




## An Ethnolinguistic Analysis of Jewellery Names Common in Turkic Languages

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### Abstract

The jewellery names and the ethnic identity of the Kazakh culture are lexically correlated as clearly evident from various ethnolinguistic analyses of jewellery vocabulary. This study aimed to analyze some common jewellery names as *jüzük* (ring), *biläzük* (bracelet), *şırğa* (earring), *mončak* (necklace, beads), *tügma* (button), *belbay*, *qur*, *qaşis* (belt) and jewellery for braids common in Turkic languages. This linguistic journey attempted to uncover the meaning of these jewellery names in different Turkic languages and identify their functions and distinctive features through a comparative method. A qualitative research design with an ethnocultural approach was used to understand the ethnogenetic and cultural aspects of these jewellery names from 26 Turkic languages. The content analysis method was used to categorize them according to their origin and cultural significance. The findings revealed that the Turkic jewellery was of different types, and known by several names in different ancient Turkic languages. It also had sacred power, brought wealth and fertility, possessed healing properties and protected people from evil spirits. This study would help to expand knowledge about the traditional culture of the Turkic peoples.

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### Introduction

Jewellery has existed for thousands of years as a universal form of ornamentation, having social and cultural significance (Khazbulatov, 2021). Historically, shells, bones, and other natural materials were used to design jewellery, which had spiritual or ceremonial significance. Turkey has a historically and culturally

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rich legacy of jewellery, with symbols embedded in Turkish traditions and society. The Kazakhs who, like many other Turkic people, had lost their national peculiarities under the influence of the Soviet ideology. However, the jewellery names and the ethnic identity of the Kazakh culture associated lexically with those names still inspire the craftsmen (Baigabatova et al., 2018; Nygmanova et al., 2022). The Kazakh linguist Shoibekov (2022) has made an ethnolinguistic analysis of jewellery and pointed out how the jewellery vocabulary gave birth to several phraseological units.

Several studies have examined jewellery as a manifestation of the ethnogenetic and cultural ties of the Turkic peoples. The material (form, production technology) and spiritual (role and place in the ethnocultural space, symbolic sign) aspects of jewellery are of great importance in the emergence, development and functional use of jewellery types. Interestingly, language has been an indispensable instrument for transmitting spiritual values and traditions, particularly through the jewellery names, which can be found in the Turkic written monuments and ancient explanatory and bilingual dictionaries in Turkic, dialectological and professional vocabularies, and ethnographic works of Turkic languages (Johanson, Csató, & Karakoç, 2020). It is clearly evident from these linguistic resources that the Turkic peoples used several versions of ancient Turkic jewellery names (Kozhakhmetova & Tazhibayeva, 2021; Salikzhanova, Turgut, & Mursalim, 2023).

Ancient Turkic Dictionaries are based on the language of Turkic-speaking monuments of 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries. These dictionaries explain how the original meaning of some common jewellery names have been changed in the course of historical development for various reasons, and acquired other meanings (Chertykova & Kaksin, 2020; Kaksin & Chertykova, 2020). Still, it is crucial to be aware of the specific features of jewellery names common to Turkic languages in translating them into other non-Turkic languages. There is a dearth of studies on jewellery names and their ethnographical significance (Kozhakhmetova & Tazhibayeva, 2021; Salikzhanova et al., 2023). A few studies have only dealt with their cultural, spiritual and symbolic significance (Baigabatova et al., 2018; Khazbulatov, 2021; Nygmanova et al., 2022; Zzbaeva & Pumpkin, 2022). Hence, there was a need to examine jewellery names common to Turkic languages and study their peculiarities, with respect to the dictionaries of Turkic languages and ethnographic works.

This study has analyzed Turkic jewellery names based on Baskakov's (1963) widespread classification, which represent the geographical and linguistic characteristics of the Turkic languages. This classification divides the Turkic languages into Western and Eastern branches. The Western branch includes the groups: (i) Kipchak group comprising Kypchak-Nogai branch - *Kazakh, Karakalpak, Nogai*; Kipchak-Bulgar branch - *Tatar, Bashkir, Siberian Tatar*; Kipchak-Balkar branch - *Karachay-Balkar, Kumyk, Karaite, Crimean Tatar*; Karluk branch-Uzbek, Uyghur; Oguz-Seljuk branch - *Turkic, Azerbaijani, South Crimean Tatar, Oguz-Bulgar branch - Gagauz, Balkan-Turkic*; Oguz-Turkmen branch - *Turkmen, Trukhmen*; and (ii) Bulgar group comprising *Chuvash* branch. The Eastern branch includes Kyrgyz-Kypchak group- *Kyrgyz, Altai, Teleut*; and Uighur-Oguz Siberian group - *Tuvinian, Yakut, Khakassian, Shor, Tofalar, Dolgan, Chulyum*.

The focus of the article was to analyze some common jewellery names as *jüzük* (ring), *biläzük* (bracelet), *şirya* (earring), *mončak* (necklace, beads), *tügma* (button), *belbay, qur, qađis* (belt) and jewellery for braid common in the Turkic languages. This linguistic journey attempted to uncover the meaning of these jewellery names in different Turkic languages by making use of a comparative method. Besides their meaning, the study also identified the functions and distinctive features of these jewellery names, as evident from the translation, etymological dictionaries of Turkic languages, ethnographic works and reference books. The local characteristics of these jewellery names have also been explained to highlight the melodic harmonies, unique phonetics, and cultural nuances to captivate their multilingual significance. A detailed scientific literature review on these lexical items establishes them as thematic groups, occupying an important position in the vocabulary of Turkic languages, and revealing the culture, ethnography and language of Turkic peoples.

