

MARZANNA POMORSKA
Jagiellonian University, Cracow

MONTH NAMES IN THE CHULYM TURKIC DIALECTS – THEIR ORIGIN AND MEANING

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Abstract

Our article presents not just a review of the traditional month names in the Chulym Turkic dialects, but also its analysis from a lexical, etymological, semantic and ethnographic point of view.

Studying the traditional month names may uncover interesting and important information about aspects of the lives of their users, e.g. their main occupations, means of obtaining food, impact of natural phenomena, plants and animals important to them, the influences of foreign cultures or religions. It is especially important to investigate less well-known peoples like the Turkic peoples in Siberia, among them the Chulym Turkic peoples.

Our aim is not just a review of the existing material,¹ but also its analysis from a lexical, etymological, semantic and ethnographic point of view. Among younger generations of the Chulym Turkic peoples, we may expect the use of Russian names for the months, but they are not recorded in the literature, not even in the most recent monograph by Li Yong-Söng (2008).

Traditional Chulym names for the months of the year were first recorded by J.P. Falk² in his *Beiträge zur topographischen Kenntnis des Russischen Reichs*, III, St. Petersburg 1786: 467ff. (cf. Dułzon 1952: 117ff.) or 557 (cf. Alekseev 1991: 84). Chulym month names are recorded in several other publications: Küärik names

¹ For sources of Chulym Turkic lexical materials and the transcription used see Pomorska 2004.

² We quote Falk's material after Alekseev (1995) but, in some cases, we query the phonetics and present alternatives.

are quoted by Radloff (1893) in the first volume of his dictionary s.v. *aj* (Radloff I 7), Lower- and Middle-Chulym names are quoted in Dułzon's articles³ and Birjukovič's monographs (Dułzon 1952: 117ff., Dułzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 11f.). Li Yong-Söng (2008: 111) quote two MČ names, one of them (*kozan aj*) does not occur in the works by Dułzon and Birjukovič. Alekseev's ethnographic study on the Chulym Turkic peoples (1991) also contains relevant data: ⁴ the author lists Lower- and Middle-Chulym names which in most cases are quotations from Dułzon 1952 and from an unavailable to us work by Bojaršanova, Z. Ja.: *Naselenie Zapadnoj Sibiri do načala russkoj kolonizacii*, Tomsk 1960.

Falk and Radloff list twelve month names, Dułzon and Birjukovič – thirteen. Alekseev quotes thirteen names for Lower Chulym and fifteen names for Middle Chulym. All the authors present the month names in ordered lists. Radloff, Dułzon and Birjukovič number their month names, Alekseev does not. Dułzon and Alekseev translate them, Birjukovič additionally compares them to Russian month names. Radloff indicates the first name as „January” only and does not translate his month names at all.

It is probable that the first month in Falk, Dułzon, Birjukovič and Alekseev's lists (i.e. the month they refer to as „January”) is not actually the first month of the Chulym calendar. According to Dułzon, the year for Middle Chulym Turks begins in our May or August or September.⁵ Falk indicates our September, the month of the first snowfall, as the beginning of the year (Alekseev 1991: 84).

All translations of Chulym month names are quoted in their original languages, as recorded by the authors of the sources. Our English translations (in bold text) result from the meaning of Chulym compositions.

Most compositions listed below contain the noun for 'month; moon': Küä. *aj* '1. Mond; 2. mondförmig; 3. Monat' (Radloff I 3ff.), MČ *aj* 'месяц (календарный)' (Birjukovič 1979: 134), LČ *aj* 'месяц, луна' (Dułzon 1952: 141) = Tu. *aj* 'month; moon' (cf. Radloff I 3ff., ÈСТJa I 98ff.).

The month names in the Chulym Turkic dialects

1. 'big cold (month)' ~ 'big month' (Küä, LČ, MČ⁶):

1.1 Küä. *uluğ suak* 'Januar' (Radloff I 7 and 1695);

³ Dułzon's article *Sistema śčeta vremeni u čulymskich tatar* (published in *Kratkie soobščeniya Instituta Ètnografii AN SSSR*, X, Moskva – Leningrad 1950) has not been available, but it is very likely that the lexical analysis of the month names was quoted without change in his article from 1952 and his further works as well as by other researchers.

⁴ Alekseev's material differs in some cases from Dułzon and Birjukovič's recordings so we quote it here despite their sometimes strange and probably misprinted or mistaken notation or semantics. We shall highlight these when encountered.

⁵ „В части Чулыма, расположенной выше впадения Кли, нам чаще всего указывали на май, как на начало года, реже на август – сентябрь. Для нас это приобретает особый интерес в связи с тем, что у кетов год начинается в мае, а у самоедов, по данным академика Шифнера в августе” (Dułzon 1952: 119f.).

⁶ Our notation indicates that the given name is quoted by each author (i.e. Radloff, Dułzon, Birjukovič, Alekseev). If this is not the case, it will be noted.

- 1.2 LČ *ulug aj suagy* ‘месяц большого мороза’ (Birjukovič 1984: 12) ~ ‘большой месяц мороза’ (Dułzon 1966: 463, Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ *ulug aj* ‘большой месяц’ (Alekseev 1991: 86);
- 1.3 MČ *ulug sōk* ‘сильный мороз’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *ulug sōk aj* ‘месяц сильного мороза (соотв. декабрю)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *ulug sug aj* ~ *ulug sugbaj* ‘большой мороз’ (Alekseev 1991: 85, *hapaх legomenon*);
- 1.4 Čul. *ulu aj* ‘большой месяц – декабрь’ (Falk).

Cf. Küä. *ulug* ‘hoch’ (Radloff 1868: 701) ~ ‘gross’ (ibid. 697) ~ ‘gewaltig’ (ibid. 1868: 692), LČ *ulug* ‘большой’ (Dułzon 1952: 175), MČ *ulug* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979: 105) ~ *ulu* in *kičizi uluzu* ‘самый молодой’ (Birjukovič 1981: 11) = Tuv., Šr., Sag., Koib., Kač. *ulug* ‘gross, erhaben’ (Radloff I 1695), Tel., Alt., Šr., etc., Ott. *ulu* ‘id.’ (ibid. 1692; cf. ÈSTJa I 593ff.).

