
Chapter 7: Language Typology

Orkhono-Yeniseyan

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The following sentences are from the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language, an ancient language of Western Asia. Scrolls containing passages in this language were found near the confluence of the Orkhon and Yenisey rivers.

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| 1. Oghuling baliqigh alti. | 'Your son conquered the city.' |
| 2. Baz oghuligh yangilti. | 'The vassal betrayed the son.' |
| 3. Siz baliqimizin buzdiniz. | 'You (pl) destroyed our city.' |
| 4. Qaghanimiz oghulingin yangilti. | 'Our king betrayed your (sg) son.' |
| 5. Oghulim barqingin buzdi. | 'My son destroyed your (sg) house.' |
| 6. Siz qaghanigh yangiltingiz. | 'You (pl) betrayed the king.' |
| 7. Biz baliqigh altimiz. | 'We conquered the city.' |
| 8. Bazim qaghanimizin yangilti . | 'My vassal betrayed our king.' |

A. Translate the following into English:

9. Qaghan baliqigh alti
10. Men barqigh buzdim.

B. Translate the following into the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language:

11. The son conquered your city.
12. The king betrayed the vassal.
13. Your vassal destroyed my house.

C. What is the basic constituent order type of this language? In what ways is it consistent with its type, and in what ways is it inconsistent (if at all)? Be sure to cite the examples that illustrate your claims.