

BOOK REVIEWS

Heere Elger, Storms Martijn, 2007, *Ormeling's Cartography. Presented to Ferjan Ormeling on the occasion of his 65th birthday and his retirement as Professor of Cartography*, edited by Elger Heere and Martijn Storm, 218 pages, 95 figures and maps, bibliography, Koninklijk Nederlands Aardrijkskundig Genootschap, Faculteit Geowetenschappen Universiteit Utrecht, 8 €, ISSN 0169-4839.

This book appeared with the occasion of the Ferjan Ormeling's 65th birthday being structured in three parts. The first one comprises a large biography of this notorious professor, researcher and cartography expert. The second part includes 14 representative articles signed by himself and published among the time in different important scientific volumes. These ones have been rigorously selected based on the main scientific criteria by the editors of this book. In the third part they illustrate Ormeling's scientific and publishing activity, marking in a complete view his literature with all the bibliographical titles between 1968 and 2007. The articles have been published in important scientific volumes from the Netherlands and, more of that, in other many countries of the world. These articles and all the bibliographical references are important for all those interested by the field of cartography, atlases, toponymy and the history of cartography.

The biography comprises many aspects of his education from childhood to the student and doctorate periods. At the same time, the editors present the most important events in his scientific formation illustrating his scientific contributions in the cartography field, his scientific and professional relationships with other scientists and important academic institutions (as cartography specialist and professor). His activity is marked by the quality of member in UNGEGN, a relevant international organization that aims the study and research activities in the field of geographical names. The biography presents some author projects in the future, considering that he has „*so much still to do, so many projects that are going on.*”

In the second part, the book reveals Ormeling's collection in the map collections of the Utrecht University Library. This approach is signed by Marco van Egmond showing the constantly growth of the map and atlases collection. For a general view, the text is joined with many figures that illustrate the map collection of the author. Concerning the Atlas Cartography a special section of this book presents two significant Ormeling's works as Traditional and Digital Atlas Structures and the Atlas Terminology and Atlas Concepts. At the same time, in connection with the Cartographic Education the editors present three of Ormeling's papers as particular chapters regarding the cartographic concepts, the teaching animated cartography and the map using in the education process and

geovisualization.

The 6th and 7th chapters are focused on the cartographic infrastructure, this topic being argued by two distinct articles signed by Ormeling as Environmental Mapping Strategies and the second one oriented to the challenges and the cartography role in the Digital Era. In the context of toponymy the book comprises four articles that show the minority toponyms, the exonyms and the methods for mapping and onomastics. Finally, in the domain of the History of Cartography, the editors of this book include three reference articles that aim the need for teaching this topic to the students, the cartography in the Netherlands and the development of this field in the Western Europe.

The book represents an important and complex tool for the study and the understanding of the cartographic field, being more than useful for the students, teachers, researches, geographic and cartographic experts and for all the actors involved in the study and researches processes of the Cartography and in the academic developing activity of this major scientific field at the international level.

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Névtani Értesítő (*Annals of Toponymy*)

Number 29, Budapest 2007 price : 3 euros.

Even if in **Névtani Értesítő** there are not published articles in international languages, only in Hungarian, it has interesting issues for all toponymists, mainly from Central and Eastern Europe. Among the **studies** we can mention : some comments on the letter of of the Abbey's foundation from Tihany; the way of war from Kesztlöcröl to Fehérvár; the toponymical marks of the Turkish occupation in Törökkopány locality; the ways of derivation in the case of fictitious names; the correlation system of the differential names of English towns; the denominations in Bereg Department from 16th century with reference to shame, a study about the reasons which have led the change of the family name in Hungary; habits in choosing the name for the Roma population; the denominations of the heavenly bodies, orthography; new denominations of the pharmacies in Heves department; identities and differences between the toponymical habits of the popular stories and literature; denominations and anonymity situations in the book "Non-existent Knight" by Italo Calvino; the possibilities of translation of the proper names and exemplified errors of translation; the problems of the Hungarian locality's names standardization in Slovakia; the phenomena of name's change in the denominations from Zoboralija locality, the surname *Puszta* in the localities from the Czech Republic and Slovakia, as pragmatic replacing; the bilingual situation and the use of nicknames; identity and baptism habits; the change of the baptism habits in Bácskai etc. These studies show not only toponymic but also historical-geographical and religious aspects in different parts of Hungary or on other European spaces (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Italy).

As **workshops** there are presented three cases which were held in 2006: *About the Web Page of the Hungarian Society of Toponymy*, *About the Swedish toponymy* and *A subjective report of the 6th conference of Hungarian Toponymy*.

Some references to the **PhD thesis** presented in 2006 include the *changes of significance to the baptism names* and *the habits of naming the animals (the horses)*. Among the book presentation one can reveal three of them: *Proper names from 18th-19th century in Rábaköz*, *The history of the High Tatra* and *The streets names in Győr*.

