Stress and Vowel Reduction in West Middle Mongolian: The Case in the Language of *Muqaddimat al-Adab*

Yoshio Saitô
Tokyo Gakugei University
Tokyo, Japan

One man's error is another man's data.
Berman's Corollary to Robert's Axiom
The Complete Murphy's Law
by Arthur Bloch, 1990

Representation of Mongolian Vowels in *Muqaddimat al-Adab*[1]

(1)

	# __	# C __	# CX __ Y	__ #
*i / ï	ایـ <ây>	یـ <y>		
*ä		یـ <y> ـا <â>		ـه <h> ـا <â>
*a		ـا، <â>		
*ö/o/ü/u	او <âw>	و <w>		

#: Word boundary C: Any consonant X, Y: Any element(s) ___: Position

(2)

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Location	Meaning
altan	<âltân>	التان	099-l-17	gold
balɣasun	<bâlɣâswn>	بالغاسون	110-l-18	city
gär	<kyr>	کیر	170-r-10	yurt
morin	<mwryn>	مورین	238-r-09	horse
olan	<âwlân>	اولان	264-l-20	many
tärä	<tyrh>	تیره	348-l-08	that

"Omission" of Vowel Letters in *Muqaddimat al-Adab*

(3a) Words of Arabic Origin

	Muqaddimat al-Adab		Location	Meaning
bereket	<brkt>	برکت	117-r-23	blessing
ɣanïmet	<ɣnymt>	غنیمت	175-l-13	booty
kefen	<kfn>	کفن	213-l-29	shroud

(3b) Words of Persian Origin

	Muqaddimat al-Adab		Location	Meaning
došman	<dšmn>	دشمن	111-l-32	enemy
namāz	<nmâz>	نماز	245-l-14	prayer [pɹéə˞]

[1]Transliterated forms are given in < >. "Mo." stands for Written Mongolian form. "Location" means the place where each word appears in Поппе (1938). They are page number, column ("l" for left, "r" for right) and line number.

(4) Native Mongolian Words

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Location	Meaning
baraba	<bârbh>	باربه	111-r-17	finished
basa	<bsh>	بسه	113-l-10	again
bügüdä	<bwkdh>	بوكده	125-l-20	in all
ɣarba	<ɣrbh>	غربه	108-r-21	went out
ɣurban	<ɣrbân>	غربان	179-r-26	three
harban	<hrbân>	هربان	181-r-01	ten
jaqa	<jqâ>	جقا	201-r-03	collar
jalaɣū	<jlw>	جلو	200-r-24	young
jasaqu	<jsâqw>	جساقو	147-l-27	to fix
qalaɣûn	<qlâwwn>	قلاوون	191-r-24	hot
qara	<qrâ>	قرا	292-l-04	black
käräg	<kyrk>	كيركـ	157-l-32	necessity
käsäg	<kysk>	كيسكـ	217-l-22	piece
qataɣū	<qtâww>	قتاوو	295-l-20	hard
kündü	<kndw>	كندو	221-r-27	heavy
mönggü	<mnkw>	منكو	105-l-15	silver
nökür	<nwkr>	نوكر	158-l-07	friend
tariyān	<tryân>	تريان	341-r-09	grain

Copyists' and/or Typographers' Mistakes?

Reflection of the Then Actual Phonetic Forms?

A. Vowels Different in Quality from Their Corresponding Vowels in Written Mongolian

(5a) Mo. a : Muq. <â>, <y>, Ø / {<y>, <j>}___

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab* Form with			Meaning
	<â>	<y>	Ø	
bayasqaba	<bâyâsqâbh> بایاسقابه	<bâyysqâbh> بایيسقابه		made happy
ačaraba		<âjyrâbh> اجيرابه	<âjrâbh> اجرابه	brought
arča		<ârjy> ارجی		juniper
qalčaɣai		<qljyɣây> قلجيغای	<qljɣây> قلجغای	bald
čačar		<jâjyr> جاجير		large tent
čaɣān	<jâɣân> جاغان	<jyɣân> جيغان	<jɣân> جغان	white

Mo. u : Muq. <w>, <y> / <j>___

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab* Form with <w>	<y>	Meaning
ayulyaba		<âyylyâbh> ايلغابه	frightened
sačuba		<sâjybh> ساجيبه	spread
güyülgäbä ~güyilgäbä	<kwywl#kbh> كويول كبه	<kwyylkbh> كوييلكبه	caused to run

(5b) Mo. a : Muq. <w> / <b>___

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab* Form with <w>	Meaning
qalbaya	<qâlbwyh> قالبوغه	spoon

Mo. i : Muq. <y>, <w> / <b>___

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab* Form with <y>	<w>	Meaning
qabirya	<qâbyryâ> قابيرغا	<qâbwryâ> قابورغا	rib

B. Other Observable Phonetic Tendencies

(6) Long Vowels

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Location	Meaning
aduyūsun	<âdwswn>	ادوسون	096-l-04	animal
dayūn	<dâwwn>	داوون	139-l-14	sound
idägän	<âydââ~n>	ايداآن	194-r-14	food
jägün	<jâwwn>	جاوون	205-r-09	needle
jayān	<jâân>	جاان	199-l-14	elephant
jayūn	<jâwwn>	جاوون	203-r-13	hundred
käriyä	<kryh>	كريه	097-l-07	crow
küjün	<kwjwn>	كوجون	226-l-33	neck
kümün	<kwwn>	كوون	230-r-25	man
qayūčin	<qwjyn>	قوجين	313-r-02	old
ülägäbä	<hwlâbh>	هولابه	190-r-19	left over
ulayān	<hwlân>	هولان	187-l-16	red

