

# TURCOLOGICA

Herausgegeben von Lars Johanson

Band 101

2014

Harrassowitz Verlag · Wiesbaden

Vitaly Voinov

Politeness Devices  
in the Tuvan Language

2014

Harrassowitz Verlag · Wiesbaden

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek  
Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen  
Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet  
über <http://dnb.dnb.de> abrufbar.

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek  
The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche  
Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available on the internet  
at <http://dnb.dnb.de>.

For further information about our publishing program consult our  
website <http://www.harrassowitz-verlag.de>

© Otto Harrassowitz GmbH & Co. KG, Wiesbaden 2014  
This work, including all of its parts, is protected by copyright.  
Any use beyond the limits of copyright law without the permission  
of the publisher is forbidden and subject to penalty. This applies  
particularly to reproductions, translations, microfilms and storage  
and processing in electronic systems.  
Printed on permanent/durable paper.  
Printing and binding: Hubert & Co., Göttingen  
Printed in Germany

ISSN 0177-4743  
ISBN 978-3-447-10277-3

# Contents

List of illustrations .....	viii
List of tables .....	ix
Glossing conventions .....	x
Acknowledgments .....	xi
1. General introduction.....	1
1.1 Background on Tuva and Tuvan language studies.....	1
1.2 Theories of linguistic politeness.....	4
1.2.1 The early history of classical politeness theories .....	4
1.2.2 The Brown & Levinson model.....	4
1.2.3 Reactions to the Brown & Levinson model .....	7
1.2.4 Response to criticisms of the Brown & Levinson model .....	12
1.2.4.1 Response to criticisms based on first- versus second-order politeness .....	12
1.2.4.2 Response to criticisms based on group face versus individual face in politeness .....	13
1.2.4.3 Response to criticism of B&L's utterance-based approach ..	19
1.3 The study of politeness in the Turkic languages .....	22
1.4 Motivation, goals and limitations of present study.....	23
1.5 Description of data sources .....	25
1.5.1 Corpus work.....	25
1.5.1.1 Annotation .....	28
1.5.2 Fieldwork .....	29
1.5.2.1 Stage 1 questionnaire .....	29
1.5.2.2 Stage 2 questionnaire/interview .....	30
1.5.3 Individual contact with Tuvan consultants.....	31
1.6 Outline of the rest of this work.....	32
2. Emic perceptions of politeness in Tuvan society .....	33
2.1 Introduction .....	33
2.2 An expanded Tuvan definition of politeness.....	34
2.3 Terms in Tuvan semantic field of politeness.....	35
2.3.1 <i>Evileŋ-eeldek</i> .....	36
2.3.2 <i>Xündüleeečel</i> .....	37
2.3.3 <i>Čimčak</i> .....	40
2.4 Emic terms related to 'face' in Tuvan .....	43
2.4.1 <i>Arin</i> 'visage' .....	43
2.4.2 <i>At</i> 'name' .....	45
2.5 'Golden words' and speech acts.....	47
2.6 Differential treatment according to relative age.....	53

2.7 Other Tuvan sayings about politeness/respect .....	56
2.8 Perceptions of impoliteness in Tuvan society .....	57
3. Tuvan politeness devices based on group face .....	65
3.1 Introduction .....	65
3.2 Tuvan pronouns: The politeness of plurality .....	69
3.2.1 Repluralized pronouns .....	72
3.2.1.1 Examples and interpretations of honorific RPs .....	77
3.2.1.2 Examples of non-honorific RPs .....	81
3.2.2 Dialectal variation in T/V/V <sub>2</sub> pronoun use .....	82
3.3 Terms of address .....	86
3.3.1 Non-kin terms .....	87
3.3.2 Kin terms and polite name avoidance .....	91
3.3.2.1 Fictive kin terms .....	97
3.4 Interaction between polite pronouns and deferential address terms .....	104
4. Tuvan politeness devices based on individual face .....	109
4.1 Introduction .....	109
4.2 Indirect speech acts .....	109
4.2.1 Interrogative instead of direct imperative (future action framed as question) .....	112
4.2.2 Conditional + evaluation instead of direct imperative (reason frame) .....	113
4.2.3 Conditional + interrogative as polite negotiation (embedded frame) .....	116
4.3 Polite auxiliary verbs .....	118
4.3.1 Auxiliary verb constructions in Tuvan .....	119
4.3.2 Auxiliary <i>bolur</i> and the ability condition .....	120
4.3.3 Auxiliary <i>kör-</i> and attemptive modality .....	123
4.3.3.1 Excursus: ‘See/try’ as a politeness marker cross-linguistically .....	129
4.3.4 Auxiliary <i>ber-</i> and benefactivity .....	133
4.4 Particles .....	136
4.4.1 <i>-(A)m</i> in directives .....	136
4.4.1.1 Structure and distribution .....	137
4.4.1.2 Politeness effect .....	140
4.4.1.3 Disambiguation from intensifying <i>am/- (A)m</i> .....	143
4.4.2 <i>Iyin</i> in declaratives .....	146
4.4.3 <i>Irgi</i> in interrogatives .....	149
4.4.4 <i>İnar/añar</i> and <i>moonar</i> .....	152
4.4.5 <i>Šive/šüve/šijme/šüjme</i> .....	156
4.4.6 <i>Čügle</i> .....	158

5. Conclusion.....	161
5.1 Summary of findings.....	161
5.2 Suggestions for future research .....	166
Appendices	
A. Bibliography of dissertations on the Tuvan language written in Russian.....	169
B. Stage 1 questionnaire.....	175
C. Stage 2 questionnaire / interview.....	185
References .....	191