Cf. Küä. *suak* ‘Kälte’ (Pritsak 1959: 632),⁷ LČ *suvak* ~ *sugak* ‘холод, холодный, холодно’ (Birjukovič 1984: 58) ~ *suak* ‘холодный’ (Dułzon 1952: 117), MČ *sugak* ‘холодно’ (Birjukovič 1979: 5) ~ *sōk* ‘id.’ (ibid.) ~ *suak* ‘холод, холодный, холодно’ (Birjukovič 1984: 58) = Alt., Tel., Leb., Šr., etc. *sōk* ‘kalt, Kälte’ (Radloff IV 518), Ott. *souk* ‘1. id.; 2. feindlich, nicht gut’ (ibid. 516f.) ~ *soyuk* ‘id.’ (ibid. 530), Tel., Kzk., Kas. *sūk* ‘kalt, Kälte’ (ibid. 751), Tr. *soğuk* ‘1. cold; cold weather; 2. frigid, unfriendly; inemotional in disposition; 3. out of place, in bad taste’ (Redhouse 1026).

2. ‘small cold (month)’ ~ ‘small (short) month’ (Küä., LČ, MČ):

- 2.1 Küä. *kizig suak* (Radloff I 7);
- 2.2 LČ *kizig aj suagy* ‘маленький месяц (месяц маленького мороза)’ (Dułzon 1966: 463, Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ ‘месяц маленького мороза’ (Birjukovič 1984: 12) ~ *kizigaj* ‘маленький месяц’ (Alekseev 1991: 86);
- 2.3 MČ *kičig sōk aj* ‘месяц маленького мороза (соотв. примерно ноябрю)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *kičig sōk* ‘маленький мороз’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *kičig sok* ‘малый мороз’ (Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 2.4 Čul. *kiča aj* ‘короткий месяц – ноябрь’ (Falk), LČ *kizigaj* ‘маленький месяц’ (Alekseev 1991: 86).

Cf. Küä. *kizig* ‘klein’ (Radloff 1968: 696) ~ *kizik* ‘klein’ (Radloff II 1384), LČ *kizig* ‘young’ in *kizig palavys* ‘(наш) младший сын’ (Birjukovič 1979a: 34), MČ *kičig* ‘маленький’ (Birjukovič 1984: 18) ~ ‘младший’ (ibid. 41) ~ *kičik* ‘младший’ (Dułzon 1973: 19) ~ *kiči* ~ *kiča* in *kičäzinä* ‘small-3-Dat’ (Birjukovič 1979a: 34), *kičizi uluzu* ‘самый молодой’ (Birjukovič 1981: 11, cf. also No. 10 below) = Tel., Tar., Čag. *kičik* ‘klein, gering’ (Radloff II 1381), Ott. *küçük* ‘klein, unbedeutend, jünger, niedriger’ (ibid. 1493), Tr. *küçük* ‘1. small, little; 2. young, younger’ (Redhouse 693; cf. Clauson 696a-b, ÈSTJa V 75ff.).

⁷ The word has been recorded by Radloff in compositions for months only.

3. **'hare month'** (MČ: Li Yong-Söng):

MČ *kozan aj* 'January, lit. hare month' (Li Yong-Söng et al. 2008: 111).

Cf. MČ *kozan* 'hare' (Li Yong-Söng et al. 2008: 157), LČ *kojan* 'id.' (Dułzon 1952: 130) = Sag., Koib. *kozan* 'Hase' (Radloff II 629), Čag. *kojan* 'id.' (ibid. 526), Alt., Tel. *kojon* 'id.' (ibid.), Alt., Tel., Leb. *köjön* 'id.' (ibid. 1240; cf. ÈSTJa VI 29f., Ščerbak 1961: 136).

4. **'ridge of a year (month)'** (LČ, MČ; Falk):

4.1 LČ *jyl syrty aj* 'месяц большого хребта года' (Dułzon 1966: 463, Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ 'хребет года' (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *jylsyrty* 'январь' (Birjukovič 1984: 35);

4.2 MČ *čylzrty* 'хребет года (соответствует приблизительно январю)' (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *čylsyrty* 'январь' (Birjukovič 1984: 75) ~ *čälsyrty aj* 'длинная ночь, большой мороз' (Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ *čälyšty* (!, M.P.) *aj* 'id.' (ibid.);

4.3 Čul. *jäl särtä* 'половина зимы – январь' (Falk).

Cf. LČ *jyl* 'год' (Dułzon 1952: 156), MČ *čyl* 'id.' (Birjukovič 1979a: 15), Küä. *jyl* 'Jahr' (Radloff 1868: 702) = Alt., Tel., Leb., Kirg., Ott., etc. *jyl* '1. id.; 2. Lebensjahr' (Radloff III 480f.), Tr. *yil* 'year' (Redhouse 1257), Sag., Koib., Šr. *čyl* 'id.' (ibid. 2084; cf. ÈSTJa IV 275).

Cf. Čul. *syrty* 'back; ridge'⁸ = Alt., Leb., Sag. Koib., Kač., Ott., etc. *syrty* '1. Hinterseite, Rücken; 2. Äussere, Aussenseite; 3. Erhöhung, Hügel' (Radloff IV 646f.), Tr. *sirt* '1. upper part of a person's back, back; 2. ridge of an animal's back; ridge (of a mountain)' (Redhouse 1014).

5. **'small ridge of a year (month)'** (Küä., LČ):

5.1 Küä. *kyrlaŋ* (Radloff I 7);

5.2 LČ *kyrlaŋ aj* 'месяц малого хребта года' (Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *kyrdan aj* (!, M.P.) ~ *kylau* ~ *kyrlyu aj* 'id.' (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *kurlaŋaj* (!, M.P.) 'id., месяц бури' (Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ *kylancaj* (!, M.P.) 'id.' (ibid.).

Cf. Čul. *kyrlaŋ* 'small ridge (of a mountain)'⁹ = Alt., Tel., Leb., Šr., Sag., Koib. *kyrlaŋ* 'kleiner Bergrücken, Hügel, bergiges Land' (Radloff II 753f.).

Following such semantics, Alekseev's translation 'месяц бури = stormy month' is incorrect.

6. **'fox month'** (LČ: Birjukovič, MČ; Falk):

6.1 LČ *tülgaj* 'месяц лисы' (Birjukovič 1984: 11, Dułzon does not record this name for Lower Chulum);

⁸ The word has been recorded for LČ and MČ in the names for the months only.

⁹ The word has been recorded in Čul. dialects in the names for the months only.

- 6.2 MČ *tülgü aj* ‘February, lit. fox month’ (Li Yong-Söng et al. 2008: 111) ~ *tülgaj* ‘месяц лисицы’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *tülgajä* ‘месяц лисы’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *tülgü (!) aj* ‘лисий месяц, гон лис’ (Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 6.3 Čul. *tulg aj* ‘месяц лис – февраль’ (Falk).