(7) Word-initial and Word-final Vowels

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Location	Meaning
äbäčin	<âybjyn>	ايبجين	222-r-29	disease
ämäs	<âyms>*	ايمس	154-l-17	women
äräs	<âyrs>*	ايرس	162-r-06	men
äriksän	<âyrksân>	ايركسان	163-r-19	sought
itägäl	<âytâkl>	ايتاكل	198-r-01	faith

ükär	<âwkr>	اوكر	142-r-20	ox, cow
uyitan	<âwytn>	اويتن	160-l-16	narrow
aburi	<âbry>*	ابرى	094-r-15	character
ämüsgäbä	<âwmwskbh>	اوموسكبه	128-r-03	clothed
ačaraba	<âjrâbh>	اجرابه	196-r-05	brought
iräbä	<âyrbh>	ايربه	155-l-06	came
öngäräbä	<âwnkrâbh>	اونكرابه	192-l-23	passed
basa	<bsh>	بسه	113-l-10	again
bida	<bdâ>	بدا	175-l-23	we
jaqa	<jqâ>	جقا	201-r-03	rim
qara	<qrâ>	قرا	292-l-04	black
sara	<srâ>	سرا	201-r-28	the moon
tärä	<trh>	تره	163-r-07	that

(8) Resonant Consonants

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Location	Meaning
ɣarba	<ɣrbh>*	غربه	108-r-21	went out
kündü	<kndw>	كندو	221-r-27	heavy
mönggü	<mnkw>	منكو	105-l-15	silver
arban	<hrbân>*	هربان	181-r-01	ten
ɣurban	<ɣrbân>*	غربان	179-r-26	three
qalaɣūn	<qlâwwn>	قلاوون	191-r-24	hot
tariyān	<tryân>*	تريان	341-r-09	grain
dotur	<dwtr>	دوتر	149-r-29	inside
nökür	<nwkr>	نوكر	158-l-07	friend
ačaraba	<âjrâbh>	اجرابه	196-r-05	brought
butaraba	<bwtrâbh>	بترابه	126-r-01	broke into pieces
käkäräbä	<kykrâbh>	كيكرابه	213-r-24	eructed
öngäräbä	<âwnkrâbh>	اونكرابه	192-l-23	passed
quɣuraba	<qwqrâbh>	قوقرابه	227-l-07	broke
butaraqsan	<bwtrâqsân>	بوتراقسان	126-r-11	broke into pieces
doturaki	<dwtrâqy>	دوتراقى	143-r-08	being within

Non-Phonetic Constraints?

(9) Some Native Monosyllabic Words

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Location	Meaning
gär	<kr>	كر	093-l-05	yurt
jüg	<jk>	جك	225-l-13	direction

(10) Certain Morphemes

Mo.	*Muqaddimat al-Adab*		Meaning
-ɣsan / -gsän	<qsân> <ksân>	-قسان \ -كسان	(Nomen Perfecti)
-la- / -lä-	<lâ>	-لا-	(Denominal Verb)
-ldu- / -ldü-	<ldw>	-لدو-	(Reciprocal Verb)
-lar / -lär	<lâr>	-لار	(Plural)

Stress in West Middle Mongolian

Bibliography

Боровков, А.К.
(1964) Монгольские глосси в бухарском списке «Мукаддимат ал-Адаб», *Народы азии и африки*, No.1, Москва.
(1965) К истории словаря «Мукаддимат ал-Адаб» Замахшари, *Вопросы языкознания*, No.2, Москва.

Hattori, Shirô
(1959) The Length of Vowels in Proto-Mongol, *Gengo Kenkyû* 36, Tokyo.

Ligeti, Louis
(1962) Un vocabulaire mongol d'Istanboul, *AOH* 14, Budapest.
(1963) Notes sur le vocabulaire mongol d'Istanboul, *AOH* 16, Budapest.

Poppe, N. N.
(1927-1928)Das mongolische Sprachmaterial einer Leidener Handschrift, *Известия Академии Наук СССР*.

Поппе, Н.Н.
(1938) *Монгольский словарь Мукаддимат ал адаб, Часть I-III*, АНСССР, Москва-Ленинград

Poppe, N. N.
(1951) Eine viersprachige Zamaxšarī-Handschrift, *ZDMG* 101.
(1959) On the Velar Stops in Intervocalic Position in Mongolian, *Ural- Altaische Jahrbücher* 31.

Saitô, Yoshio
(1994) Formation of the Secondary Long Vowels in Middle Mongolian and the Arabic Transcription Employed in *Muqaddimat al-Adab*, *Bulletin of Tokyo Gakugei University*, Section II, Vol.45.

Yüce, Nuri
(1988) *Mukaddimetü'l-edeb, Ḫvârizm Türkçesi ile Tercümeli Şuşter Nüshası*, Ankara.