

Turkic Manichaeism Anthropology and Folklore

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ABSTRACT Diverse religions and different historical situations have influenced the formation of the Turkic folklore. Hence, the reflections of Manichaeism, Buddhism, Zoroastrianism and Shamanism can be found in the majority of the Turkic folklore units. The periods of formation of the old Turkic written literature, old Uyghur writing system, which was used after the runic Orkhon scripts, also had a great impact on the formation of some folklore units. In this paper, the researchers revealed the features of the Turkic folklore units, considering the religious background, historical background and the highly popular old Uyghur scripts, "Huastuanift" and the "Golden Light Sutra". The creation of the story-plots and the reasons of their creation and popularity were analyzed. The researchers reviewed the history of the creation and the transformation of some religious characters and mythical heroes present in the folklores.