

Kartvelian *mag- "strong" ~ PIE *meng^h- "abundant, numerous" ~ Altaic *maŋa "hard, strong, firm" ~ Sino-Tibetan *maŋ "much, many". From the point of view of the semantic development in Eg. mǝ "ten", Central Cush. Higi mǝŋəy "id.", Bana mǝŋə "id.", the PIE and Sino-Tibetan proto-forms are considerable.

Abbreviations:

Berb.: Berbero-Libyan, Cush.: Cushitic, Eg.: Egyptian, Med.: Medical Texts, MK: Middle Kingdom, PAA: Proto-Afrasian, PIE: Proto-Indo-European, PS: Proto-Semitic.

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BARBARA MICHALAK

"XVII CONGRESS OF UNION EUROPEENNE DES ARABISANTS ET ISLAMISANTS, SAINT-PETERSBURG, AUGUST 22—26 1994"

XVIIth Congress of Arabists and Islamists was held in August 1994 in Saint-Petersburg. It was organized by the Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants. Professor John Mattock from Great Britain was the chairman of this congress. The part of the organizers were held by professor Yuri A. Petrosyan and Dr. Yefim A. Rezvan. Representatives of all European countries were debating in two sections: "Textual criticism and approaches to texts" and "The Islamic World and Eastern Europe: Contacts and Interaction". 59 papers were delivered during this congress. They will be published in special volume in 1995. Poland was represented by Dr. Barbara Michalak who gave a speech on: "Innovatory trends in literary works of Layla al-Uthman — contemporary Kuwaiti writer".

In the section "Textual criticism and approaches to texts" Dr. Bayan R a i h a n o v a from Bulgaria presented paper "Some trends in Development of Modern Syrian Novel". In her paper she emphasizes that the creative works of Syrian authors show that the national novel is developing in the framework of overall regularities inherent to the contemporary Arabian literature and confirms the unity and integrity of processes developing in it and also its leading trends.

Another interesting paper was presented by prof. Joseph N. Bell from U.S.A. "Laughter and Tears in the Seven Days of Man". He said that Abdel Hakim Kassem's novel "The Seven Days of Man" lacks a strong plot places a correspondingly greater burden on the author's descriptive technique. In the English translation of the novel it was necessary to use a great many synonyms for laughter and weeping in order to avoid repetition.

Prof. Olga Frolova from Russia presented paper: "The verses by Arabic poet Ahmad Hibi from Israel". Ahmad Hibi verses were not studied before. Now, he is editor of popular magazine "Al-Minbar". In his verses there are old traditions of Arabic literature and innovations in peculiar combinations. His collection "*Afkar liqasa'id qadima*" contains short poetical passages and philosophical aphorisms, which express the poet's thoughts.

Dr. Eduard C. M. de Moor from Netherlands gave a speech on the subject: "More about the modern School of Egyptian Prose". He said that in 1917 Muhammad Taymur lunched a series of short stories which has been considered to be the beginning of a new style writing. From November 1918 he met with Ahmad Khayri Sa'id, Ibrahim al-Misri, Mahmud Tahir Lashin and others to discuss the distruction of the old literature and the construction of a new one in what they called the *madrasat al-adab wa-l-funun al-gadida*. This study is a part of a study on the Modern School which will concentrate further on Husayn Fawzi, Mahmud Taymur.

Prof. Walther Wiebke from Germany was talking about "Women's Questions in Modern Iraqi Literature". In her opinion Iraqi women authors deal with women questions in another way, from depicting freer erotic relations between men and women (A. Mamduh, L. Dulaymi), most of which end in social stigmatization to sometimes completely ignoring this theme, writing like a male author about males.

It is difficult to summarize all papers presented during the congress. Among famous scholars were: prof. S. Wild and prof. H. H. Biesterfeldt from Germany, prof. D. Frolov and prof. A. Dolinina from Russia, prof. W. F. Madelung from Great Britain, prof. T. Kronholm from Sweden, dr. H. Kilpatrick from Canada.

Prof. W. F. Madelung from Oxford was elected as a new President of U. E. A. I. Next congress will be organized in Leuven, in Belgium in 1996.

KRZYSZTOF PILARCZYK

POLES AND "JEWISH-POLISH" TOPICS IN THE ELEVENTH WORLD CONGRESS OF JEWISH STUDIES

In the Eleventh World Congress of Jewish Studies, which took place in Jerusalem on July 22-29, 1993, there participated near 800 scientists from almost all centres taking up "Jewish" topics in the following division: (1) the Bible and its world, (2) the history of the Jewish people, (3) thought and literature, (4) languages and arts. The lectures went on in such a partition, divided into sections.

The Congress was held under the auspices of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Israel. At its opening ceremony the participants met at the Jerusalem Centre for the Performing Arts (the Sherover Theatre). The arrived guests were welcomed by the president of the Congress, prof. Ezra Fleischer. After the greetings among others by the President of the State of Israel, Ezer Weizman, prof. Menachem Elon delivered the opening lecture "Human Dignity and Personal Freedom." The only member of the diplomatic staff participating in this ceremony was prof. Jan Dowgiałło, the ambassador of Poland in Israel.

The following Poles participated in the Congress and delivered lectures: dr. Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska (Univ. of M. Curie Skłodowski, Lublin): *The Reception of I.B. Singer's Fiction in Poland*, dr. Alina Cała (Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw): *Anti-Semitism in Poland - New Phenomenon or Continuation*, dr. Helena Datner-Śpiewak (Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw): *Major Trends of Anti-Semitism in Post-War Poland: a Sociological Perspective*, dr. Barbara Pendzich (Wrocław, at present Georgetown Univ., Washington): *Juggling Order and Destruction: Jews in 17th Century Sluck*, Kazimierz and Maria Piechotka (Warsaw): *The Synagogues of Lwów and On the Unpromised Land: The Architecture of Polish Synagogues during the 16th-19th Centuries* (video tapes), dr. Krzysztof Pilarczyk (Jagiellonian Univ., Cracow): *Bibliographies of Polish Judaica: State and Directions of Research*, dr. Eugenia Prokop-Janiec (Jagiellonian Univ., Cracow): *Literary Cliché versus Social Stereotype: The Image of the Jew in 19th Century Polish Literature and Documentary Writing* and dr. Hanna Węgrzynek (Polish Academy of Science, Historical Institute, Warsaw): *Accusation of Holy Host Profanations against Polish Jews in the Period of the Counter-Reformation*. There were missing six persons, who