## Literature Review

### *Origin of Turkic jewellery names*

The Kazakh scholar Shoibekov (2006) studied the origin of the jewellery names, compared and analyzed them with respect to their originating Turkic languages. The study found out that jewellery names in the Turkic languages have both similarities and differences, when considered from a lexical-semantic point of view. These similarities and differences lie in the names of materials, methods and tools used in producing jewellery, common to the Turkic languages. For example, *altyn* (gold), *kumis* (silver), *bakyr* (copper), *temir* (iron), *tas* (stone), *suyek* (bone), and *inzhu* (pearl) were found in Orkhon-Yenisei inscriptions from ancient times. In some Turkic languages the word "altyn" means "metal", and in other languages it is also used for "money". In jewellery art there are methods common to Turkic languages, such as *altyndau* (gilding), *kumisteu* (silvering), *kesu* (cutting), *sogu* (forging), *kuyu* (casting), etc (Abdullina et al., 2020; Shoibekov, 2006).

The jewellery names common in almost all Turkic languages include *jüzük* (ring), *biläzük* (bracelet), *şirya* (earrings), *mončak* (necklace, beads), *tügma* (button), *belbay, qur, qađis* (belt), and *şaşbaw* (braid

jewellery). The Kazakh jewellery names have been created on the basis of ancient common Turkic names (Abdullina et al., 2020; Shoibekov, 2006). Specifically, Mankeyeva (2014) researched the semantic feature and origin of *bilezik* (bracelet) in Turkic languages. These names can be seen as important historical sources of information about the Turkic languages and their contacts with other ethnic groups (Abdullina et al., 2020). In some cases, these names do not only provide the meaning and lexical-semantic functions of these words, but also provide information about foreign borrowings (Abdullina et al., 2020). Hence, these vocabulary items found in early Turkic dictionaries show the relationship existing between Turkic people and the rest of the world. These words show how from ancient times, the lexical structure of the Turkic languages have existed as thematic groups and also has been a subject of a research (Nygmanova et al., 2022; Rakhmatullina & Khusainova, 2022).

### *Classification of Jewellery Names*

In order to determine the use of jewellery names in modern Turkic languages, there exist different classifications of Turkic language groups (Anonby et al., 2020; Johanson, 2021a, 2021b; Savelyev, 2020; Tekin, 1991; Zhunissova, 2014). Most classifications of Turkic languages are based according to their different features and thematic groups. For instance, Turkologists like V. Radlov, N.I. Ilminsky, N.A. Baskakov, A.N. Samoilovich, V.A. Bogoroditsky, S.E. Malov, N.A. Aristov, I.N. Berezin, G.I. Ramstedt, and M. Ryasyanen have classified the Turkic languages according to their own thematic grouping styles (Memmedova, 2023).

Other classification methods are based on geographical, cultural and symbolical underpinnings. Geographically, it is evident that most common words of the Turkic peoples were separated by thousands of years and at a distance of thousands of kilometers from each other, and still had kinship. Despite several differences in time and geographical regions, the Turkic languages have many geographical features as evidence of their close contacts. These common words not only united Turkic peoples in geographical terms, but also show some identical cultural values. Culturally, for the Kazakh people, jewellery is not only artistic artefacts, but represents traditions, beliefs, aesthetic values, and cultural heritage. Jewellery names are the source of information about the owner's clan, age, social status and other personal information. They can be used to analyze Kazakh traditions and rituals, spiritual culture, ethnography, folklore, history, literature and language of Turkic peoples.

Symbolically, the Turkish jewellery names are rich in symbolic underpinnings as each name tells a story that has survived several centuries. For instance, one of the most recognizable symbols in Turkish jewelry is the Evil Eye, or *Nazar Boncuğu*, which is believed to combat negative energy. The crescent moon and star, or *Ay Yıldız*, is another symbol which represents unity and progress and is even featured on the Turkish flag. In jewelry, this symbol often signifies a sense of belonging and national pride. Likewise, the *Tughra* monogram symbolizes power and authority; while the *Whirling Dervish*, or *Mevlevi Sema*, represents spiritual enlightenment.

## **Methodology**

### *Research Design*

A qualitative research design with an ethnocultural approach (Mertens, 2012; Nagata, Suzuki, & Kohn-Wood, 2012) was used to understand the ethnogenetic and cultural aspects from the names of jewellery types. The descriptive and historical methods were adopted to examine the Turkic written monuments, ancient bilingual dictionaries in Turkic, dialectological and professional vocabularies, and ethnographic works of Turkic languages (Johanson et al., 2020). While the descriptive method helped to collect the data and classify it to determine the correlation of the individual names of jewelry, the historical approach assisted in connecting vocabulary of jewelry with the history and *culture* of the Turkic people to a specific period in social life. The findings contribute to the development of historical lexicology, ethnography and cultural linguistics of the Turkic people. In addition, this study also adopted the semantic approach as it necessitated highlighting the meaning of the jewellery names.