In conclusion, we consider that the 310 pages of **Névtani Értesítő** have many studies which could be taken as a basis for the toponymy in the Central-Eastern Europe.

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* * * * * 2008, *The Europa World Year Book 2008*, 2 volumes, Routledge Taylor&Francis Group, 4950 pages, price 725 £; ISBN 978-1-85743-451-4.

This reference book represents an important tool concerning the study of the regional geography problems. At the same time, it is a real and objective source of information viewing the geographic, economic, social and cultural particularities of the world states offering detailed data about the all countries of the world using an analytic and statistic approach. There are described the most important topics for over 250 countries and territories.

The states presentation is conceived in a practical, real and clear mode comprising available information regarding the recent history of them, the business field and economic sector, the particularities of the political system and governments, the characteristics of the military branch, the features of the educational system etc. For real and correct information of the readers all data are updated. These data represent a very objective introduction in the particular frame of each country of the world. The statistical data are referring to the topics as population, health system, economy (agriculture, industry, finance, transportation, tourism) and the national media being assumed from the national official statistic data bases.

A separate section of the book is conceived as a comprehensive directory which include lists names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and internet addresses and links of the most important organizations from the field of government, diplomatic and political system and also of the fields as religion, press, publishers, broadcast and communications, trade, utilities etc.

The strengths of this ample and complex publication is represented by the actuality of its data and information and, at the same time, by its excellent graphic expressed by pictures, maps, charts and diagrams which illustrated and argued in a convincing mode the specific reality for each country separately. Another gain offered by consulting this book is ensured by the interactive mode in which it is conceived, by its comprehensively style, by its accuracy writing and by the comparative and synchronic way in which it is elaborated.

The book is recommended to all who are interested by the most important recent

characteristics of the states of the world. It is useful in the process of documentation of the students in their approach of learning and understanding the geographic problems of the countries, territories and regions and, more of that, for teachers, professors, and researchers in the data updating demarche of their studies and analysis focused on the field of regional geography.

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Romanian Academy, Institute of Geography, 2008, *Dicționarul Geografic al României (Gazetteer of Romania), Volume I*, Romanian Academy Publishing House, Bucharest, 664 pages, over 80 references titles, price 18 Euro.

The Romanian scientific and geographic reference is enriched by another important publication as the Gazetteer of Romania. Its first volume appears under the coordination of Mircea Buza, Lucian Badea and Șerban Dragomirescu, all these authors being prestigious researchers and, also, members of Romanian Academy staff. This work is conceived according to the all suggestions of the UNGEGN/GENUNG experts group, the book being based on the ample documentation work made by an distinguish authors collective which studied about 255 maps with scale 1:100 000 and 1: 200 000.

The proceedings are in conformity with the research strategy of the Institute of Geography from Romanian Academy. These new editorial appearance is important in the study activities and research approaches from the field of human geography and, also, from others topics from the Earth sciences. The relevance of this gazetteer is reflected by the fact that geographical names were always been consequential features in the geographic studies. It is interesting to state that the publication of this dictionary represents an outcome of the national obligation made by Romania, as ONU member, concerning the national standardization of the geographic names. So, this work directly contributes to the geographical names normalize process in their utilization on the maps and, at the same time, on the other scientific publications.

The uniqueness if this book is given by the fact that it respects the all scientific recommendations made by the occasion of many conferences which have debate the topic of the names standardization in the world. In the names presentation its design mode reflects many quality and quantity elements, approach which is very useful for all researches interested by this geographic field. At the same time the gazetteer respects the main criteria concerning the toponymes writing process from the lens of: the masculine appellatives articulation, the masculine appellatives articulation followed by an adjective, the gender, number, and case according of the geographical names often established by the geographers, historians, other researches and also by local or national administrations, the utilization of a single name in the case of the existence of mane appellatives for the same region.

The gazetteer does not comprise the old names of the localities because it is not a historical guide and neither a linguistic or etymological one, being more of that an

appliance conceived from the geographic perspective with a real and objective role to be useful for all people interested by the correct utilization of the geographical names, both in their daily life (current speech and writing) or in the specific applications of various researchers in their work materialized in different studies, articles and publications. In the book pages there are presented the geographical names in connection with a specific algorithm. So, it comprises the heights, the administrative units belonging of the localities, the rivers length, latitude and longitude etc. The localities' network is in connection with the complex data of the last census from Romania that took place in 2002.

The scientific value of the gazetteer is ensured, besides the topographic maps which were used in the documentation demand, by the used reference objectified in 42 geographic gazetteers published in Romania, six ones published abroad, other 24 scientific publications as articles, studies, monographers and books, nine legal normative documents and many laws and texts of laws that are in force in Romania.

Finally, we kindly recommend this Gazetteer of Romania to all those whose interests are targeted to the knowledge, study and the research activities focused on the geographic, historic, politic, social and cultural space from contemporary Romania.

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