Cf. LČ *tülgü* ‘лисица’ (Dułzon 1952: 167), MČ *tülgü* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979: 123, Li Yong-Söng 2008: 174), Küä. *tülgü* ‘Fuchs’ (Radloff 1868: 691) ~ *tülkü* ‘id.’ (ibid. 696) = Kom., Alt., Tel., Tuba, Kzk. *tülkü* ‘id.’ (Radloff III 1570), Leb. *tülgö* ‘id.’ (ibid.), Uig., Čag. *tülki* ‘id.’ (ibid.), Ott. *tilki* ‘id.’ (ibid. 1385), Tr. *tilki* ‘1. fox; 2. cunning person; sly fellow’ (Redhouse 1177; cf. Clauson 498b-499a., Ščerbak 1961: 135).

7. **‘eagle month’** (Küä., LČ, MČ; Falk):

- 7.1 Küä. *küzügän* (Radloff I 7);
- 7.2 LČ *küzügän aj* ‘месяц прилета орла’ (Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *kuzugan aj* ‘месяц орла’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11, Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 7.3 MČ *küčügän aj* ‘месяц орла’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ ‘месяц орла (соотв. марту)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *kučugan aj* ‘месяц орла’ (ib. 11) ~ ‘месяц орла (коршуна), орел поднимается’ (Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 7.4 Čul. *kučugän aj* ‘месяц орла – март’ (Falk).

Cf. LČ *küzügän* ‘орел’ (Dułzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 45)¹⁰ = Bar. *küzügän* ‘Adler’ (Radloff II 1499), Kūr. *küčügän* ‘eine kleine Adlerart, der weissgeschwänz- te Adler’ (Radloff II 1495), Tel. *küčüyan* ‘id.’ (ibid.), Kzk. *küşügön* ‘Geierart’ (ibid. 1512), Ott. *güčügän* ~ *güčän* ‘id.’ (ibid. 1645; cf. ÈSTJa V 130, VEWT 306).

7.a **‘big bird month’** = **‘eagle month’** (MČ: Dułzon):

MČ *ulug kuš aj* ‘месяц большой птицы’ (Dułzon 1952: 119).

Although Dułzon translates this as ‘месяц большой птицы = big bird month’, it is probably ‘eagle month’, cf. MČ *ulugus* ‘орел’ (Birjukovič 1984: 6) ~ *‘owl’, cf. MČ *ulug kušlap* ‘по совиному’ (Birjukovič 1981: 94, cf. also Pomorska 2004: 151) < **ulug kušla-* ‘to be / to behave like an owl’, cf. also Küä. *kušta-* ‘Vögel jagen’ (Radloff 1868: 696) ~ ‘Vögel schießen’ (ibid. 695) = Tar., Čag. *kušla-* ‘mit einem Jagdvoegel auf die Jagd gehen’ (Radloff II 1030), Alt., Tel., Leb., Šr. *kušta-* ‘Vögel schießen, auf die Vogeljagd gehen’ (ibid.) < MČ *kuš* ~ *kus* ‘птица’ (Birjukovič 1984: 24), cf. LČ *kuš* ‘id.’ (Dułzon 1952: 153), Küä. *kuš* ‘Vogel’ (Radloff 1868: 702) ~ *kus* ‘id.’ (ibid. 696, a hapax legomenon) = Tu. *kuš* ‘id.’ (cf. Clauson 670b, ÈSTJa VI 185ff.).

8. **‘crow month’** (Küä., LČ, MČ; Falk):

- 8.1 Küä. *karyyj aj* (Radloff I 7);

¹⁰ For MČ and Küä. this word has been recorded in the names for the month only.

- 8.2 LČ *kargaj* ‘месяц вороны’ (Duǎzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ ‘месяц вороны (галки)’ (Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 8.3 MČ *kargaj* ‘месяц вороны’ (Duǎzon 1952: 119, Duǎzon 1966: 463) ~ ‘id. (соотв. апрелю)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ ‘вороний месяц; ворона кричит’ (Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 8.4 Čul. *karga aj* ‘месяц вороны – апрель’ (Falk).

Cf. Küä. *karya* ‘Krähe’ (Radloff II 191), LČ *karga* ‘ворона’ (Duǎzon 1952: 137), MČ *karga* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979: 21) = Tel., Alt., Šr., Koib., Kač., Čag., Ott., etc. *karya* ‘Krähe’ (Radloff II 191), Tr. *karga* ‘crow’ (Redhouse 606), Tuv. *kāryan* ‘id.’ (Ölmez 2007: 186; cf. Clauson 653a, ÈSTJa V 303f., VEWT 232, Li Yong-Söng 1997: 259, esp. 266, fn. 99, Erdal 1991: 83, Tekin 1995: 173).

9. ‘cuckoo month’ (Küä., LČ, MČ; Falk):

- 9.1 Küä. *kök aj* (Radloff I 7);
- 9.2 LČ *kögaj* ‘месяц кукушки’ (Duǎzon 1966: 463) ~ *kogaj* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11, Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 9.3 MČ *kögaj* ~ *kögaj* ‘месяц кукушки’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *kögaj* ‘месяц кукушки’ (Duǎzon 1966: 463) ~ ‘месяц кукушки (соотв. маю)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *kogaj* ‘месяц кукушки’ (Duǎzon 1952: 119) ~ *kokaj* ~ *kogaä* ‘кукушкин месяц’ (Alekseev 1991: 85);
- 9.4 Čul. *koj aj* (!, M.P.) ‘месяц кукушки – май’ (Falk).

Cf. LČ *küök* ‘кукушка’ (Duǎzon 1966: 142), MČ *kök* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979: 27)¹¹ = Šr., Sag., Koib. *kök* ‘Kuckuck, als Teil eines Eigennamens’ (Radloff II 1223), Khak. *kök* ‘кукушка’ (KhakRS 90), Khak.dial. *käkük* ‘id.’ (ibid. 73), Šr. *kök* ‘id.’ (ŠorTS 55), Tr. *guguk kušu* ‘cuckoo’ (Redhouse 415).

10. ‘small hot month’ (Küä., LČ; Duǎzon 1952; Falk):

- 10.1 Küä. *kiziġ iziġ aj* (Radloff I 7);
- 10.2 LČ *kičig* (!, probably misprintly for *kicig*, M.P.) *isig aj* ‘месяц малой жары’ (Duǎzon 1952: 119).