### *Data Collection*

The primary data was mainly collected from ancient Turkic dictionaries and ethnographical documents comprising translations, etymological dictionaries of Turkic languages, ethnographic works and reference books such as Clauson (1972) and Egorov (1964) and bilingual thematic dictionary of Kaksin & Chertykova (2020). These resources contained both common and archaic jewellery names from 26 Turkic languages. Some Turkic languages have several variations in the name of one type of jewellery. After collecting the names, they were tabulated and organized into categories. A comparative method was used to identify their functions, common and distinctive features.

### *Data Analysis*

The ethnocultural analysis patterns were used to examine the jewellery names common in Turkic

languages. The peculiarities of different versions in some Turkic languages were analysed and local characteristics of some jewellery names were explained. The content analysis method was adopted to analyze these jewellery names, which required categorizing them according to their origin and cultural significance. The study also conducted a comparative analysis to reveal the correlation between languages, and reveal the cultural differences (Suecin, 2022).

## Results and Discussion

### *Jüzük (ring)*

One of the most common jewellery names in modern Turkic languages is **Jüzük** (ring). Regarding its origin, Khabichev (1971) believes that this name *juzikis* is derived from Turkic word *zhez* (copper), a derivative from the ancient Turkic word *chus*, which means “joint” and “finger joint,” in Tuvan and Khakass languages. In some other Turkic languages, there are other names that have phonetic-structural differences. Salmin (2017) talks about common feature of the word *çəpə* (ring) in the Chuvash language with the languages of the Finno-Ugric group, linking the name with Chuvash *çərě* and Mansi *suri*. Sir Clauson’s (1972) etymological dictionary defines the word *küpe* as “a small metal ring”, hence, “an earring,” while the word *köbe* in the Kazakh language has retained its original meaning “chain mail”.

The word *биһилэк* (a ring) in the Yakut and Dolgan languages corresponds to the form *бэһэлиэ* in the Buryat language, which belongs to the Mongolian language family. However, considering the etymology and semantics of the word *biltsg* (ring) in the Kalmyk language, Kukanova (2018) came to the conclusion that the morphemic structure of the words *bilesüg* and *bilüčeg* is different. The Mongolian language has two variants of lexemes, opposite to each other in origin, namely, *Bilesüg* and *bilüčeg*, both having different morphemic structures. The first form is a compound word related to the Turkic language, and not stabilized in Mongolian language systems, due to the lack of a stable affix *bilek* “wrist” + *üsüg* “ring”. The second form is the affix *bile-* and *-čAg*, formed in the Mongolian languages. This lexeme comes from a relict stem from Proto-Turkic *\*bilek* and Proto-Tungus-Manchu *\*bilen*, and has not been preserved in modern languages. Historical morphemic structure of the Kalmyk word *бил + үэ < \*bülü + čEg*, where the first part is a name or verb, the second part is an affix, means the result of an action or an object (Kukanova, 2018).

Another name that appears in several Turkic languages is *baldak*, “a finger ring”. It is a ring made of gold or silver without stones, worn not only by women, but also by men (Qasimanov, 1969). This name is found in the Kazakh, Karakalpak, Nogai (*балдақ*), Tatar, Bashkir (*балдак*), and Uzbek (*boldoq*) languages. Table 1 summarizes these names in different Turkic languages.

**Table 1:** *The Ring in the Turkic Languages.*

Ancient Turkic Languages	Ring ( <i>jüzük</i> )	Turkic Transcription
Kazakh	жүзік, балдақ	žüzik, baldaq
Karakalpak	жүзик, халқа	žüzik, halka
Nogai	йүзик	yüzik
Tatar	йөзек, балдак	jözek, baldak
Bashkir	йөзөк, балдак	jözök, baldak
Siberian Tatar	йөсөк	jösök
Karachay-Balkar	жүзүк	žüzük
Kumyk	юзюк	juzuk
Karaim	изик, йүзүк	izik, yuzuk
Crimean Tatar	юзюк	juzuk
Uzbek	узук	uzuk
Uyghur	үзүк	üzük
Turkish	yüzük	juzuk
Azerbaijan	üzük	uzuk
Gagauz	yüzük	juzuk
Turkmen	йүзүк / ýüzük	juzuk
Чуваш	çəpə	çerě
Kyrgyz	жүзүк	juzuk
Altai	јүстүк	jüstük
Teleut	јүстүк	jüstük
Tuvan	билзек	bilzek
Khakas	чустук	čustuk
Sor	јүстук, чустук	jüstük, čustuk
Tofalar	чүстүк	čüstük
Yakut	биһилэк	bihilek
Dolgan	биһилэк	bihilek

*Bilezik (Bracelet)*

*Bilezik* (bracelet) is also a common jewellery name in almost all Turkic languages as seen in Table 2. The ancient Turkic word *biläzük*, in various phonetic forms and with several meanings, is a combination of the words *bilek* (wrist) and *juzuk* (ring). In the Uzbek and Uyghur languages, it is *bilakuzuk* (wrist ring). The Teleut word *пилерик* also means “wrist” (Kukanova, 2018). Interpreting a historical and linguistic interpretation of Turkic written monuments, N.N. Konkabaeva (Qonqabaeva, 2020) explains that the pronunciation of *пилектӧс*, *пилектес* in the Khakass language corresponds to the sounds *b* and *p*. At the same time, the words *билектӱүш* or *билектээш*, in the Altai and Tuvan languages, indicate that *mj̄yu* or *mээш* represent a modified form of the word *узук* (ring) Fedorova & Akimova (2021) considers that the Yakut word *бӕбӕх* has two different meanings, “bracelet” and “neck jewellery” (Fedorova & Akimova, 2021).

