

Béla Kálmán, *The World of Names. A Study in Hungarian Onomatology*, Budapest, Akadémiai Kiadó, 1978. 200 pp.

Only a few books on Finno-Ugric onomatology have appeared which contain surveys of the personal names and place-names of a given country. The Finns have Viljo Nissilä's «Suomalaista nimistöntutkimusta» (Helsinki 1962), while the Hungarians have Béla Kálmán's «A nevek világa» in three editions (Budapest 1967, 1969 and 1973). It is on the third edition of this study that «The World of Names» is based, and it is, strictly speaking, the first comprehensive treatment of Hungarian names.

The book under review consists of a preface, introduction, and three chapters (I. Proper Names (pp. 10—17), II. Personal Names (pp. 18—95), III. Place-names (pp. 96—168)), a bibliography (pp. 169—173), an appendix (pp. 174—175), and an index of names (pp. 177—199). While discussing Hungarian personal names and toponyms the author adduces abundant comparative material from other European languages. Unfortunately, however, very little onomatological material has been taken from the other Finno-Ugric languages.

In the first chapter «Proper Names» B. Kálmán examines the distinctions between proper and common nouns, their functions, and he shows how proper names develop from common nouns.

An extensive part of the book is devoted to anthroponyms. As personal names are a source of interesting information for students of linguistic, cultural and settlement history, for folklorists and psychologists, the author deals thoroughly in his second chapter with their meaning, origin, history, spread and also with some aspects of name-giving. He discusses name-giving in antiquity and the Middle Ages, as well as Hungarian names of Greek, Roman (Latin), Germanic, Celtic, Slavic and Turkic origin. As a rule such subdivisions of the chapter begin with a survey of the names of the corresponding people. Personal names are then grouped on the basis of their meaning. Thus, for instance, names of Greek origin are divided into four groups. The first group consists of names denoting mental or physical properties, e. g.

Ágnes (*Hagnés* 'pure'), *Ágota* (*agatha* 'good'), etc. The second group comprises names denoting origin (*Arisztid* (*Aristeidés* 'of noble origin')), the third group consists of first names denoting occupation (*György* (*Geórgios* 'ploughman')). The fourth group is made up of metaphoric, poetic names: *Ambrus* (*Ambrosios* 'immortal'). B. Kálmán also distinguishes four groups of names derived from Roman (Latin) names, and as many as nine groups of names of Germanic origin. There are few names of Celtic origin in Hungarian and there is not much to be said about Slavic names either. Among the personal names of Turkic origin the so-called totemic names are of particular interest, e. g. *Kus* 'falcon', *Karcsa* 'buzzard', *Kartal* 'kite, eagle', etc. It is a pity that the author has devoted very little attention to name-giving in languages related to Hungarian. He has dealt only with Finnish and Vogul names.

Personal names of Hungarian origin have received the most thorough treatment (pp. 39—95). The author establishes four periods in the rise of old Hungarian names, the earliest names dating from the 9th century. Proceeding from meaning B. Kálmán distinguishes 19 groups of names. In the case of all peoples it is usual for some appellative to become a personal name. Ancient Hungarian names refer to different aspects of nature, the physical and mental properties of persons and various vital activities. Thus, the names of animals (*Hollód*, *Sólyom*) and plants (*Babszem*, *Zab*) come from nature. In the field of human physical properties there are names referring to parts of the body (*Füle*, *Füles*, *Orrod*), the colour of hair and skin (*Fekete*, *Feketéd*, *Vörös*), etc. The revival of old Hungarian names began in the 19th century.

