

## **sayin** IN MONGOLIC AND **sağ** IN TURKIC

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### **Abstract**

*In this paper the author compares the word “sayin” in Mongolic language group with “sağ” in Turkic language group focusing on whether they have a close relationship in lexical meaning and phonetic form and lists some sayin - rooted words in Mongolic language group, such as sayin, sayitur, sayid, sayijiraqu ... and sağ rooted words in Turkic language group, such as sağ, sağlık, sağol, sağalmak .... Lastly they are viewed as common word of Mongolic and Turkic.*

**Key words:** Mongolic “sayin”, Turkic “sağ”.

### **Moğolcada sayin ve Türkçede sağ Kelimeleri Üzerine**

#### **Özet**

*Bu makalede yazar Moğol dillerindeki “sayin” ile Türk dillerindeki “sağ” kelimelerinin anlamsal ve fonetik açıdan yakınlığının bulunup bulunmadığını karşılaştırarak Moğol dillerinde kökü sayin olan, sayin, sayitur, sayid, sayijiraqu, Türk dillerinde ise kökü sağ olan sağ, sağlık, sağol, sağalmak gibi kelimeleri listelemiştir. Sonuç olarak, onların Türkçe ve Moğolcada ortak kelime olduklarını tetkik etmiştir.*

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Moğolca “sayin”, Türkçe “sağ”.

It is complicated to find out common words in Altaic languages, which specialists engaged in Altaic studies depend mostly on when they make a comparative research on the phonetic, grammar and vocabulary. So far, with the efforts of the scholars from several countries, a number of common words

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in Mongolic and Turkic language groups have been found and studied. As the research continues, more common words have been discovered and proved through various research methods.

There are some *sayin* - rooted words in Mongolic language group, such as, *sayin*, *sayitur*, *sayiqan*, *sayitai*, *sayid*, *sayičuul*, *sayisiyaqu*, *sayidaqu*, *sayirqal*, *sayijiraqu* ... and *saġ* - rooted words in Turkic language group, such as *saġ*, *saġlık*, *saġol*, *saġalmak*...

While studying and proving common words in Mongolic and Turkic language groups, correspondence in meaning and similarities in phonetic form are used as a standard, which is also used when a comparative research is made on the word *sayin* in Mongolic and *saġ* in Turkic.

In Mongolian dictionaries, the word *sayin* is antonym for “bad”, means “appropriate, of quality, excellent; good, happy; healthy, complete, fine, skilled”.

The word *sayin* occurs five times in the form of *sayi* in *Secret History of the Mongols* with the meaning “good, healthy, skilled”. There are also some words beginning with *sayi* in *Secret History of the Mongols*, such as, *sayin*, *sayibar*, *sayid*, *sayiqan*, *sayitan*, *sayit*, *saitu*, *sayitur*, which are similar in meaning with *sayi*. Therefore, it can be concluded that the root of those words is *sayi*. In addition the word *sayi* is written as “*迈惕胞*” in the literatures in Uighur-Mongol script and “say” should be recommended in Mongolian writing. There are a number of “say”- rooted words, which are same in meaning in various languages in Mongolic language group, for example, Dagur: *sain* “good”, *sajil* “praise”, *sajilerdagu* “be praised”, *saikan* “good-looking”; Eastern Yugur: *sain* “good”, *sai|a:l* “praise”, *sai|a:-* “be praised”, *saixan* “good-looking”; Monguor: *sain* “good”, *saiea-* “praise, be praised”, *saixan* “good-looking”; Dongxiang: *saiyan* “good-looking”; Baoan: *saŋ* “good”, *sexan* “good-looking”; Moghol: *sai* “good”, *sain* “good”, *sōin* “correct”, etc.

*saġ* in Turkic refers to “healthy, safe, good, happy” in Turkish Dictionary while the very word in same form means “healthy, safe, good” in Turkic Dictionary. Also it is in common use in various languages in Turkic group nowadays with the same meaning “healthy, safe, good”. For example: Azeri: *saġ*, *saġlam*, *saġlıġ*; Bashkir: *hav*, *havlık*; Kazakh: *sav*, *savllık*; Uzbek: *saġlām*, *saġllık*; Tatar: *sau*, *sav*, *savlık*; Uygur: *saġlam*, *saġlık*, etc.

Above all, the word *sayin* in Mongolic language group and *saġ* in Turkic language group correspond to each other in meaning. Besides, while expressing one’s gratitude in Turkic, the word *saġ* is written as *saġol* with the meaning “thank, thanks a lot, that’s great”, which is as same as *sain bolul-a* in

Mongolic. Therefore, the verb *ol-* in Turkic and *bol-* in Mongolic are cognate words.

In conclusion, the word *sayin* in Mongolic language group and *sağ* in Turkic language group are cognate words based on the fact that they not only correspond to each other in meaning but also are very similar in actual application.

As far as the form is concerned, it is very obvious that the two words correspond to each other in phonetic. The word *sayin* in Mongolic appears as “撒亦*sayi*” in the transcription of *The Secret History of the Mongols* in Chinese Character while it is written as “*迈惕脍*” in other literatures in Uyghur-Mongol script. So it can be concluded that its original form should be “say”. Also “y” in Mongolic often corresponds to “g” in Turkic. For example, *dayin* “war”, *dayir* “russet”, *tayil-* “explain”, *soyi-* “reduce fat” in Mongolic and *yagi* “war, enemy”, *yagiz* “russet”, *dagil-* “dismiss”, *sagu-* “dry in the air” in Turkic.

The word *sayin* in Mongolic language group and *sağ* in Turkic language group are basic vocabulary in common use with great capacity of word formation in each language. It is obvious that they are not loanwords. Instead, they are common word of Mongol and Turkic with lots of correspondence in meaning and phonetic form.

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