**Table 2:** *Bracelet in the Turkic Languages.*

Ancient Turkic Languages	Bracelet ( <i>biläzük</i> )	Turkic Transcription
Kazakh	<i>білезік</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Karakalpak	<i>білезик</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Nogai	<i>білезік</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Tatar	<i>беләзек</i>	<i>beläzek</i>
Bashkir	<i>беләзек, биләдӱк</i>	<i>beläzek</i>
Siberian Tatar	<i>пеләлек</i>	<i>peläle</i>
Karachay-Balkar	<i>білезик</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Kumyk	<i>білезик</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Karaim	<i>белезик</i>	<i>belezik</i>
Crimean Tatar	<i>билезлик</i>	<i>bilezlik</i>
Uzbek	<i>билагузук</i>	<i>bilaguzuk</i>
Uyghur	<i>bilözük</i>	<i>bilözük</i>
Turkish	<i>bilezik</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Azerbaijan	<i>biläzik</i>	<i>biläzik</i>
Gagauz	<i>bilezik</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Turkmen	<i>bilezik</i>	<i>bilezik</i>
Chuvash	<i>сӱлӑ</i>	<i>sülä</i>
Kyrgyz	<i>билерик</i>	<i>bilerik</i>
Altai	<i>билектӱүш</i>	<i>bilektuush</i>
Teleut	<i>пилерик</i>	<i>pilerik</i>
Tuvan	<i>билзек, билектээш</i>	<i>bilzek, bilekteş</i>
Khakas	<i>пилектӧс, пилектес</i>	<i>pilektos, pilektes</i>
Shor	<i>билектээж</i>	<i>bilekteej</i>
Tofalar	<i>буҕаа</i>	<i>buga</i>
Yakut	<i>бӕбӕх</i>	<i>böyöh</i>

According to Turkic people’s understanding, wearing bracelets helps to prevent arthritis, keep hands clean, and ward off evil spirits. For example, the snake head or spiral shaped bracelets represent protective ideas. Bracelet was considered to keep life force. In the Kazakh worldview, a woman’s energy power gradually leaves through her palm, so women, especially older women, wore bracelets on both wrists so as not to lose their last strength. The Tatar women also wore double bracelets on both hands, and girls wore one or more bracelets on one hand.

*Syrğa (Earring)*

The word *syrğa* (earrings) is found in many modern Turkic languages as shown in Table 3. It is believed that the word *sirğa* has been used in written literature since the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Scientists claim that the exact origin of the word *syrğa* has not yet been fully established. A variant of this jewellery name with a vowel at the beginning in the ancient Turkic languages; for example, in Turkmen (*ысырға*), Khakass and Shor (*ызырға*), Yakut and Dolgan (*ытырҕа, ытырға*) (Shoibekov, 2006). In the monument “At-Tuhfa” it has the form *sizya* and *isirqa*. The variants beginning with a consonant in other Turkic languages have undergone reduction (Qonqabaeva, 2020). In some Turkic languages the word *alqa* from Arabic word *khalkhe* (round) also means “earrings;” in Uyghur (*халқа*), Turkmen (*gulakhalka*), Tatar (*алка*), Bashkir (*алка*), Chuvash (*хӑлхӑ*), and in some dialects of the Kazakh language. In Turkmen *гулакысырға, гулакхалка, гулагалка* mean the same, and *burun halkasy* means an earring for the nose (Shoibekov, 2006).

The Turkic girls and women always wore earrings. According to ethnographic data of many Turkic peoples, when a girl reaches the age of seven, they pierce their ears and put on the light earrings. In the ancient times, when a Turkic woman died, all her jewellery was removed, but only earrings were left, believing that if she was without earrings, a snake could pass through her ear.



**Table 3:** Earring in Turkic Languages.

Ancient Turkic Languages	Earring ( <i>aşıra/sırya</i> )	Turkic Transcription
Kazakh	сырға	şırya
Karakalpak	сырға	şırya
Nogai	сырға	şırya
Tatar	сырға, алка	şırga, alka
Bashkir	һырға, алка	hırga, alka
Siberian Tatar	сырға	şırya
Karachay-Balkar	сыргъала	şıryala
Kumyk	сыргъа, гьалкъа	şırya, yalka
Karaim	сыргъа	şırya
Crimean Tatar	küpe, сырға	küpe, şırya
Uzbek	исирға, sirg'a	isırya, sırya
Uyghur	халқа, зирә	halqa, zirä
Turkish	küpe	küpe
Azerbaijan	syrga	sırya
Gagauz	küpä	küpä
Turkmen	gulakhalka, ысырға	gulakhalka, işırya
Chuvash	хӑлхӑ ҫакки, алкӑ	hălhä çakki, alkă
Kyrgyz	сырға	sirga, söykö
Altai	сырға	şırya
Teleut	ызырға, сырға	izırga, sirga
Tuvan	сырға	sirga
Khakas	ызырға	izırya
Shor	ызырға	izırya
Tofalar	сырға	şırya
Yakut	ытарҕа/ытырҕа/ытарҕа	ıtarya/iṭırya/ ıtarja
Dolgan	ытырға	iṭırya

