

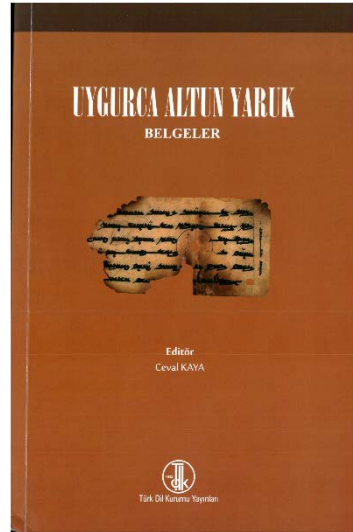


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**Kaya, Ceval (Ed.). *Uygurca Altun Yaruk Belgeler* [= Goldglanz-Sūtra Documents in Old Uyghur]. Ankara: Türk Dil Kurumu Yayınları, 2023, pp. 842, ISBN: 978-975-17-5510-0**

**Buket Nur KIRMIZIGÜL ŞİMŞEK\***

Prof. Dr. Ceval Kaya, renowned for his studies on Altun Yaruk, one of the bulkiest works in Old Uyghur Turkic, has undertaken the editorial responsibilities of a meticulous book that will make a substantial contribution to the research on this field. The chapters of this text have been published separately starting from the earliest studies on Old Uyghur, continuing until the present day. The studies on Altun Yaruk (hereafter referred to as AY) commence on 1908 when F. W. K. Müller published five fragments from the Turfan collections in Germany in the first volume of the *Uigurica* series. In 1910, S. E. Malov discovered the most voluminous copy of the work in the Gansu region of China. Currently preserved in Petersburg, this manuscript was copied in 1687, and it was published by Radloff and Malov in cast Uyghur letters between the years 1913-1917. Subsequently, many researchers studied the text in parts over this publication with cast Uyghur letters. The Radloff-Malov publication of the manuscript is not a facsimile but rather a typeset printing. Although this feature facilitates the utilisation of this manuscript, it is not as reliable as the facsimile (Kaya 2021: 9; Gözel 2022: 94).



\* Res. Asst., Eskişehir Osmangazi University (Eskişehir / Turkey), e-mail: buketkirmizigul@gmail.com / ORCID ID: 0000-0003-0969-534X.

By the year 1994, this work, whose various parts had been separately studied by different researchers until then, was first published in its entirety, both as a text and an index, by Ceval Kaya. In this study, prepared based on the Radloff-Malov publication, nearly 200 parallel documents are also utilized. This publication presents a landmark for AY studies because the comprehensive approach from only one scholar makes it possible to look at the work as a whole. Additionally, the Index section allows for the identification of other fragments belonging to AY in the Turfan collection (Gözel 2022: 94).

Kaya did not stop working on AY afterwards, and it can be said that he devoted almost his entire life to this text. In 2021, Ceval Kaya published the second edition of the same work, revising it with significant corrections and additions. During the period from 1994 to 2021, more studies on Old Uyghur, other publications of AY editions, and the cataloging of AY fragments in Berlin by Raschmann enabled the completion of many damaged parts in the Petersburg copy and the correction of a number of misreadings.

The AY edition to be introduced here includes the publication of 899 fragments of the AY preserved in Berlin. Ceval Kaya supervised a total of 16 master's theses between 2003 and 2018, in which he made his students to study these Berlin fragments. This work in which Kaya compiled and revised the mentioned master's theses, with the addition of newer fragments, is the outcome of a significant effort and patience spanning a twenty-year period. Other authors of this work who read and studied the fragments in their theses are as follows: Ümit Özgür Demirci, Murat Elmalı, Ayşegül Gözel, Tülin Ayşe Koç, Şenol Korkmaz, Yahya Küçük, Gökhan Kütükçü, Gürşat Polat, Alpay Sarıyıldız, Yusuf Savaşçı, Abdurrahman Seymen, Yıldız Soydan, Emel Topçu, Mithat Usta, Muammer Yücal.

The Berlin fragments, which were studied by 16 different researchers at different times, are arranged in this work by Ceval Kaya according to their counterparts in his publication of AY's Petersburg manuscript in 2021. The fragments, which cannot be identified to which part of the AY they belong, are put at the end of the text section. Moreover, the transcription systems used in these separate studies have been standardized by Kaya here. A single whole index of all fragments is also made in this work. Since translation is not included in this edition, meanings of words are not given in the Index.

In the construction of the text, the number of the read fragment in the collection is provided first, then followed by its number in the catalogues. Details found in the catalogs about the document are not reiterated here. Following the catalog number, the lines corresponding to Kaya's 2021 edition of AY are given. Subsequently, if a facsimile of the document has been printed before, information about this publication is provided. Thereafter, if at least half of the document has been previously published, this publication(s) is(are) cited. Finally, the surname of the author who studied the document in his/her thesis with the document number in it, and the transcription of the document are given. The study does not contain a translation into Turkey Turkish. It is stated that the main objective of this publication is not to reconstruct the AY text, but rather to present the linguistic material of the fragments. Therefore, it is also explained that *dharanis* that do not make sense for Turkic are not included in the

construction of the text (Kaya, 2023: 17). To demonstrate an example of the method followed in the text, we can present a section from the document as follows:

### Mz 303

Katalog: Ehlers 122

Kaya 2021: 10724-10739

Yayın: Kaya 1994:236; Ayazlı 2012: 63-64; Kaya 2021: 427

Transkripsiyon: Seymen 19

#### Ön

- |       |      |  |
|-------|------|--|
| 9839. | (01) | nom üze yırtınçüke ulug asıg tusu kılımlı[ş ...]   |
| 9840. | (02) | ödün tınl(ı)glarka asıglıg edgü sakınç [...kamag]- |
| 9841. | (03) | -ka bir yañlıg inçgü meñi birt[eçi ...]            |
| 9842. | (04) | ögli köñültin turmış köni [...]                    |
| 9843. | (05) | -LYĞ kūsüşüñüzler küçinte ötgürü [...]             |
| 9844. | (06) | yırtınçüg közetçi bolguluk [...]                   |

It is emphasized that for assembling nearly 900 fragments in such a publication, the catalogs prepared by Gerhard Ehlers (1987) and in particular Simone-Christiane Raschmann (2000, 2002, 2005) have been greatly utilized. Another point emphasized by Ceval Kaya is that these fragments of AY, constitute a substantial portion, which is 14.10%, of the total approximately 8,000 Old Turkic fragments preserved in Berlin. Of the 899 documents included in this study, 9 are from other collections. It is thought that the AY fragments in Berlin have come from over 70 different copies. In light of all the information, it is understood that AY was a highly popular text in Turkish Buddhism, which was copied and read many times.

Ceval Kaya, whose each research endeavor has been a landmark in the field and has shaped the direction of AY studies, has made a substantial contribution to this work as an editor, as a thesis advisor, and as one of the authors of the book. This work will be one of the fundamental reference books for researchers and will facilitate future AY and thus Old Uyghur studies. We express our gratitude to the esteemed authors for their valuable contributions to this work, which spans approximately two decades and is a product of substantial efforts.

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