B. Kálmán has studied changes in naming fashions. For this purpose he has used statistics of names compiled by I. Szabó, Gy. Káldy-Nagy, S. Karácsony, G. Bárczi, L. Fekete and by himself, and which are based respectively on data from 1522, 1554, the whole 16th century, and the second half of the 16th century. B. Kálmán gives a table containing a

comparison of the fifteen most frequently used masculine names from all four groups. It can be seen that the most favoured names are practically the same and that there are only some differences in frequency order. Feminine names have been compared for 1522 and the second half of the 16th century. Only four out of the 15 most popular feminine names in each group do not overlap. In the period till 1400, the frequency order of names is largely the same. There were no significant divergences in name-giving in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries either. The most favoured masculine name was *János*, while the most popular feminine names were *Anna* in the 16th and 17th centuries, and *Erzsébet* in the 18th century. In the 18th century the masculine name *József* forged strikingly ahead, whereas *Tamás*, *Benedek* and *Balázs* become less popular. The variety of names becomes increasingly smaller. If in the 16th century 39.73%, and in the 17th century 56.99%, of the men bore the seven most favoured names, then in the 18th century this percentage amounted already to 71.74%. In the 16th century the seven most frequently used feminine names belonged to 66.92%, in the 17th century to 68.39%, of the persons involved, while in the 18th century this number was as large as 75.3%. By way of comparison B. Kálmán presents lists of names given in Budapest in 1895—1899, 1945—1949, and in 1959 (after B. Büky). The 25 most frequent first names are listed in three groups. If in the 18th century the seven most popular masculine names made up 71.74% of the total, then in 1895—1899 they accounted for 29.41%, and in 1945—1949 for only 23.32%. The corresponding percentages for feminine names were 75.3, 22.07 and 21—22, respectively. In the 16th—18th centuries the number of masculine names was about 75 and the stock of feminine names ranged between 30 and 40. By the middle of the 20th century these numbers had increased to 116, and 147, respectively.

The author goes on to examine the reasons for choosing a particular name. It is interesting to note that in Hungary every fourth boy has the same name as his father and every tenth girl the same name as her mother. In 1947 over 50% of the population had two given names.

Hypocoristic and two-element names as

well as their types are also dealt with. Developments in these fields are similar to those in other languages. Some attention is given to name-changing, nicknames and pseudonyms. Literary name-giving is likewise touched upon.

Chapter III is devoted to place-names. The etymological explanation of Hungarian geographical names is extremely difficult because very many different tribes and peoples have lived on the territory of Hungary. They include the Scythians, Illyrians and Celts, later also the Huns, Avars, Vandals, Goths, Gepids and Slavs. Turkic traces may also be found in the stock of toponyms. Owing to all this, the study of Hungarian place-names presupposes a good knowledge of settlement history, the time and duration of settlement, in addition to a knowledge of Hungarian historical phonetics and the typology of geographical names. B. Kálmán points out that disregard of these preliminaries may easily lead to mistakes in etymological interpretation. The author likewise discusses the ways in which toponyms can be derived from common names.

B. Kálmán begins his examination of place-names with a survey of the names of countries and provinces. It turns out that in Hungarian the names of countries can be divided into three types: Hungarianized forms (names ending in the word *ország* 'country': *Magyarország* 'Hungary', *Törökország* 'Turkey'); Latinized forms (names ending in the Latin suffix *-ia*: *Ausztria*, *Portugália*); and directly adopted country-names (*Ciprus*, *Szovjetunió*). Some names of countries have been translated: (*Amerikai Egyesült Államok* 'the United States (of America)', *Német Demokratikus Köztársaság* 'German Democratic Republic'). A separate section is devoted to ethnic names.

Of the names of bodies of water only river-names have been dealt with. The author points out that the names of big rivers are very old (e. g. *Maros* and *Temes* are mentioned already in the 5th century B. C.) and it is therefore difficult to identify their meaning. River-names have been divided into groups according to meaning. The same has been done in the case of the names of mountains.