*Mončak/mončyk (Necklace, beads)*

The ancient Turkic *mončak/mončyk* means “beads, necklace” or “amulet” (Qasimanov, 1969). Shoibekov (2006) considers *mončak* may be a combination of the words *moiyn* (neck in Kazakh) and *shak*. Since this jewellery is worn around the neck, the second form *shak* could be an old version of the verb *tak* (‘to wear’ in Kazakh). In Chuvash (*мӑй ҫыххи*) and Yakut (*мӑй ҫыххи*) the word necklace is formed of two separate words: Yakut *мооһ* (neck) and *оһуруота* (glass beads), *оһуруо симэх* - necklace, Chuvash *мӑй* (neck) and *ҫыххи* (bead and coin necklace) (Egorov, 1964).

In the modern Turkic languages, *mončak* means “beads”, “gemstone” or “gold or silver necklace”. In Azerbaijan (*muncuq*) and Turkish (*boncuk*) it is a blue stone with a hole in the middle, often made of glass or stone (pearl, agate, etc.). In the Turkmen and Tatar national clothing, it is a neck jewellery made of gold or silver with various gemstones, or coins. In the Tofalar *маньчақис* “a band on the shaman’s clothing”, in Teleut *мончокис* pearl. The Tuvan *чинчи* and Altai *junju*, which means “small beads” comes from ancient Turkic *jenčü* (pearl). It is obvious that Turkic *mončak* has mostly retained its meaning in modern languages. In most Turkic languages the Arabic word *халхэ* is also used along with the word *mončak*. Table 4 presents various forms of necklace in Turkic languages.

In Turkic languages, *közmonşak* – amulet with a small white stone, is attached to the head-dress or wrists of a baby, a girl or a young bride, to protect her from evil eyes. It is said that *közmonşak* was one of the amulets of the pre-Islamic Turkic people: *köz monşak* in Kazakh and Karakalpak, *koz monchok* in Kyrgyz, *göz muncuğu* in Azerbaijani, *nazar boncuğu* in Turkish, *kuzmunchok* in Uzbek, and *koktaş* in Tatar languages. In the Tatar culture this jewellery, made of dark blue or blue stone (carnelian, turquoise), is associated with the blue sky and the Heavenly God or Kumyk *гӕз минчақ* is black beads with white spots (Valeev, 1976).

*Tügma (Button)*

In earlier times, the buttons of various shapes (ball, round) were used not only as fasteners, but as jewellery or amulets to protect from evil tongues and evil eye. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, this type of jewellery fell into disuse and was kept mostly in museums. The Kazakh saying “*Altınnantüymetüyip, kümışten köze sokkan*” (makes a button from gold and a jug from silver) describes its craftsmanship. The ancient Turkic word *tügma* common to many modern Turkic languages, as seen in Table 5, comes from *tüg* “to tie”, “to gather in a knot” and a noun forming suffix *-ma* in Turkic languages. In the modern Turkic languages, this word is used as “fastener, clasp, brooch”.

**Table 4:** *Necklace in the Turkic Languages.*

Ancient Turkic Languages	Necklace ( <i>mončak/ mončyk</i> )	Turkic Transcription
Kazakh	моншақ	<i>monšaq</i>
Karakalpak	моншақ	<i>monšaq</i>
Nogai	мойшак	<i>mojšak</i>
Tatar	муенса	<i>mwensa</i>
Bashkir	мунсақ, муйынса	<i>mwnsaq</i>
Siberian Tatar	муңцақ	<i>mwñcaq</i>
Karachay-Balkar	мынчакъла	<i>mĩnčakla</i>
Kumyk	минчакъ	<i>mĩnčaq</i>
Karaim	мундзэк, муңцэк	<i>mwñjek/ mwñček</i>
Crimean Tatar	боюнджакъ	<i>boyunjak</i>
Uzbek	мунчок	<i>mwñčok</i>
Uyghur	мончақ	<i>mončaq</i>
Turkish	boncuk	<i>bončuk</i>
Azerbaijan	типсиқ	<i>mwñcaq</i>
Gagauz	бонџук	<i>bonjuk</i>
Turkmen	тоңјук	<i>tonjuk</i>
Chuvash	май сыххи	<i>mäy çihhi</i>
Kyrgyz	мончок	<i>mončok</i>
Altai	јунји	<i>jinju</i>
Teleut	мончок	<i>mončok</i>
Tuvan	Чинчи боошкун	<i>Činči booškun</i>
Khakas	мончых	<i>monjih</i>
Shor	мунчуқ	<i>mwñčwq</i>
Tofalar	маньчақ	<i>mančwq, niñči</i>
Yakut	моой обуруота обуруо симэх	<i>mooi oçüröta, oçürwo simew</i>
Dolgan	мунчуука	<i>mančwuka</i>

