Maticsák, Sándor; Laihonen, Petteri

Title: Milestones in the History of Hungarian/Finnish Bilingual Lexicography

Year: 2011

Version:

Please cite the original version:

All material supplied via JYX is protected by copyright and other intellectual property rights, and duplication or sale of all or part of any of the repository collections is not permitted, except that material may be duplicated by you for your research use or educational purposes in electronic or print form. You must obtain permission for any other use. Electronic or print copies may not be offered, whether for sale or otherwise to anyone who is not an authorised user.
Milestones in the bilingual Hungarian–Finnish lexicography

MATICSÁK Sándor – Petteri LAIHONEN

MS: PhD, Associate professor, Chair for Finno-Ugric Studies, University of Debrecen, maticsak.sandor@arts.unideb.hu
PL: PhD, Lecturer for Finnish, Department of Finno-Ugric Studies, University of Debrecen, petteri.laihonen@jyu.fi

Finnish, with its 5.3 million speakers, stands as the 22nd largest European language. In comparison with similar sized European languages, the number and quality of Hungarian-Finnish bilingual dictionaries is impressive. There are few Danish, Norwegian, Lithuanian or Catalan bilingual Hungarian dictionaries available. What is more, even Portuguese, Swedish or Belorussian with ca. 10 million speakers remain far behind. The exceptional intensity of Hungarian-Finnish bilingual dictionary production can be explained through the linguistic relatedness of the two languages: Hungarian and Finnish are the two largest languages in the Finno-Ugric language family. Since the 19th century both languages have been learnt as an obligatory, or at least optional, part of Finnish and Hungarian university studies. Major universities in both countries have employed lecturers and maintained study programs in the other language as well. In the 1860-s the curricular teaching of Finnish in Budapest and Hungarian in Helsinki began. To meet the needs of university teaching, the first grammars, language books, and dictionaries appeared soon after. Hungarian learners of Finnish have been motivated first through historical linguistics and Kalevala, the Finnish national folklore epic. In the 20th century the interest of the students on a kinship language have become diverse, however Hungarian and Finnish are still mainly learned as a part of Finnish and Hungarian studies. In this article, we are going to discuss seven bilingual dictionaries. We examine their place among dictionaries, their target groups and their scope and range. Furthermore, the inclusion and translations of special word groups, such as culturally bound expressions or names in the dictionaries are reviewed. Finally, grammatical information included in the entries and appendices are analyzed.

Even though English is taking over as the sole international language, Finnish and Hungarian are still relatively popular foreign languages in Hungary and Finland. Unfortunately, the linguistic kinship is of little help in language learning (the shared typological agglutinative character is of some help, though). Hungarian will help you only in the case of some 250-300 words of the ancient Finno-Ugric core vocabulary. You can get a smile in Finland with Finnish-Hungarian relics such as

---

The bilingual dictionaries have all been compiled by Hungarian linguists. For some reason Finns have so far served only as reviewers and consultants. Even though distinguished linguists have edited the dictionaries, their use remains problematic for language learners even today. Finnish, and Hungarian for that matter, has numerous (15) cases for nouns. Advanced dictionaries indicate the singular and plural genitive endings, because various changes take place in word stems during inflection. The Finnish monolingual learner’s dictionary (NURMI 1999) gives the illative case, too. Even though the system of stem changes and inflection is systematically described in grammars and language books, it is at times easier to memorize some forms word by word. Verb entries may include first person present and past active forms, at times followed by past participle and passive form(s). A further pitfall is consonant gradation. That is, there is a specific kind of variation of voiceless stops at last syllable and at syllable border. This variation can be quantitative e.g. kukka : kukan [gen.] ‘flower’, qualitative e.g. sata : sadan [gen] ‘hundred’ or assimilative e.g. ranta : rannan [gen]. In sum, it is often far from easy to track the dictionary entry from an inflected form. The dictionaries have developed different practices to overcome this and other problems, the results are discussed below.

