BOOK REVIEWS


The book is the result of a great work of two leading professors and active researchers, Menno - Jan Kraak (professor in Geovisualization at ITC, at the International Institute of Geo-Information Sciences and Earth Observation in Enschede, The Netherlands) and Ferjan Ormeling (Professor in Cartography at the Faculty of Geographical Science at Utrecht University from the same country).

The first three chapters of this work present concretely the rapports between GIS and maps, the relation between GDI and cartography and also the relevance of the data acquisitions in the scientific research context from geographical field and from other earth sciences. Also, the authors concretely state the data acquisitions methods for the preparation of quality studies. In the same context of cartography, the authors present the main characteristics of the maps including their functions and typology. Chapter four is reserved for GIS applications illustrating the relevance of the geospatial analysis in Geography, the thematic and temporal comparisons and also, the use of digital data.

The next three chapters are focused on the topography field presenting the maps projecting mode, the geometrical transformations and the generalizing process in topography data; also is well presented the characteristics of the maps design and the particularities of the statistical data used in the cartography processing. In addition with these elements are exposed concretely the cartography tools as a scientific guide in realizing and map producing process.

Chapter nine is dedicated to atlases with a special view on the paper atlases and to the electronic ones, while chapter ten is focused on the mapping time process by the researches, cartography, students etc. In connection with electronic atlases the authors express in chapter eleven the existed rapports between maps and World Wide Web focusing on such topics as web map design, web maps and multimedia and, finally, mapping the cyberspace.

Chapter twelve is reserved to the geovisualization while the 13th chapter represents a synthesis of the all book getting in (prim plan) and, also, as a feed-back, elements regarding the importance of the maps, of the electronic atlases, of the digital charts, the relevance of the cartography, of the GIS and of the geographical information policy. This scientific work is dedicated to students, all researches in geography and earth science, to the
professors that are teaching courses of cartography and all who are interested by the field of modern cartography and its contemporary trends of evolution in the scientific field.

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This purpose of this book is to establish the role and the importance of the exonyms in the international standardization of geographical names, having as editors the renowned experts Peter Jordan, Milan Orožen Adamič and Paul Woodman. It is a synthesis of the researches of 14 authors, most of them members of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNEGGN), more specifically of its Working Group on Exonyms. The book contains most of the papers presented to the UNEGGN Working Group on Exonyms, mainly at the meetings from Prague (2003) and Ljubljana (2005), plus some additional contributions. It examines the benefits of exonyms, their current trends in their use and efforts at standardization nationally and internationally. After a short preface of the editors, there are three main parts of the book. In the first one it is explained the essence of the exonyms. Paul Woodman makes a history of exonyms and of UNEGGN and a structural classification viewed as an approach of exonyms. Jarno Raukko realises another classification of exonyms, but this time a linguistic one.

In the second part, Naftali Kadmon, Paul Woodman, Peter Jordan and Roman Stani-Fertl explain the terms “exonym” and “endonym”. Also Peeter Päll and Philip W. Matthews present some linguistic aspects of defining exonyms and Paul Woodman deals with the correlation between man, his terrain and his toponyms.

In the third part, there are presented the trends in exonyms use. Pavel Boháč tries to explain the effect of disappearance of exonyms, giving the example of Czech exonyms for some European towns. Types of exonyms in the Slovene language are presented by Drago Kladnik and Milan Orožen Adamič who also makes an analysis about the treatment of geographical names in multilingual areas. The situation of the exonyms from the Hungarian language is the object of Béla Pokoly’s presentation and Ferjan Ormeling reviews the Dutch exonym standardization.

In another chapter from this part of the book, Sirkka Paikkala explains how the orthographical norms of foreign place names became standardized in Finnish in the 19th century. Philip W. Matthews and Peeter Päll try to establish if the Māori names for countries must be considered endonyms or exonyms.

The final part of the book is an appendix where we find some language abbreviations used in the previous chapters, an UNEGGN glossary definitions for some usual toponymic terms and some texts of resolutions from United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names relevant to the consideration of exonyms.
Because of the well structured content together with the multitude of informations, the book may be considered as a first comprehensive reader on the topic of exonyms as well as the first tangible product of the Working Group on Exonyms.

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Heere Elger, Storms Martijn, 2007, Ormeling's Cartography. Presented to Ferjan Ormelingon 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 on the occasion of Ferjan Ormeling's 65th birthday being structured in three parts. The first one comprises a large biography of this leading professor and, also, researcher and cartography expert. The second part includes 14 representative articles signed by himself, published in various important scientific volumes and carefully selected by the editors. In the third part they illustrate Ormeling's scientific and publishing activity, including a list of all his publications during 1968-2007, involving journals published in the Netherlands and other countries. 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, firstly, many aspects of his education from childhood to the student and doctorate period. 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 membership of UNGEGN, a relevant international organization that aims to study and research activities in the field of geographical names. The biography presents some future projects, considering that the author has „much to do with so many projects still going on.”

In the second part, the book reveals Ormeling’s collection in the map collection of the Utrecht University Library. This approach is signed by Marco van Egmond showing the constant growth of the 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 works on Traditional and Digital Atlas Structures and the Atlas Terminology and Atlas Concepts. At the same time, in connection with Cartographic Education, the editors present three of Ormeling’s papers as particular chapters regarding cartographic concepts, teaching animated cartography and map using in the education process and geovisualization. Chapters six and seven 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 dealing with 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 references on teaching this topic to students, Cartography in the Netherlands and the development of this field in the Western Europe. In its whole, 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 study and research in cartography and in the academic development of this major scientific field at the international level.

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