaden 1963; *II. Türkische Elemente . . ., alif bis tā*. Wiesbaden 1965; *III. Türkische Elemente . . ., ğim bis kāf*. Wiesbaden 1967.
DS	*Türkiye'de Halk Ağzından Derleme Sözlüğü*. I—XII. Ankara 1963—1982.
DTS	*Drevnetjurkskij slovar'*. Moscow 1969.
Gabain	A. von Gabain, *Alttürkische Grammatik*. Leipzig 1950.
Grønbech	K. Grønbech, *Komanisches Wörterbuch*. Copenhagen 1942.
Id.	*Kitābu'l-idrāk li-lisāni'l-atrāk*
İM	J̌amālu'd-dīn ibnu'l-Muhannā, *Ḥilyātu'l-insān wa ḥalbatu'l-līsān*
JaRS	*Jakutsko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1972.
KaRS	Ch. Machmudov—G. Musabaev, *Kazachsko-russkij slovar'*. Alma-Ata 1954.
Kāšğ	Maḥmūd al-Kāšğarī, *Dīwān Luġāti't-Turk*
KiRS	*Kirgizsko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1965.
KkRS	*Karakalpaksko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1958.
Kúnos	I. Kúnos, *Šejχ Sulejman Efendi's Čagataj-Osmanisches Wörterbuch*. Budapest 1902.
NoRS	*Nogajsko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1963.
NyK	*Nyelvtudományi Közlemények*. Pest, [later] Budapest I (1862).
QB	*Qutaḍğu Bilig*
QTTS[1]	*Qazaq tiliniñ tüsindirme sözdigi*. I—II. Almatï 1959—1961.
QTTS[2]	*Qazaq tiliniñ tüsindirme sözdigi*. I—X. Almatï 1974—1986.
Radl.	W. Radloff, *Versuch eines Wörterbuches der Türk-Dialekte*. I—IV. St. Petersburg 1893—1911.
Räsänen	M. Räsänen, *Versuch eines Etymologischen Wörterbuchs der Türksprachen*. Helsinki 1969.
Sevortjan	Ê. V. Sevortjan, *Étimologičeskij slovar' tjurkskich jazykov*. I—III. Moscow 1974—1980.
TaRS	*Tatarsko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1966.
TRS	*Turecko-russkij slovar'*. Moscow 1977.
TTAS	*Tatar teleneñ aŋlatmalï süzlege*. I—III. Qazan 1977—1981.
ZsigmOkl.	*Zsigmondkori oklevéltár*. I—II. Budapest 1951—1958.