In the scope of this text, we discuss only general bilingual dictionaries. Thus, specialized bilingual dictionaries or vocabularies for special use are not covered here.

1. The first bilingual Finnish-Hungarian dictionary was published by József Szinnyei, a distinguished scholar in Finno-Ugric studies, in 1884. His famous teacher, József Budenz had already begun to make a Finnish–Hungarian–German dictionary in the 1860’s, however only the letters A, E, H were finished. Instead, Budenz published a path-breaking grammar with a reader and a vocabulary in 1880. Both works served as important sources for Szinnyei.

Szinnyei József states in his detailed foreword that the dictionary of ca. 15 000 entries was originally compiled for linguists. His goal was „to give such a dictionary for Hungarians involved in Finnish studies that would enable them to read Finnish folklore, modern fiction, historical and linguistic studies as well as newspapers. There is little need for else”. Presenting colloquial language was not an aim of this dictionary since the distance between Finland and Hungary was considerable in the 19th century. There is no technical terminology or jargon included either. This was a convenient decision, considering that, among others, Finnish scientific terminology was still in the making during the 1880’s. In comparison to later dictionaries, Finnish folklore and Kalevala, in particular, is widely presented. Thus, there are several entries that later did not become a part of standard Finnish, for instance haahitta- ‘to make something appear through howling’. However, Szinnyei’s dictionary should come in handy even today for those wishing to make sense of any of the numerous Kalevala adaptations, such as the poetry of Eino Leino or the folk music lyrics by Loituma and Värttinä.

The main source for Szinnyei was Elias Lönnrot’s Finnish-Swedish dictionary (1874–1880). Other sources included bilingual Finnish–Latin and German–Latin dictionaries, folklore vocabularies, folk stories, lists of proverbs and sayings, poetry and the literary works of Aleksis Kivi. Szinnyei had resided one year in Finland, learning the language in practice and gathering
material for his dictionary. However, it is obvious that Szinnyei relied on previous dictionaries or other sources whenever it was possible (folklore sources are even cited in the entries).

Szinnyei's entries present the forms „which are most common in the literary“, e.g. *kaunii* and not *kaunihii* - 'pretty'. Since most of his sources date back to times before the widespread standardization of the Finnish language, not to mention folklore, it is natural that we find several substandard or regional expressions, especially from the eastern dialects, for instance: *askaroitse* (standard: *askaroi* 'occupy oneself'), *evelâ* (standard: *ovelâ* 'clever').

The composer of the Kalevala, Elias Lönnrot produced the cornerstone of Finnish lexicography, the Finnish-Swedish dictionary with 200 000 entries. Lönnrot's dictionary meticulously documents old written Finnish and folklore. However, Lönnrot, as a language cultivator, included words that he himself had created, too. In addition, he produced all the possible derivatives of a word, some of which remain purely theoretic. Budenz noticed that some resulting expressions were near to ridiculous, e.g. *aasistua* 'to become donkey-like' (HAKULINEN 1967: 103), thus his student, Szinnyei was certainly warned against following Lönnrot's excesses. Nevertheless, Szinnyei has *sikamastu-/sikastu* - 'to become big-like', or *siistikkää, -ikäs* 'refined' and *siistittömä, -itön* 'untidy'. Szinnyei discusses the question of derivatives in his foreword in detail. He gives a three page list of suffixes that „can be understood with ease, if we know the meaning of the stem and the function of the suffix”. Szinnyei’s dictionary indicates well the basic problem of Finnish-Hungarian lexicography: Which are the conventional, fixed derivates (e.g. *elä/mä* 'life', *pappi/la* 'parish', *liha/va* 'fat', which belong to every dictionary), which are of ad hoc character and which got into dictionaries only because of Lönnrot’s dubious example.

