

Preface

The Committee of Oriental Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences has the pleasure to present to the readers volume XLIII of the series “Prace Orientalistyczne” [‘Research Papers on Oriental Studies’]. The volume constitutes a collection of studies on the Armeno-Kipchak language by Professor Edward Tryjarski, an eminent Polish Turcologist, great authority on Armeno-Kipchak, his life-long main subject of research.¹

Edward Tryjarski (born 1923 in Warsaw), graduated in law, studied Turcology at the Oriental Institute of the University of Warsaw. In 1961 he submitted his dissertation on the Kipchak dialect of the Armenians settled in Poland for which he obtained his doctor’s degree. In 1956 he became a research scholar in the Polish Academy of Sciences, in its Centre for Oriental Studies, and from 1970 in the Institute for the History of Material Culture (from 1992, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology) where he held his professorship until his retirement. In 1957–1976 Professor Tryjarski was a secretary of the *Rocznik Orientalistyczny*, a Polish journal of Oriental studies founded in 1914, and from 1977 to 2004 its editor-in-chief. Professor Tryjarski is a member of many academic societies, like e.g. Société Asiatique, Finnish Oriental Society, Polish Oriental Society, Permanent International Altaistic Conference (PIAC). He is a holder of the Holy Masrop Mashtots Medal awarded by the “Matenadaran” in Erevan, an Honorary Member of the Committee of Oriental Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, continuously participating in its activities.

¹ See *Księga dla uczczenia siedemdziesięciolecia Profesora Edwarda Tryjarskiego. A Volume of Studies Dedicated to Professor Edward Tryjarski on His Seventieth Birthday*, *Rocznik Orientalistyczny* vol. XLIX: 2, 1994: 7–35 (contains biographical sketch and bibliography of Edward Tryjarski 1951–2004); Henryk Jankowski, “Professor Edward Tryjarski”, *Rocznik Orientalistyczny* vol. LVII: 2, 2005: 5–7; “Bibliography of Edward Tryjarski 1995–2004” (compiled by Marek M. Dziekan), *ibid.*, 9–17. In Turkish: “Tryjarski, Edward” in: Hasan Eren, *Türklük Bilimi Sözlüğü I. Jabanci Türkologlar*, Ankara 1998: 320–322; “Prof. Dr. Edward Tryjarski: Hayati ve Eserleri” in: Edward Tryjarski, *Türkler ve Doğa*. Editör Dursun Ayan, İstanbul 2016: 11–79.

Armeno-Kipchak was the language of the Armenians who settled in the former south-eastern territory of Poland and used it in the 16th and 17th centuries. It belongs to the Kipchak group of the Turkic languages, together with Karaim, Tatar, and many others. A rich collection of manuscripts and historical documents which attest the legacy of the so-called “Polish Armenians” has been preserved in several libraries and archives in Poland and abroad. Working on these materials, Professor Tryjarski compiled and published his monumental work *Dictionnaire arméno-kiptchak d’après trois manuscrits des collections viennoises* (4 vols., 914 pages in print, released under the auspices of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Centre for Oriental Studies, Warsaw, 1969–1972) with which he gained a wide recognition among scholars. Furthermore, he edited and published a series of monuments of the Armeno-Kipchak language dated from the 16th–17th centuries. His bibliography lists over 300 publications – books, articles, reviews, text editions and materials, bibliographical notes, reports, etc. – in different languages, English, German, French, Russian, Polish, Turkish.

The papers of Professor Tryjarski which constitute a kind of “Armeno-Kipchak Corpus” have been published in different journals and article collections in different places over a long span of time and are not readily available in their entirety. Therefore, it was decided – with the kind consent and assistance from Professor Tryjarski himself – to bring his contributions together and publish them in a single volume in the series “Prace Orientalistyczne”.

The present volume comprises Professor Tryjarski’s contributions on Armeno-Kipchak which cover a wide range of topics – from language and literature, through history and religion, epigraphy, legal and trade documents, to astrology and alchemy. The papers dated from 1960 until present, chronologically arranged, are mostly in English, but also in Russian, German, French, and Polish.

Two papers Professor Tryjarski co-authored with Jean Deny (1879–1963)² (nos. 2 and 3 in the present volume), a dozen of others with Yaroslav R. Daškevič (Dashkevich) (1926–2010) (nos. 6, 7, 9–12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, 32).³ Four reviews of books on the relevant topics have been also included.



² Obituary “Jean Deny (1879-1963)” by E. Tryjarski in: *Przegląd Orientalistyczny* [‘Oriental Review’] 50 (2), 1964: 147–150.

³ See in this volume (no. 52) Professor Tryjarski’s paper presenting works of Yaroslav Daškevič on Armenians settled in Poland and their Kipchak language.