

“Endangered Turkic Languages From China”

Talking about the Endangered Turkic languages, we should look at the following geography: 1. Turkic languages in former Soviet Unions, 2. Turkic languages in the Peoples Republic of China, 3. Turkic languages in Iran.

There are some more Turkic languages in Afghanistan, but we can not define them as “Endangered” languages, because we can find their native speakers in the neighbouring countries in large numbers (such as Uzbek language, in Uzbekistan; Kirghiz language, in Kirgizstan; Turkmen language, in Turkmenistan).

I will talk about Turkic languages from PRC. Until 1990ies, there were nine spoken Turkic languages. These are: 1. Fuyu Kirgis language, 2. Tuvinian language, 3. Uzbek language, 4. Tatar language, 5. Yellow Uighur language, 6. Salir language, 7. Kirghiz language, 8. Kazakh language, and 9. Modern Uighur.

Today in China Uzbeks and Tatars in daily life speak mainly Modern Uighur. Fuyu Kirgis people in Manchuria (Heilongjiang), do not speak their native tongue any more. They speak in Ölöt Mongolian or Chinese. I will deal with Fuyu Kirgis, Yellow Uighur, Salir and Tuvinian languages in my paper as a part of my field research materials.