The use of previous dictionaries and the emphasis on folklore had the consequence that the dictionary has several entries, such as *asso* 'soft’, that were archaic already at the time of the publication. However, for linguists, such words are precious guides to the past of the Finnish language. In the case of loan words, Szinnyei provides the etymology, too. We learn, among others, that *sisar* 'sister’ is of Lithuanian origin. The dictionary does not contain scientific or technical loan words. A unique peculiarity of the dictionary is that Szinnyei added a question mark after such words where he was not totally certain of their meaning, e.g.: *sian-nappi csömör (?)* 'surfeit'.

The entries stand in alphabetic order, homonyms are treated as an independent entry. Different meanings are marked with ordinals. However some meanings, displayed as synonyms, appear rather distant. For instance: *etsimys* is given the following, by far not synonymic, equivalents: *megkeresés*, *csapás* 'contact, disaster'. Entries are mostly short, grouping is applied only in the case of compound words. They are usually ordered according to their first parts. However, some compounds appear according to their latter parts, because „they came into my mind only after the first part was already printed”.

Some entries are longer, because of several meanings and examples. Folklore examples are not always translated, for instance *etu…olisi mulla onni ollut, etu muutenki eleâ* (Kant. 208. b.). Causative etc. verb forms and diminutive noun forms are not translated separately, rather abbreviations such as *kaus. dim. indicate their meaning. For instance: *sito- körni 'tie'* | *sidellä frequ. | *sidotta-caus. | *sitaisa […] mom. […] | *sitoutu-med; lekötelezni magât ‘commit oneself to'*. This clearly demonstrates that the dictionary was intended in the first place for readers with linguistic expertise. Finally, Szinnyei attempts to spare space by abbreviating the -nen (-ainen, -einen, -oinen etc.) suffix with =n. For instance, *verinen* 'bloody' is abbreviated to *verise =n*. Obviously there are no followers of this curious practice.

The entries are provided in word stem forms. In addition, Szinnyei gives the first nominative forms for nouns and the infinitive forms for verbs, too. For instance, *örisen, öristä 'growl', hirve-*, *vi 'elk'. This unconventional practice has the advantage that the various inflected forms (örisen, öriset, örisee, öristään; hirven, hirvellä, hirvenä etc.) can be traced more easily to the word stem
than to the nominative or infinitive, which are the traditional entry forms in Indo-European and Finnish dictionaries. However, Szinnyei’s practice gives a rather misleading picture of the system of Finnish word stems, comparable to having háza- ‘house’ hala- ‘fish’ as Hungarian entries. Therefore, it is no wonder that this innovation went into disuse.

The dictionary ends with lists of first names and geographical names. Finnish first names are given Hungarian equivalents, as it was typical in those times. Among the first names, we can learn some archaic ones and their Hungarian equivalents, such as Pärttyli = Bertalan and Tiila = Ottília. Some names from the Kalevala get their meanings in the dictionary: e.g. Kullervo ‘bugler’, Kylliikki ‘one that does not feel good at home’ and Aino ‘the only one’. A curiosity of geographical names is that, some Hungarian „equivalents” are actually Swedish (Helsinki – Helsingfors) or German (Tallinna – Reval) forms. Finally, we learn that the archaic Turja stands for Norwegian Lappland.

2. Szinnyei’s Finnish–Hungarian work was followed by a Hungarian–Finnish dictionary in 1934. The editor, Gyula Weöres wrote in his foreword: „Untill today, no proper Hungarian-Finnish dictionary has been published yet, if we do not count vocabularies of Finnish grammars of Hungarian. To fill this gap, I have prepared this pocket dictionary to serve the needs of the Finnish audience in the first place. The dictionary covers only words and expressions that are in general use in literature and everyday spoken language.” The small, 280 page dictionary meets the mentioned goals well (Weöres acted as the lecturer for Hungarian at the University of Helsinki between 1925 and 1942, thus he must have had an excellent command of Finnish).