Another word *мончы* (fastener) is used in the Altai, Teleut, and Shor languages. In the Kazakh craft vocabulary, the word *моншы* (a local name of button) is the Mongolian word *товчи* - a button, fastener. The name *моншы* is derived from the Mongolian word *tovkh* - “piece”, “grain”. Shoibekov (2006) notes that this word is common to the Turkic-Mongolian languages. The word *өөк* in Tuvan and Tofalar has Mongolian origin. Tuvan *допчу өөк* is “a round button of the national robe” (Badarch & Maadyr-Oolovna, 2022). In many Altai languages, in the Khakass language the button is called differently depending on its type (Kaksin & Chertykova, 2020). For example, *tana* – is a large mother-of-pearl button, *мончы* - is a button with an eye or a large coral bead. The word *марха*s of Khakass origin, is unknown in other languages (Abdina, 2010). The word *ceden/caden/ cətan/cadeŋ* (Arabic word *sadaf* - *pearl*) is also used for “button” in some languages of Kipchak and Ozuz group.

**Table 5:** *Button in Turkic Languages.*

Ancient Turkic Languages	Button ( <i>tügma</i> )	Turkic Transcription
Kazakh	түйме	<i>tüyme</i>
Karakalpak	түйме, седен	<i>tüyme, sedep</i>
Nogai	туьйме, саден	<i>tüyme, sadep</i>
Tatar	төймә	<i>töymä</i>
Bashkir	төймә	<i>töymä</i>
Siberian Tatar	төймә, сәтәп	<i>töymä, sätäp</i>
Karachay-Balkar	тюйме	<i>tjume</i>
Kumyk	тюйме	<i>tjume</i>
Karaim	дөгмә	<i>dögme</i>
Crimean Tatar	дөгме, садеф	<i>dögme, sadef</i>
Uzbek	тугма	<i>twgma</i>
Uyghur	түгмә	<i>tügmä</i>
Turkic	дүгте	<i>dügme</i>
Azerbaijan	дүймә	<i>düymä</i>
Gagauz	дүймә	<i>düymä</i>
Turkmen	дуьме	<i>dwvme</i>
Chuvash	туьме, тӓха	<i>tüme</i>
Kyrgyz	түймө	<i>tüymö</i>
Altai	топчы	<i>topči</i>
Teleut	тана, топчы	<i>topči, tana,</i>
Tuvan	допчу өөк	<i>dopčw öök</i>
Khakas	топчы, тана, марха	<i>topči, tana, marha</i>
Shor	топчы	<i>topči</i>
Tofalar	өөк	<i>öök</i>
Yakut	тимех	<i>timeh</i>
Dolgan	тимэк	<i>timek</i>

### Belbay (Belt)

Belt in modern Turkic languages has some common names as seen in Table 6. The ancient Turkic word **belbay** (belt) is a combination of the word **bel** (waist, lower back) and the word **bay** (tie, thread) in the Turkic languages. The words like **белбағ**, **бил бағы** are found in ancient Turkic monuments (Shoibekov, 2006). The Persian word *kemer/kamər* (belt) is used in the Turkish (*kemer*), Azerbaijani (*kəmər*), Gagauz (*kemer*), Turkmen (*kemer*) languages of the Oguz group, in Karachay-Balkar (*кямар*) of the Kipchak group, and in Uyghur (*kəmər*) of the Karluk group. In the Kazakh language, the word *kemer* has the meaning of “belt” or “silver belt” (*kemer belbeu* - “silver belt”) (Shoibekov, 2006).

Another ancient Turkic word **qur** also means “belt” in many Turkic languages: in Altai and Teleut (*қур*) of the Kyrgyz-Kipchak group, in Tuvan, Yakut, Dolgan (*кур*), Khakass (*хур*), Shor (*қур*), and Tofalar (*қур*) of the Uighur-Oguz Siberian group. In Kazakh *қур* is a thread made of wool, and “*қур белбеу*” is a belt woven from sheep and camel wool threads. The ancient Turkic word **qadis**(belt) is found in the languages of ancient monuments. In Kazakh *қайыс белбеу* is a belt made of rawhide. It is used in Kazakh, Karakalpak, Nogai (*қайыс*), Tatar (*қаеи*), Siberian Tatar (*қайыш*), Bashkir (*қайыш*), Kumyk (*қәйыш*), Karaites (*қайыс*), Turkish (*қайыш*), Azerbaijan (*гайыш*), Turkmen (*гайыш*), Uzbek (*қайыш*), Uyghur (*қәйиш*), Kyrgyz (*қайыш*), Altai (*қайыш*), Khakass (*хайыс*). In Bashkir *билгә қайыш быуыу* means “to wear a belt”. The Turkic word *quşak* also means belt in Bashkir (*қушак*), Crimean Tatar (*кәушакә*), Gagauz (*кушак*), Turkish (*kusak*) etc. The Chuvash word *ниçиххи* (belt) differs from other Turkic languages, but it also consists of two words *нилек* (waist) and *çиххи* (tie, bandage, cord) (Egorov, 1964).