Cf. LČ *isig* ~ *izig* ‘жаркий’ (Duǎzon 1952: 161) ~ ‘жара’ (ibid. 158), MČ *isig* ‘жаркий’ (Birjukovič 1979a: 53) ~ ‘жара’ (ibid. 47)¹² ~ *izig* ‘id.’, cf. No. 15 below = Šr., Leb., Sag. *iziġ* ‘heiss’ (Radloff I 1540), Tuv. *izig* ‘warm’ (Ölmez 2007: 186; cf. Clauson 246a-b, ÈSTJa I 668ff.).

- 10.3 Čul. *kiči šilgai* ‘small hot month’, in Falk it is incorrectly: ‘малое лето – июнь’ (cf. ‘big hot month’ below).

¹¹ For Küä. the word has been recorded in the names for the months only.

¹² For Küä. the word has been recorded in the names for the months only.

Cf. Čul. *šilVg¹³ = MČ *čylyg* ‘тепло; теплый’ (Pomorska 2004: 96), LČ *jylyg* ‘id.’ (ibid.), Küä., Leb., Koib., Kač. *jylyg* ‘warm’ (Radloff III 484), Tuv. *čylyg* ‘id.’ (Ölmez 2007: 118; cf. Clauson 925a, ÈSTJa IV 276).

For Küä. *kizig* ‘small’ ~ LČ *kizig* ‘id.’ ~ MČ *kiči* ‘id.’ see No. 2 above.

11. ‘lean fish month’ (MČ):

MČ *aryk palyk aj* ‘месяц тощей рыбы’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *aryk pālyk aj* ‘месяц тощей рыбы (соотв. июню)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *arkpal-gaj* ‘месяц сухой (худой) рыбы; начинается рыба жиреть’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. MČ *aryk* ‘тощий’ (ibid. 15) ~ *āruk* ‘тощий’ (Birjukovič 1979: 79) ~ ‘худой’ (Birjukovič 1984: 30), LČ *aruk* ‘худой’ (Dułzon 1952: 133) = Küä., Alt., Tel., Leb., Ott., etc. *aryk* ‘mager, abgemagert, schwach, matt, siech’ (Radloff I 268), Tuv. *aryk* ‘mager’ (Ölmez 2007: 78), Tr.dial. *arik* ‘lean, thin’ (Redhouse 71; cf. Clauson 214a, ÈSTJa I 161).

Cf. MČ *pālyk* ‘рыба’ (Birjukovič 1979: 51f.), LČ *pālyk* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979a: 15) ~ *palyk* ‘id.’ (Dułzon 1952: 134) = Küä., Alt., Tel., Leb., Šr., Sag., Koib., Kač., Uig. *pa-lyk* ‘Fisch’ (Radloff IV 1166), Ott., Kar., etc. *balyk* ‘id.’ (ibid. 1496), Tuv. *balyk* ‘id.’ (Ölmez 2007: 86), Tr. *balık* ‘id.’ (Redhouse 127; cf. Clauson 335b, ÈSTJa II 59f.).

12. ‘riverbank fish trap month’ (LČ):

LČ *kyr dug aj* ‘месяц маленьких береговых заповров для ловли рыбы’ (Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ ‘месяц береговых заповров (для ловли рыбы)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *kur* (!, M.P.) *dug aj* ‘месяц маленьких береговых заповров (для ловли рыбы)’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

The semantic analysis of this composition leads us to the conclusion that Dułzon’s and Alekseev’s translations as ‘small riverbank fish trap month’ has no lexical support. It is probable that this error was caused by the comparison with another Čul. month name, i.e. *ulug tug aj* ‘big fish trap month’ (↓). Our sources note LČ *k̄r* ‘берер’ (Birjukovič 1979a: 36), MČ *kyr* ‘id.’ (ibid. 19) ~ ‘стен’ (Birjukovič 1984: 18) ~ ‘пашня’ (ibid. 46), Küä. *kyr* ‘1. Ecke, Kante; 2. hohes Ufer, Bergrücken’ (Radloff II 732) ~ ‘Niederung’ (Radloff 1868: 694) = Alt., Tel., Šr., etc. *kyr* ‘1. Ecke, Kante; 2. hohes Ufer, Bergrücken’ (ibid.), Tuv. *kyr* ‘Grenze, Rand’ (Ölmez 2007: 199), Ott. *kyr* ‘Steppe, Ebene’ (Radloff II 732), Tr. *kır* ‘countryside, uncultivated land’ (Redhouse 653; cf. also Clauson 641a-b (1), ÈSTJa VI 225), so the translation of this composition should be ‘riverbank fish trap’ only.

In his ethnographic study on Chulym Turkic peoples, Alekseev describes the ways and tools traditionally used for fishing, among them *tyunek*, a kind of standing, woven fish trap constructed of spruce or pine wood, cf. LČ *tünök* ‘ловушка на рыбы’ (Dułzon 1952: 141, Dułzon 1973: 20, cf. also Rus.dial. *түнэк* ‘зимняя ловушка для рыбы’ (Anikin 1997: 600) using for catching different kinds of fish in all seasons. The *tyunek*s were stood in the deep part of the river, against the water flow

¹³ For the č- ~ š- alternation in MČ see Pomorska (2000: 255).

and they were equipped with landing nets, e.g. LČ *sügän* ‘рыболовная морда’ (Dułzon 1952: 158) ~ MČ *sügän* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979: 123), and this dam was named a *tug* (in *kyr dug aj* with a positional sonorisation between two voiced sounds).

Summing up, LČ *kyr dug aj* < LČ *kyr* ‘river bank’ + LČ *tug* ‘kind of fish trap’ + LČ *aj* ‘moon, month’.

13. **‘big hot month’** (Küä.; Falk):

13.1 Küä. *uluḡ iziḡ aj* (Radloff I 7 and 1695); LČ *ulug isig aj* ‘месяц большой жары’ (Dułzon 1952: 119).

For Küä. *uluḡ* ‘big’ ~ LČ *ulug* ‘id.’ see No. 1 and for Küä. *iziḡ* ‘hot’, LČ *isig* ‘id.’ see No. 10 above.

13.2 Čul. *ulu šilgai*¹⁴ ‘big hot month’, in Falk it is ‘большое лето – июль’ (cf. ‘small hot month’ above).

For Čul. **šilVg* ‘hot’ see No. 10 above.

14. **‘big fish trap month’** (LČ):

LČ *ulug tug aj* ‘месяц больших запоров для ловли рыбы’ (Dułzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 11, Alekseev 1991: 85).