The dictionary with ca. 9000 entries groups the derivatives and compounds into a single entry, so it has far more words than entries. To have the derivatives under one entry saves space, thus making the work truly pocket size. However, at the same time, it makes the language learner’s life difficult. For instance, the derivatives of fej 'head' ended up in three entries (fej/alj, -csóválva, -disz; feje/sség, -ilen, -zet; fej/fa, -fajás, -hang, -kötő, -léc), and fejedelem, fejel, fejenként, fejér, fejes, fejés entries come in between them. In addition, words with the affix fő- 'head' are spread to seven entries. A further complication is that: „there is a slash after the letter from which the next part with a hyphen begins”. For instance: péld/a, -a/beszéd, -álózik, -ány, -ás, -átlan; patt/an, -og; külön/c, -féle, -ítmény, -leges, -ös; zsibba/d, -szt. While going backwards in the entry, this solution may well confuse the Finnish users understanding of the Hungarian word stem. A final discrepancy caused by grouping is that different word classes meet in an entry, for instance vendég ‘guest’ -fogadó ‘house’, -látás ‘visit’, -szerepel ‘to perform’, -szeretet ‘hospitality’ and -lő ‘inn’, -lős ‘restaurateur’, -ség ‘visit’.

The dictionary displays many expressions and phrases, too. In such cases, the entries are not replaced by the conventional ~ sign. Instead, Weöres gives the first letter of the word, for instance: élet 'life': é-ben van 'he is alive', é-be lép 'to take effect', é-e forog kockán 'his life is at stake', é-et él 'live ones life', é-halál harc 'struggle for life and death', é-re kel 'come to life’. No wonder this practice fell into oblivion.

The vocabulary of the dictionary is surprisingly modern, it can cope fairly well even with third millennium texts. The Finnish equivalents are flawless, too. 80 years is a lot of time though, we can point to bygone expressions such as ágyasság ‘concubinage’, bagaria ‘Muscovy leather’, balog ‘left-handed’, burkus ‘Prussian’, eszmetársulás ‘association’, sajka ‘(small) boat’, ürmős ‘vermouth’, vevény ‘receipt’ or vörhény ‘scarlet fever’.

The dictionary offers no information on the inflection of words, which is quite acceptable for a pocket dictionary. Perhaps there could have been an appendix with inflectional paradigms. Weöres somewhat unnecessarily indicates the word class of the entry, since it can be easily determined from the Finnish equivalent. There is a minute appendix in the dictionary listing Hungarian first names with Finnish equivalents. A part of them are reasonable (Antal ~ Antti, Henrik ~ Heikki, Kristóf ~
Risto, Krisztina ~ Kirsti, Tamás ~ Tuomo, Zsuzsánna ~ Sanna). However, a part of them are more or less amusing today (Aladár ~ Olodarus, Árpád ~ Arpadus, Lázár ~ Latsarus, Lóránt ~ Orlando).

Imagine the ancient Finnish Arpadus...

3. The vivid Hungarian–Finnish contacts from the interwar period come to a halt during the Rákosi era. Towards the end of the 1950’s cultural cooperation was renewed and the first scholarships for Hungarians to visit Finland were awarded in the beginning of the 60’s. The translating of each other’s literature increased, agreements of cultural and scholarly exchange were drawn. This all was possible due to Finland’s special position between the Eastern and the Western political camps. In this situation it was urgent to finally produce a modern and significantly larger Finnish-Hungarian dictionary after Szinnyei’s 1884 work. The leading figure in Hungarian Finnish Studies, István Papp, chair of the Hungarian linguistics department at the Lajos Kossuth university in Debrecen, published several landmark works for the learning of Finnish at that time. His outstanding Finnish–Hungarian dictionary was widely celebrated. As Tibor Mikola concluded (1963: 207): „The dictionary by István Papp will make the use of intermediary languages unnecessary and undoubtedly increase the interest in Finnish”. The dictionary was published in the „dark blue” series, only the fourth edition (1993) got a different appearance: it was dressed in the colors of the Finnish flag. (It is very unfortunate that no changes or up-date have been allowed in the later editions. The once superb dictionary has grown painfully out dated by the 1990’s).