B. Kálmán goes on to discuss the names of towns and villages. There is an interesting note that under the Austrians

in 1850—1860 every larger place in Hungary was officially given a German name. When a certain name was translatable, it was simply turned into German. This gave rise to a group of comic names such as *Türkischer Heiliger Nikolaus* (*Törökszentmiklós*) or *Wütender Armenier* (*Böszörmény*, which was interpreted as *bösz-örmény*, i. e. 'enraged Armenian'). After the establishment of the Dual Monarchy of Austria-Hungary in 1867, these contrived German names were dispensed with. At the end of the last century a distinctive attribute was added to every place-name of which there was more than one in Hungary. Whenever a village was divided into two, the name received new attributes like *kis* 'little, small' and *nagy* 'great, big', *ó* 'old' and *új* 'new', *alsó* 'lower' and *felső* 'upper' (*Nagyréce—Kisréce*, *Ószentiván—Újszentiván*, *Alsógöd—Felsőgöd*). When two villages or towns were united, the new name was normally formed from both old names or their parts: *Ordacsehi* (*Orda + Csehi*), *Balogunyom* (*Kisunyom + Balogfa*).

B. Kálmán deals separately with toponyms derived from common nouns and proper nouns. Religious names and names of unknown or obscure origin are examined in special sections. Even street names are gone into. A brief account is given of the names of small geographical objects. The author likewise looks at the change and modification of place-names. Hungarian

toponyms, too, have undergone shortening in the course of time, e. g. *Szoroosholm* (13th century) > *Szarvas*. The use of place-names in fiction and poetry is also touched upon.

The chapter ends with concise surveys of the history of the study of geographical and personal names. The activities of the most outstanding Hungarian specialists in place-name studies (J. Kniezsa and others) and the study of personal names (J. Mellich, Z. Gombocz, and others) are reviewed and an assessment is made of their more important works to date. The systematic study and collection of Hungarian names was begun in the second half of the 19th century. After World War II onomatology became a self-contained discipline and a large number of capable onomatologists came to the fore. At the present time a large-scale project of the publication of place-names by counties is under way in Hungary.

An appendix gives the principal pronunciation rules of Hungarian while a map of Hungary makes it possible to locate the occurrence of names. A comprehensive index is provided to facilitate easy reference.

B. Kálmán's «The World of Names» is a survey which gives the reader a large amount of information about toponyms and personal names in Hungarian.

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П. Н. Лизанец, Венгерские заимствования в украинских говорах Закарпатья. Венгерско-украинские межъязыковые связи, Будапешт, Издательство Академии наук Венгрии, 1976. 683 S.

Nicht selten sind auf unserer Erde Gebiete zu finden, wo seit Jahrhunderten Vertreter verschiedener Sprachen nebeneinander leben und wirken. Merkwürdig ist dabei, daß in ihrem Sprachgebrauch einige gemeinsame Züge vorkommen, obwohl die kontaktierenden Sprachen zu verschiedenen Sprachgruppen bzw. -familien gehören können. Diese Besonderheit bedingt es, daß die moderne Linguistik mit erhöhtem Interesse diejenigen Sprachareale untersucht, wo sich solche wechselwirkenden Sprachbeziehungen herausgebildet haben. Die Erforschung dieser Sprachareale ist nicht nur für die Sprachwissenschaft von großer Bedeutung, sondern liefert auch

wichtige Informationen für die Ethnographie, Folklore, Geschichte u. a. Wissenschaften.

Eine solche Forschung stellt das informationsreiche Werk von P. N. Lizanec dar., das drei Bücher (*Magyar-ukrán nyelvi kapcsolatok* (A kárpátontúli ukrán nyelvjárások anyaga alapján), Uzshorod 1970; Атлас лексичних мадяризмів та їх відповідників в українських говорах Закарпатської області УРСР, Ужгород 1976; П. Н. Лизанец, Венгерские заимствования в украинских говорах Закарпатья. Венгерско-украинские межъязыковые связи, Будапешт 1976) umfaßt. Das Werk (Ungarische Entlehnungen in den ukrainischen