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Recommendation for the dissertation by Yuri Petrovich Borisov

Yuri Petrovich Borisov's dissertation on "Rhythmic-syntactic parallelism in the Yakut *olonkho* and the Turco-Mongolian epics: Comparative aspects" is in my opinion a valuable contribution to the study of the Siberian traditions of oral epic poetry, but also to the study of oral epic poetry in general. There are various features of the dissertation which make it an excellent piece of scholarship. As is shown by Borisov's bibliography and his discussion in the introductory chapter, he has taken account of previous research on the Yakut oral epic as well as on the epic traditions of the Altaians, Khakas and Buryats. He has also studied the scholarly works connected to the analysis of rhythmic-syntactic parallelism, from A. N. Veselovsky to Roman Jakobson and Viktor Zhirmunsky, and taken account of more general studies of Turkic and other oral epic traditions. A further strong point of his dissertation is the selection of a representative corpus of texts, which are meticulously analysed. Borisov's analysis is firmly grounded on linguistic criteria; this enables him to present a detailed and informative picture of the various structures at play in parallelistic lines. His discussion is always clearly formulated, reliably based on textual analysis and both thoughtful and stimulating.

I find Yuri Petrovich Borisov's dissertation an excellent scholarly work. I am very happy to support his dissertation and wish him all the best for the defense of his thesis.



(Prof. Dr. Karl Reichl)

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