**Table 6: Belt in Turkic Languages.**

Ancient Turkic Languages	Belt ( <i>qur, belbay, qadis</i> )	Turkic Transcription
Kazakh	<i>белбеу</i>	<i>belbew</i>
Karakalpak	<i>белбеў</i>	<i>belbew</i>
Nogai	<i>белбав</i>	<i>belbav</i>
Tatar	<i>билбау</i>	<i>bilbaw</i>
Bashkir	<i>билбау,</i>	<i>bilbaw, kuşaq</i>
Siberian Tatar	<i>пилбау</i>	<i>pilbaw</i>
Karachay-Balkar	<i>белибау, кямар</i>	<i>belibaw, kyamar</i>
Kumyk	<i>белбав</i>	<i>belbav</i>
Karaim	<i>белбав, белибав</i>	<i>belbav/belibav</i>
Crimean Tatar	<i>кәушакә</i>	<i>kuşak, kayış</i>
Uzbek	<i>белбоғ, камар</i>	<i>belboy, kamar</i>
Uyghur	<i>бәләғ, кәмәр</i>	<i>bälwäy, kämär</i>
Turkic	<i>kemer</i>	<i>kemer</i>
Azerbaijan	<i>kətər</i>	<i>kämär</i>
Gagauz	<i>кемер, кушак</i>	<i>kemer, kuşak</i>
Turkmen	<i>kemer, билбаг, билгушак</i>	<i>kemer, bilbag, bilguşak</i>
Chuvash	<i>ниçиххи</i>	<i>niçihhi</i>
Kyrgyz	<i>белбоо</i>	<i>belboo</i>
Altai	<i>қур</i>	<i>qur</i>
Teleut	<i>қур</i>	<i>qur</i>
Tuvan	<i>кур, баг кур</i>	<i>qur, bag qur</i>
Khakas	<i>хур</i>	<i>hur</i>
Shor	<i>қур</i>	<i>qur</i>
Tofalar	<i>қур</i>	<i>qur</i>
Yakut	<i>кур, билэ</i>	<i>qur, bile</i>
Dolgan	<i>кур</i>	<i>qur</i>

### Jewellery for Braids

The names of jewellery for braids are characteristic to some Turkic languages, as exhibited in Table 7, namely the Kipchak (*Kazakh, Nogai, Karakalpak, Tatar, Bashkir, Siberian Tatar*), Karluk (*Uzbek, Uyghur*), Oguz-Turkmen branch (*Turkmen*), Bulgar (*Chuvash*), and the Kyrgyz-Kypchak (*Kyrgyz, Altai, Teleut*), Uighur-Oguz Siberian (*Tuvan, Yakut, Khakas*). There are a number of works on the classification and typology of traditional women’s jewellery of the Turkic (*Altaians, Tuvans, Siberian Tatars, Khakass, Yakuts*) and Mongolian groups of the Altai language family of Siberia.

The braid jewellery was available in many different types (Yakovleva, 2011), and was characteristic of the Polovtsian-Scythian culture, found on Polovtsian women’s statues (Moskvina, 2014). The Turkic peoples used different types of braid jewellery made of various materials; hence, this type of jewellery may not have common names. In this context, three types of braid jewellery deserves mention their name and description.

The first type comes from the ancient Turkic saç “hair” and bay “tie”. The jewellery usually is made of silver and sometimes gilded metal, and is an element of the Nogai women’s costume, and “unmarried Nogai women’s *shashbau*, made of silk and silver threads mixed with a tassel and a silk ribbon at the end, sometimes reaches to their ankles” (Kalmykov, Kereitov, & Sikaliyev, 1988). The Kyrgyz women have the



same jewellery- *чачбак*. Bashkir *сәсбай/сәсмәү* is made by stringing coins onto a long cloth. The ancient Bukhara jewellery- *шаино* was made of long threads with silver and gilded coral and pearl beads and worn over the headdress. It had silk tassels with metal caps. This type of jewellery for braids was common not only with the Turkic, but also with the Altaians. Potapov (1951) writes about hair jewellery of the Altai peoples. The girls of the southern Altai had gold thread with buttons and shells, woven into their braids. The Teleut girls wore a braid jewellery called *чач бууш*, woven from three tassels with cowrie shells or coins and buttons. They used colored silk threads. The Kumandian girls wore a rectangular pendant *чаачыш* or *чинче* made of red cloth, trimmed with a black border, and with the beads sewn to the lower edge. Cowrie shells were attached to the end of each thread (Potapov, 1951). The Shor “heavy pendants made of cowrie shells and beads” is close to northern Altaians’ jewellery. Tuvan *боошкун* were long bundles woven from black or multi-colored threads. There was also Tuvan women’s hair jewellery *чавага* that was more than five strands of beads, and tassels. The Khakass *нос чачак* was made of beads, often with pieces pearl, metal plaques or coins at the ends; tassels made of hair cords with beads and cowrie shells at the ends (Rahmatdildaeva Kurmanbekova et al., 2023).