For LČ *ulug* ‘big’ see No. 1 and for LČ *tug* ‘kind of fish trap’ see No. 12 above.

15. **‘(hot) spawn month’** (MČ; Falk?):

MČ *izig jürgän aj* ‘месяц теплой икры’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ *isig jurgän aj* ‘id. (соотв. июлю)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *jurgän aj* ‘месяц икры’ (ibid. 11) ~ *isägurgaj* ‘месяц горячей икры’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. MČ *ürgän*¹⁵ ‘икра’ (Birjukovič 1979: 95) (< **ür-* ‘to give birth to’ with the semantic development ‘to bear, to give birth, to give life’ > ‘that gives life’ > ‘spawn’) = Kzk. *örkän* ‘потомство’ (ĖSTJa I 605), Tat.dial. *ürgän* ‘1. рассада; 2. росток, отросток, побег’ (TatRS750), cf. Tuv. *ürgänä* ‘икра (рыбья)’ (TuvRS 454), cf. also MČ *ürän* ‘племя’ (Birjukovič 1979: 91) ~ ‘поколение’ (Birjukovič 1984: 13) ~ ‘older tribal-family community among Chulym Turkic peoples’ (Dułzon 1952: 92f.), Küä., Tel., Šr., Sag., Koib., Kač. *ürän* ‘1. Same, Frucht, Saat, Korn; 2. Nachkommenschaft, Generation’ (Radloff I 1827), although in this case, the Mo. loan is also taken into account (cf. Clauson 233b, ĖSTJa I 605, VEWT 522a, Rassadin 1980: 49).

For MČ lexicalisation of participles in *-gan* see Pomorska (2004: 152), especially MČ *tugan* ‘1. родня, родственник; рожденный; 2. родимое пятно’ < **tuggan* < *tug-* ‘рожать’ (ibid.).

¹⁴ Because of the fricative -š- it is probably the MČ form.

¹⁵ The word *ürgän* ‘spawn’ has been recorded several times in the source literature but the rise of prosthetic *j* is observed in this name for a month only, cf. No. 27 below.

Falks quotes Čul. *urgai ai* ‘длинный месяц – август, так как он продолжался до выпадения снега’. The meaning ‘длинный месяц = long month’ may suggest a connection with MČ *ūr* ‘долго’ (Birjukovič 1981: 89) ~ *ur* ‘id.’ (ibid. 66) ~ *ūr* ‘id.’ (Birjukovič 1979: 132), LČ *ūr* ‘id.’ (Dułzon 1952: 176), Küä., Koib., Sag., Kač. *ūr* ~ *ūr* ‘lange, vor langer Zeit’ (Radloff I 1824), Tuv. *ūr* ‘долгий, долго’ (TuvRS 450), Kum. *ūr* ‘id.’ (Baskakov 1972: 264; cf. Clauson 193a), but if this were correct, it would have been difficult to explain the *-gaj* syllable here, so it is more probable that this is the same name as ‘spawn month’ misprinted for *ürgän*.

15.a **‘hot month’** (MČ: Birjukovič 1984, Alekseev):

MČ *isig* ‘жаркий месяц’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *izig* ~ *isigaj* ‘id.’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

For MČ *isig* ‘hot’ see No. 10 above, cf. also No. 27 below.

16. **‘harvest month’** (Küä.):

Küä. *oryak aj* (Radloff I 7) ~ ‘месяц жатвы – август’ (Dułzon 1952: 119).

Cf. Küä. *oryak* ‘1. Sichel; 2. Ernte’ (Radloff I 1061), MČ *orgak* ‘сепр’ (Pomorska 2004: 103) = Sag., Koib., Kač., Kzk. *oryak* ‘1. Sichel, Ernte’ (Radloff I 1061), Tub., Bar. *oryok* ‘id.’ (ibid.; cf. Clauson 216a-b, ÈSTJa I 468).

17. **‘full-grown, ripe bread month’** (MČ: Dułzon 1952, Birjukovič 1979):

17.1 MČ *aš pyštyg aj* ‘месяц созревшего хлеба’ (Dułzon 1952: 119) ~ *ašpyštygaj* ‘август’ (Birjukovič 1979: 88).

Cf. MČ *aš* ~ *as* ‘хлеб; еда’ (Birjukovič 1984: 30), LČ *aš* ‘хлеб’ (Dułzon 1952: 144) ~ ‘пицца’ (ibid. 163), Küä. *aš* ‘Speise’ (Radloff 1868: 700) ~ ‘Nahrung’ (ibid. 693) = Tel., Alt., Leb., Šr., Tar., Bar., etc. *aš* ‘Nahrung, Speise, Futter’ (Radloff I 583), Tr. *aš* ‘cooked food; pilaf; soup’ (Redhouse 85; cf. Clauson 253b, ÈSTJa I 210ff.).

Cf. MČ *pyštyg* or *pyštyk*, a *hapaх* legomenon, recorded in this composition only. The sources record only the verb MČ *pyš-* ‘поспевать’ (Birjukovič 1981: 33) ~ ‘созревать; вариться; печься’ (Birjukovič 1984: 14) ~ ‘варить’ (ibid. 56), LČ *pyš-* ‘печься’ (Dułzon 1952: 175) ~ ‘вариться; поспевать’ (Dułzon 1966: 458) = Küä., Alt., Tel., Leb., Šr., Kač. *pyš-* ‘1. weich, mürbe werden, reif werden, reifen, gar werden, gar kochen; kochen, zubereiten; 3. mischen, umrühren, Butter schlagen’ (Radloff IV 1321; cf. Clauson 376b-377a, ÈSTJa II 161ff.) and the only possible formation would be the future tense or future participle form in *-lyk* with the assumption of a partial consonant assimilation:¹⁶ **pyšlyk* > *pyštyk* and a sonorisation of final *-k* before a subsequent vowel,

¹⁶ In fact, only entire consonant assimilation is recorded for MČ, cf. *ättiksiŋ* ‘you will do’ (Birjukovič 1981: 61), *allyk* ‘he will take’ (Birjukovič 1979: 24), cf. also Li Yong-Sōng (2008: 79): „The *l* of *-lIK* is assimilated to the final consonants of the verb stems and thus forms geminate consonants. These geminate consonants become sometimes single consonants”.

cf. LČ *pyššyk* ‘поспеет, свариться’ (Dułzon 1966: 458) with the entire assimilation *š-l > š-š*, typical to LČ. The semantics of the entire composition *aš pyštyg aj* would be ‘month in which the food will come to ripening’. Another possibility is the nominal stem **pyš*, which has already been assumed for some other languages by Sevortjan (ĖSTJa II 162), and thus the denominal adjective in *-lyg* (cf. Pomorska 2004: 66ff.): *pyš-lyg > pyštyg* ‘ripe’.

