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Report on The 17th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics, September 3–5, 2014, Rouen, France

Mehmet-Ali Akinci

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Mehmet-Ali Akıncı

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This is a short report on *The 17th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics* held September 3–5, 2014 at the University of Rouen, France.

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The 17th International Conference on Turkish Linguistics (ICTL) was hosted by Rouen University (France), 3–5 September, 2014. The event attracted much interest from a wide range of disciplines. Traditionally, the ICTL conference is a platform for scholars working in the field of Turkic linguistics. This time the organizers received abstracts covering a breadth of topics ranging from carpet colors to Turkish poetry. Some of the abstracts were outside the scope of ICTL's traditional focus. For the first time in 34 years, the organizing committee received a total of 398 proposals. Based on two anonymous reviews conducted by the academic committee composed of 56 Turkish language professors from around the world, 214 proposals for papers and three panels (workshops) were accepted. Because there were many abstract submissions from less related disciplines, the rejection rate this time was quite high: 46.5% of the 398 abstracts were not accepted by the referees. Just before the conference, the organizers received 69 cancellations, requiring rescheduling of the program. For the first time in ICTL history, the papers presented in Turkish and English were equal in number. In total, 155 paper presentations and six plenary lectures were presented to an audience of 205 participants. The plenary speakers and the titles of their talks are listed below:

Stéphane De Tapia (UMR 7043 CNRS, Strasbourg University, France): *Fran-sa'da Türk dili ve edebiyatının öğretimi. 2014 yılındaki durum, sorunsallık ve perspektifler.*

Prof. Dr. Ayhan Aksu-Koç (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey): *Socioeconomic status and language development: Evidence from adult inputs and child outputs.*

Prof. Éva Á. Csató Johanson (Department of Linguistics and Philology, Uppsala University, Sweden): *Turkic relatives revisited.*

Prof. Dr. Aydın Yücesan Durgunoğlu (University of Minnesota Duluth, USA), *Integrating cognitive and sociocultural aspects of reading in Turkish.*

Prof. Dr. Eser Erguvanlı Taylan (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey): *A modality map of Turkish.*

Prof. Dr. Tooru Hayasi (University of Tokyo, Japan): *Eynu, a Modern Uyghur-based secret language, and its implication in Turkic linguistics.*

Three panels were presented at the 17th ICTL:

1. Irina Nevskaya & Lars Johanson: *Optative in Turkic* (5 Papers)
2. Beste Kamali: *Interrogatives in varieties of Turkic* (9 papers)
3. Christoph Schroeder & Jochen Rehbein & Yazgül Şimşek: *Turkish-Kurdish language contact.* (6 papers)

ICTL made the University of Rouen the capital of Turkish language studies during the three days of the conference. On the sidelines of the conference, two excursions, one to the coast of Normandy (Caen Memorial and the Landing Beaches) and the other to Mont Saint Michel, publicized and promoted the cultural heritage of Normandy.

The 17th ICTL organizers are grateful for the advice, assistance, and cooperation of everyone who contributed to the conference. They would especially like to thank Professor Éva Á. Csató Johanson (Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden) and Associate Professor Dr. Çiğdem Sağın Şimşek (METU, Ankara, Turkey) for their guidance and assistance on all matters great and small. They also wish to thank the members of the Academic Committee for their reviews of all the abstracts submitted. The review process is an integral part of ICTL, and the organizers are grateful to the members of the academic committee.