The second type of braid jewellery consisted of ringing pendants, woven into braids with a ribbon attached to them. This type of silver jewellery of Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Nogai, Tatar, Bashkir, Chuvash people, had the function of pulling the braids down. *Шолпы* (in Kazakh) was an element of Kazakh girls’ clothing. This jewellery for braid had ringing sound that made young girls walk gracefully without loud noises (Tokhtabaeva, 2011). The ringing sound of Kazan Tatars’ *чулна* pendant, attached to the end of the braid, was also important. There were different types of Tatar *чулна* depending on the size of the coins. At the ends of the woven ribbons there were silver chains with many coin pendants. There may be medallions inlaid with stones (carnelian) and interconnected by silver chains. Kyrgyz braid jewellery *чолпу* is in the form of a triangular plate made of silver or copper. The Bashkir *сулпы/тәңкә*s silver or a copper pendant hung below the braids and has the type *көйәнтәле сулпы* “double pendants” (Shamigulova et al., 2015). Tuvan hair jewellery *салбак* can be added to this type, as it was worn by young girls (Ayizhy & Biche-Oolovna, 2020). The main difference between the first and second hair jewellery was *şaşbaw* (first type) is attached to the beginning and braided with the hair, and *şolpī* (second type) is attached to the tip of the braid.

The third type of ancient Turkic braid jewellery was in the form of a small bag, which is apparently out of use today (Gadzhiyeva, 1976). This jewellery name was derived from Turkic *sač* (hair) and *kap* (bag) and is found in the Kazakh, Nogai (*шаиқан*), Bashkir (*сәсқан*), Siberian-Tatar (*чәч-қан*), and Chuvash (*чәсқан*) languages. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Nogai women of the Terek-Sulak lowland wore similar bags (*шуткы*) for braids. It was like a headdress worn under a scarf, in the form of a bag for braids made of black fabric 80-90 cm long and 60-70 cm wide with ribbon tied in the upper part. The ribbons, crossing the head, were tied at the back. According to S.Sh. Gadzhieva *чуткы* (a headband in the form of a bag where women hid the hair) was used by the Kumyk woman (Gadzhiyeva, 1976). Table 7 lists all three types of jewellery for braids in ancient Turkic languages.

Table 7: Jewellery for Braids in The Turkic Languages.

Ancient Turkic Languages	The First Type	The Second Type	The Third Type
Kazakh	<i>шаибау (şaşbaw)</i>	<i>шолпы(şolpī)</i>	<i>шаиқан(şaşqar)</i>
Karakalpak	<i>шаибау (şaşbaw)</i>	<i>шолпы (şolpī)</i>	<i>шаиқан (şaşqar)</i>
Nogai	<i>шаибау (şaşbaw)</i>	<i>шолпы (şolpī)</i>	<i>шаиқан (şaşqar)</i>
Tatar	<i>чәчбау (čäčbaw)</i>	<i>чулна (čwłra)</i>	
Bashkir	<i>сәсбау (säsbaw)</i>	<i>сулпы (swłpī) сәстәңкә(sästäŋkä)</i>	<i>сәсқан (säsqar)</i>
Siberian Tatar		<i>чулпы (čwłpī)</i>	<i>чәчқан (čäčqar)</i>
Kumyk			<i>чуткы (čwtkw)</i>
Uzbek	<i>чочпонук (čočporuk)</i>		
Uyghur	<i>гөйәк (göyäk)</i>		
Turkmen	<i>сачлык (sačlık) сачмонджук (sačmonjuk)</i>		
Chuvash		<i>чулпă(čwłpa) сештенкӛ (sestenkӛ)</i>	<i>чәсқан (čöčqar)</i>
Kyrgyz	<i>чачбак (čäčbak)</i>	<i>чолпу (čolpw)</i>	
Altai	<i>чач нууш (čäč nwš)</i>		
Teleut	<i>чач бууш(čäč bwš)</i>		
Tuvan	<i>чавага(čavaga) боошкун (booškwŋ)</i>	<i>салбак (salbak)</i>	
Khakas	<i>нос чачак (nos čäčak)</i>		
Yakut	<i>сүһүөх сүмэһэ(swhwoh simeye)</i>		

Turkic peoples devoted particular attention to hair, and believed that a woman’s soul was in her hair. Long hair was the pride of women, while short hair was considered a sign of trouble or illness. According to ancient worldview, there was a certain connection between a woman’s hair (length, thickness) and female

fertility. Tassels and fringes at the ends of pendants and ribbons woven into braids served as a protection from negative energy and had a semantic characteristic of religious and cult ideas (Kuzeeva, 2014). A similar function was performed by ringing braid pendants and coins attached to head-dresses, temple pendants and earrings that drove away “evil spirits”

## Conclusion

The jewellery names common to almost all Turkic languages identify ethnogenetic and linguistic parallels in the jewellery culture of the Turkic peoples. Some features of the common names of jewellery from the dictionaries have been identified in this study. It is evident that jewellery had several names in the ancient Turkic language, which is the source of all common jewellery names in modern Turkic languages. In addition to common jewellery names, Turkic people had a lot of specific jewellery types. Studying the common names of Turkic jewellery show that many of them are characteristic of Turkic peoples and also have local characteristics. For example, jewellery for hair were characteristic to the Kipchak, Karluk, Oguz-Turkmen branch, Bulgar, and the Kyrgyz-Kypchak, Uighur-Oguz Siberian groups of Turkic people.

Turkic jewellery with common names were made from different materials that had sacred power. It was believed that coral brought wealth and fertility, pearl, silver, cowrie shells had healing properties and protected people from evil spirits. The claws and teeth of animals, beads were used as amulets. The shine and sound of metal pendants repelled evil spirits. Jewellery was an integral part of the Turkic culture and had deep semantic content, the study of which helps to expand knowledge about the traditional culture of the Turkic peoples.

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