18. ‘whitefish (inconnu) month’ (LČ):

LČ *ak pālyk aj* ‘месяц белой рыбы (нельмы)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *axvalgaj* ‘id.’ (ibid., Dułzon 1966: 463, Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. LČ *ak palyk* ‘нельма’ (Dułzon 1966: 463) = MČ *ak bālyk* ‘нельма’ (Birjukovič 1979: 138) ~ *ak pālyk* ~ *akvālyk* ‘id.’ (Pomorska 2004: 125), Alt. *ak palyk*, *Salmo Lavaretus* (Radloff I 91), Ott. *ak palyk* ‘ein Seefisch’ (ibid.).

19. ‘(cedar) nut month’ (MČ):

MČ *kuzuk aj* ‘месяц сбора орехов’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ ‘месяц орехов (соотв. августу)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *kuzug aj* ‘id.’ (ibid. 11) ~ *kusugaj* ~ *kuzuxaj* (Cyrillic „күдзухай” (!), misprinted for „кузухай” = *kuzuxaj*, M.P.) ‘ореха месяц’ (Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ *kuzux* (!, misprinted for *kuzux*, M.P.) ‘орех поспевае’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. MČ *kuzuk* ‘орех’ (Birjukovič 1979: 120), LČ *kuzuk* ‘id.’ (Dułzon 1952: 166) = Küä., Alt., Leb., Tel., Koib., Kač., Bar., Čag. *kuzuk* ‘Cedernüsse’ (Radloff II 1019), Šr. *kuzuk* ‘Zirbelfichte’ (ibid.), Tuba *kuzuk* ‘орех’ (Baskakov 1966: 131), Kum. *kusuk* ‘орех’ (Baskakov 1972: 228; cf. ĖSTJa VI 23f.).

20. ‘month separating autumn’ (Küä.):

Küä. *küskü jarylyš aj* (Radloff I 7).

Cf. Küä. *küskü* ‘autumn’,¹⁷ MČ *küskü* ‘(an) autumn’ (Pomorska 2004: 55 with the examples from many other Turkic languages), LČ *küskü* ‘id.’ (ibid.), Tuv. *küskü* ‘Herbst, dem Herbst eigen’ (Ölmez 2007: 212; cf. Clauson 759b, ĖSTJa III 95).

Cf. Küä. *jarylyš* ‘separating’¹⁸ < **jaryl-*,¹⁹ pass. of *jar-* ‘zerspalten, zerteilen, auseinanderbringen’ (Radloff III 102) = LČ *jar-* ‘расщепить’ (Dułzon 1952: 152), MČ *čar-* ‘рубить’ (Birjukovič 1981: 31), Alt., Tel., Leb., etc. *jar-* ‘zerspalten, zerteilen, auseinanderbringen’ (Radloff III 102), Tr. *yar-* ‘to split, rend, cleave, cut through’ (Redhouse 1243; cf. ĖSTJa IV 135ff.), for Čul. deverbals in *-(y)š* see Pomorska (2004: 118ff.).

¹⁷ For Küä. the word has been recorded in the names for the months only.

¹⁸ For Küä. the word has been recorded in the names for the months only.

¹⁹ = Tel., Alt. *jaryl-* ‘sich trennen’ (Radloff III 125), Kom., Kas., Ott., Kar.T *jaryl-* ‘Sprünge bekommen, zerplatzen’ (ibid.), cf. also MČ *čarvlgan* ‘расколотый’ (Birjukovič 1979: 105).

21. ‘autumn month’ (Küä., MČ: Alekseev):

21.1 Küä. *küskü aj* (Radloff I 7);21.2 MČ *kuskux* (!, M.P.) *aj* ‘осенний месяц’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).For Küä. *küskü* ~ MČ *küskü* ‘(an) autumn’ see No. 20 above.

22. ‘horse race month’ (LČ, MČ: Birjukovič; Falk):

22.1 LČ *jaryš aj* ‘месяц светлой луны’ (Dułzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *jaryš* ‘осенняя светлая луна’ (Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ ‘месяц конских скачек’ (ibid. 61);22.2 MČ *čaryš aj* ‘месяц светлой луны’ (Birjukovič 1984: 11) ~ *čarym* (!, mistakenly for *čaryš*?, M.P.) *aj* ‘id.’ (ibid. 27);22.3 *jariš ai* ‘октябрь’ (Falk).

Alekseev, in his book on p. 61 explains *jaryš aj* as a month of horse competitions which took place in autumn,²⁰ cf. MČ *čaryš* ‘состязание в беге’ (Birjukovič 1984: 72) = Küä., Alt., Tel., Ott. *jaryš* ‘Wettrennen’ (Radloff III 127), Tuv. *čaryš* ‘Wettkampf’ (Ölmez 2007: 110), Khak. *čarys* ‘бег, состязание в беге; конские скачки’ (KhakRS 313), Tr. *yariş* ‘race, competition’ (Redhouse 1244; cf. Clauson 972a, ÈSTJa IV 148f.).

However, Alekseev also translates LČ *jaryš*, as ‘осенняя светлая луна = bright / shining autumn moon’, the same translation by Dułzon and Birjukovič (↑). The question is, whether this translation is simply incorrect, or it is anyhow justified by the meaning of the Chulym forms. In that case, LČ *jaryš* = MČ *čaryš* should mean ‘shining moon’. The verb *jar-* ~ *čar-* is recorded for MČ, cf. MČ *čar-* ‘сиять’ (Birjukovič 1984: 71) ~ *čary-* ‘ib.’ (Pomorska 2004: 109) = Küä. *jar-* in *taŋ jaryp tyr* ‘der Morgen brach an’, lit. ‘dawn has broken’ (Radloff 1868: 690), Šr., Sag. *čar-* ‘leuchten’ (Radloff III 1860), Alt., Tel., Leb., Tar., Kūr. *jar-* ‘hell sein, leuchten, Licht ausstrahlen’ (ibid. 103; cf. also ÈSTJa IV 134), but in the meaning of the *nomen obiecti* we would rather expect *jaryk* ~ *čaryk*, cf. MČ *jāryk* ‘1. светло; 2. яркий, ярко’ (Pomorska 2004: 109) = Küä., Kom., Leb. *jaryk* ‘1. hell, leuchtend; 2. Licht, Glanz’ (Radloff III 1863; cf. also ÈSTJa IV 135), and not **jaryš* ~ **čaryš* (for Čul. deverbial nomina in *-(y)š* see Pomorska 2004: 118), especially that, as far as we know, such a word is not recorded in any other Turkic languages.

