

**The New York Public Library - Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the

János Eckmann papers

1938-1971

MssCol 882

Compiled by Lea Jordan, April 2011

Summary

Creator: Eckmann, János

Title: János Eckmann papers, 1938-1971

Size: 2.52 linear feet (6 boxes)

Source: Donated by Dr. Ulrich Schapka, Universitaetsbibliothek Tuebingen, 2002

Abstract: János Eckmann (1905-1971) was a scholar of Turkology with a focus on historical linguistics. Eckmann's papers document his scholarship in the field of historic Turkic languages.

Access: Advance notice required. Apply at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>.

Preferred citation: Janos Eckmann papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Custodial history

First accession donated to the Oriental Division by Edward Allworth, 1994. Transferred to Manuscripts and Archives 1996.

Processing note

This is a reprocessing and addition to the original four boxes of material the library received. The addition came to the library in 2002 from Tuebingen University Library in Germany. The notebooks were removed from their binders, foldered, and arranged alphabetically.

Creator history

János Eckmann (1905-1971) was a scholar of Turkology with a focus on historical linguistics. He was born in Keszthely, Hungary and in 1937 obtained a Ph.D. in Semitics, Turkology, and Hungarian linguistics at the University of Budapest. He was the co-editor of the *Turkish Encyclopedia* and the *Turkish-English Redhouse Dictionary* during the 1950s. In 1961 he joined the Department of Near Eastern Languages at UCLA, first as a visiting, then as acting associate professor, becoming a full professor in Eastern Turkic languages and literature in 1966. Eckmann's main contributions were in the fields of Turkic historical linguistics and the history of literature. He was especially interested in the development of languages over time and different translations of historical works. He had hoped to produce a textbook on Turkic languages.

Scope and content note

Eckmann's papers document his scholarship in the field of historic Turkic languages, especially Chagatay, an extinct language which was once widely spoken in Central Asia and was the shared literary language there until the early twentieth century. His papers contain course notes for his lectures in Turkish history and language at UCLA, field notes by year from visits to institutions and libraries, and general notes, which consist of his personal and uncompleted research in the field of Turkology. The general notes - written in English and variations of Turkic languages - consist of analysis, charts, translations, word comparisons, and some history. Folders are labeled according to the titles given to each notebook by Eckmann himself and all notes are undated.

Arrangement

Alphabetical by subject.

Key terms

Subjects

Turkic languages -- History
Turkic languages -- Dialects
Turkic literature

Names

Eckmann, János

Special formats

Field notes
notebooks

Container list

- b.1 f.1-5 Course Notes, 1938-1971
 - Field Notebooks
 - b.1 f.6 1938-1964
 - b.2 f.1 1966-1971
 - General
 - b.2 f.2 Bibliography
 - b.3 f.1 Central Asian Language
 - b.3 f.2-5 Chatagay
 - b.4 f.1 Dialects and Libraries in Turkey
 - b.4 f.2 The Divan of Sibani
 - b.4 f.3 Fundamenta II
 - b.4 f.4 Hamidi
 - b.4 f.5 Kipchak Literature
 - b.4 f.6 Kirghiz
 - b.4 f.7 Meclisi
 - b.4 f.8-9 Nava'i
 - b.4 f.10 Nisab-i
 - b.5 f.1 Poetry Comparison
 - b.5 f.2 Sakkai
 - b.5 f.3 Tarih-i Rasidi
 - b.5 f.4-5 Translations of the Koran
 - b.5 f.6 Unidentified Notes
 - b.6 f.1-2 Unidentified Notes
 - b.6 f.3 Uzbek
 - b.6 f.4 Zarir Mustafa