Radloff records Šr. *čaryš aj* ‘Oktober’ (Radloff III 1865) and refers to *jaryš* ‘race, competition’, cf. also Khak. *čarys aju* ‘уст. месяц бегов и скачек (октябрь)’ (KhakRS 313), Sag. *čarys aj* (Radloff I 7).

²⁰ „К числу обычаев, связанных происхождением с кочевническим коневодским бытом, следует отнести и обычай устройства скачек на лошадях во время свадьбы, и конные состязания на общедеревенских праздниках осенью. Один из месяцев старинного календаря нижнечulyмских тюрок носил название ярыш ай – месяц конских скачек.”

23. 'naked leaves month = no leaves month' (LČ, MČ):

23.1 LČ *jalac kak aj* 'месяц безлистных (деревьев)' (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463, Birjukovič 1984: 12, Alekseev 1991: 85);

23.2 MČ *čalač kak aj* 'гололистный месяц' (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ 'безлиственный месяц (соотв. примерно октябрю)' (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ 'лес голый осенью, листья падают; месяц когда листьев нет и когда все чисто; голый лес' (Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. LČ *jalac* ~ MČ *čalač*²¹ ~ MČ *čalāč* 'naked' (Pomorska 2004: 40) = Küä. *jalāc* 'id.' (Radloff 1868: 694).

Cf. LČ *kak* 'листва' (Birjukovič 1980: 99), MČ *kak* 'лист' (Birjukovič 1984: 37) = Küä., Alt., Tel. *kāk* 'Blatt (eines Baumes)' (Radloff II 57), Tat.dial. *kabak* ~ *kavak* 'leaf' (ÈSTJa V 161), Bar., Kür. *kavak* 'Blatt (des Baumes)' (Radloff II 50; cf. ÈSTJa V 161, VEWT 215b).

24. 'red leaves month' (LČ, MČ: Alekseev):

24.1 LČ *kyzyl* (!, M.P.)²² *gak aj* 'месяц красных листьев' (Dułzon 1966: 463, Alekseev 1991: 85) ~ *kyzyrgak aj* 'id.' (Birjukovič 1984: 12).

Cf. LČ *kyzyl* 'красный' (Dułzon 1952: 166), MČ *kyzyl* 'id.' (Birjukovič 1979a: 53), Küä. *kyzyl* 'rot' (Radloff 1868: 698) = Tu. *kyzyl* 'id.' (Clauson 683b, ÈSTJa VI 194f.).

24.2 MČ *kyzyl byr* 'красные листья' (Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. MČ *pür* 'листва' (Birjukovič 1979: 16) = Alt., Sag. *pür* 'Baumblatt' (Radloff IV 1397), Tel. *pür* '1. id., 2. Knospe' (ibid.), Krm., Kom. *bür* 'Blatt, Blattknospe' (ibid. 1886), Khak. *pür* 'лист' (KhakRS 168), Tuv. *bürü* 'Blatt' (Ölmez 2007: 103; cf. Clauson 354a).

25. 'month separating winter' (Küä.):

Küä. *kyš jarylyš aj* (Radloff I 7).

Cf. Küä. *kyš* 'Winter' (Radloff II 834), LČ *kyš* 'id.' (Dułzon 1952: 153), MČ *kyš* ~ *kyš* 'id.' (Dułzon 1973: 23) = Tu. *kyš* 'id.' (ÈSTJa VI 253f., Clauson 670a).

For Küä. *jarylyš* 'separating' see No. 20 above.

26. 'half-winter half-summer' (MČ):

MČ *čarym kyš čarym čaj* 'ползимы-полета' (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ 'половина зимы, половина лета (соотв. примерно октябрю-ноябрю)'

²¹ Such forms are recorded in the month names only.

²² *r* looks strange in this context.

(Birjukovič 1984: 27), МČ *čaža aj*²³ ‘половина зимой, половина летом; половина тепла, половина холода’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

Cf. МČ *čarym* ~ *čärym* ‘половина’ (Birjukovič 1984: 72), LČ *jār̄m* ‘id.’ (Dułzon 1966: 462) ~ *jarym* ‘id.’ in *jarym gün* ‘юг (полдня, полдень)’ (ibid. 464) = Küä., Alt., Leb., Kas., Tel., Kom., Kar.L, Kar.T *jarym* ‘Hälfte, halb’ (Radloff III 128), Šr. *čarym* ‘id.’ (ibid. 1865), Ott. *jarym* ‘1. id.; nicht vollständig, unvollständig, unbeendet’ (ibid. 128), Tr. *yarym* ‘half’ (Redhouse 1244), Tuv. *čarym* ‘halb; Hälfte’ (Ölmez 2007: 110; cf. Clauson 968a-969b, ÈSTJa IV 147).

For МČ *kyš* ‘winter’ see 25 above.

Cf. МČ *čaj* ‘лето’ (Dułzon 1952: 130), LČ *jaj* ‘id.’ (ibid.), Küä., Alt., Tel., Leb., etc. *jaj* ‘Sommer’ (Radloff III 4), Šr., Sag., Koib. *čaj* ‘id.’ (ibid. 1825), Tuv. *čaj* ‘id.’ (Ölmez 2007: 112; cf. Clauson 980a-b, ÈSTJa IV 74).

Special cases

27. МČ *čazyg aj* ‘месяц листопада’ (Dułzon 1952: 119, Dułzon 1966: 463) ~ ‘id. (соотв. сентябрю)’ (Birjukovič 1984: 27) ~ *čizyg aj* ‘край лета’ (Alekseev 1991: 85).

This name for a month is recorded for МČ only, and it seems to have no counterpart in the other Turkic languages. Our sources record no Čul. *čazyg* ~ *čizyg* or *čazyk* ~ *čizyk* in the meaning of ‘fallen leaves’ ~ ‘no leaves’, etc., cf. No. 24 above. Assuming *čazyg* ~ *čazyk* as more reliable forms, their first syllable coincides with Turkic *jaz* ‘1. spring; 2. sommer’ = МČ *čas* ‘весна’ (Birjukovič 1984: 72), LČ *jas* ‘id.’ (Dułzon 1952: 132), Küä. *jas* ‘id.’ (Radloff 1868: 701; cf. also ÈSTJa IV 71). If this were so, we would have suggested the derivational suffix *-yg* ~ *-yk* for this. Although Chulym uses the *-(a)k* ~ *-(y)k* deminutive suffix (cf. Pomorska 2004: 59ff.) such a derivative would have no counterpart in any older or newer Turkic languages. Another question is that Čul. *jas* ~ *čas* means ‘spring’ and not ‘summer’, and this does not coincide with the place of *čazyg aj* in the lists of Chulym months (i.e. the 9th month in Dułzon’s and Birjukovič’s lists and the 8th month in Alekseev’s list) and commentaries like ‘соотв[етствует] сентябрю = a counterpart of September’ or ‘край лета = the end of summer’.

With the presumption of correctness of Alekseev’s *čizyg aj*, we would explain this as a form related to *izig* ‘hot’, cf. No. 15a above. If this is correct, we should assume the rise of prosthetic *j* in МČ *izig* > *jizig* > *čizig*,²⁴ cf. also No. 15 above.

If this is the solution for МČ *čazyg*, there still remains the problem of its semantics, i.e. ‘hot month’ as a counterpart of September and not June–July.

²³ This form, if its notation is correct, may be explained as a result of the shortening of **čarym čaj aj*.

²⁴ For the rise of prosthetic *j* in Turkic languages see Tekin (1994, and 1995: 138ff.).

28. *karakal ai*, по большей части наш сентябрь (Falk).

This name for a month has not been recorded by other authors, and – as far as we know – it has no counterpart in the other Turkic languages. Its notation seems to be anyhow erroneous, since Turkic languages do not have a noun like **karakal*. It is very close to LČ *karagaj* ‘сосна’ (Dułzon 1952: 166) = Tel., Leb., Šr., etc. *karajaj* ‘Tanne’ (Radloff II 151; cf. ÈSTJa V 292f.), cf. also MČ *kara kazy* ‘сосна’ (Birjukovič 1978: 115) or *karagan*, cf. Tel., Šr. *karayan* ‘1. robina caragana; 2. Akazienstrauch’ (Radloff II 151; cf. ÈSTJa V 293f.).

Such an assumption raises questions, one of them being the fact that no Chulyim name for months refers to a name for a tree, especially to an evergreen, fruitless tree like a pine. Thus, ‘rowan tree month’ or ‘acacia tree month’ sound more probable but our sources record LČ *karagan* ‘смородина = currant’ (Dułzon 1952: 160) only.

Conclusions

An analysis of the origin of Chulyim month names first of all leads to the conclusion that their year was divided into three main parts: the cold part of the year (‘big cold month’, ‘small cold month’), the hot part of the year (‘small hot month’, ‘big hot month’, ‘hot month’) and something between cold and hot, i.e. autumn part (‘month separating autumn’, ‘autumn month’, ‘month separating winter’, ‘half-winter half-summer’). They are closely related to the activities of their users and their main occupations, i.e. fishing (‘lean fish month’, ‘(small) fish trap month’, ‘big fish trap month’, ‘hot spawn month’, ‘white fish (inconnu) month’), hunting (‘hare month’, ‘fox month’) and collecting forest fruits [(‘ceder) nut month’, cf. also the names referring to the forest itself like ‘naked leaves month’, ‘red leaves month’]. Only two month names refer to the other way of obtaining food, namely land cultivation (‘harvest month’, ‘full-grown, ripe bread month’), both of the names are mentioned by Dułzon and Birjukovič but do not figure in their lists of the month names.

It is worth noting that the number of month names derived from the names of birds is proportionally high (‘eagle month’, ‘crow month’, ‘cockoo month’).

One month name indicates the importance of the horse races among Lower- and Middle-Chulyim Turkic peoples.

	Küärik (Radloff)	Lower Chulyim	Middle Chulyim	Falk
1. ‘big cold (month)’ ~ ‘big month’	+	+	+	-
2. ‘small cold (month)’ ~ ‘small (short) month’	+	+	+	-
3. ‘hare month’	-	-	+ (Li Yong-Söng)	-

	Küärik (Radloff)	Lower Chulym	Middle Chulym	Falk
4. 'ridge of a year (month)'	-	+	+	+
5. 'small ridge of a year (month)'	+	+	-	-
6. 'fox month'	-	+ (Birjukovič)	+	+
7. 'eagle month'	+	+	+	+
8. 'crow month'	+	+	+	+
9. 'cuckoo month'	+	+	+	+
10. 'small hot month'	+	+ (Dułzon 1952)	-	+
11. 'lean fish month'	-	-	+	-
12. 'riverbank fish trap month'	-	+	-	-
13. 'big hot month'	+	-	-	+
14. 'big fish trap month'	-	+	-	-
15. '(hot) spawn month'	-	-	+	+ (?)
15.a 'hot month'	-	-	+ (Birjukovič, Alekseev)	-
16. 'harvest month'	+	-	-	-
17. 'full-grown, ripe bread month'	-	-	+ (Dułzon 1952, Birjukovič 1979)	-
18. 'white fish (inconnu) month'	-	+	-	-
19. '(cedar) nut month'	-	-	+	-
20. 'month separating autumn'	+	-	-	-
21. 'autumn month'	+	-	+ (Alekseev)	-
22. 'horse race month = no leaves month'	-	+	+ (Birjukovič)	+

	Küärik (Radloff)	Lower Chulym	Middle Chulym	Falk
23. 'naked leaves month'	-	+	+	-
24. 'red leaves month'	-	+	+(Alekssev)	-
25. 'month separating winter'	+	-	-	-
26. 'half-winter half-summer'	-	-	+	-

Abbreviations

Alt. = Altay (= Oyrot), **Bar.** = Baraba, **Čag.** = Chagatay, **Kač.** = Kacha, **Kar.** = Karaim (L = Łuck, T = Troki), **Kas.** = Kasan, **Khak.** = Khakas, **Kirg.** = Kirghiz, **Koib.** = Koybal, **Kom.** = Koman, **Krm.** = Crimean, **Küä.** = Küärik, **Kum.** = Kumandin, **Kür.** = Kürdak, **Kzk.** = Kazakh; **LČ** = Lower Chulym, **Leb.** = Lebed, **MČ** = Middle Chulym, **Ott.** = Ottoman Turkish, **Sag.** = Sagay, **Šr.** = Shor, **Tar.** = Taranchi, **Tel.** = Teleut, **Tr.** = Turkish, **Tu.** = Turkic, **Tub.** = Tuba, **Tuv.** = Tuvinian, **Uig.** = Uyghur.

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