The dictionary has 1100 pages and about 49 000 entries. Papp István had the six volume Dictionary of Modern Finnish (Nykysuomen sanakirja, 1951–1961) as his main source. This first monolingual reference work with 200 000 entries was the second, and perhaps still today the most significant, cornerstone of Finnish lexicography. In the first place, Papp worked out the lexicon of written standard Finnish. However, there is a wealth of vernacular expressions and jargon, too. Even though the dictionary was undoubtedly up-to-date at the time of the publication, some expressions are foreign for university students today (which would not be a problem, if the volume’s unchanged recent editions weren’t sold in bookstores today). For instance, there is an archaic flavor in: hiilestys ’coaling’, hirvenhtiäjä ’elk hunter (on skies)’, ilmoitustoimisto ’advertising office’, imisä ’sow’, sueta ’come about’, virma ’fire’, elfenluu ’ivory’.

The foreword does not address the problem of selecting derivatives and compound words as entries. However, as the discussion of Szinnyei’s dictionary demonstrated, this a significant issue for Finnish lexicography. If there are no strict principles to prevent it, derivatives and compounds easily flood the dictionary. This is what happened to a certain extent to Papp István’s dictionary. However, Papp inherited this shortcoming from Nykysuomen sanakirja, thus he had little chance to avoid this pitfall. In other words, the derivative and compound entries are too often of ad hoc nature and ponderous. It is no wonder that later Finnish dictionaries have dropped the following entries: armahtamattomuus ’mercilessness’, armeliaisuustoiminta ’charity’, asianajatemppu ’lawyer’s trick’, atomipommiyhökkäys ’atom bomb attack’, hiichtoherruus ’supremacy in skiing’, kasvienruse- kutusaine ’herbicide’, kirjallisuudenhistorioitsija ’literary historian’, laskeutumiskehoitus ’landing command’. Google.fi gives less than 10 results for each, indicating that contemporary Finnish avoids the use of these expressions.

Papp István recognized that the use of dialects is still vivid in Finland. The use of vernaculars in fiction was enhance by the new „national epic” Tuntematon sotilas (The unknown soldier, 1954) by Väinö Linna. The second appendix to the dictionary presents the so called reflexive verb inflection, which was typical for eastern dialects and Kaleva, but obsolete in the standard. There are some entries that are, very rightly, defined as vernacular, for instance, haastaa ’speak’, orpana ’cousin’, kyty ’sister-in-law’, tumppu ’mitten’. Even though these words are not included in standard Finnish, they have quite widespread regional and literary use.
A good dictionary, such as Papp’s work, is able to pass on a wealth of cultural information. Among others, major Finnish war history terms are covered: *talvisota* 'Winter War (30 Nov. 1939 – 13 March 1940)', *jatkosota* 'Continuation War (1941–44)', *nujasota* 'Cudgel War' (a peasant uprising defeated by Governor General Clas Fleming in the winter of 1596–97) and *lotta* 'lotta' (a member of a Finnish voluntary paramilitary auxiliary organization for women, especially active during WW II, but abolished after it, however highly respected today). Furthermore, *sauna* and *kantele* get their explanation. Mythological names, such as *Ahtola* ‘the palace of the god of the sea’, are covered.

An essential culture specific lexicon consists of food and beverage names. The accidental Hungarian tourist can easily be caught by surprise in this realm. Papp has *mämmi* 'Easter pudding made from rye malt', *kalakukko* ‘a pasty, comprising meat, fish, potato etc. baked inside bread dough’, *puuro* ‘porridge’, *maksamakkara* 'liver sausage'. However, the Hungarian culinary nightmare, *maksalaatikko* 'liver casserole with raisins etc.' is missing together with *lanttulaatikko* 'turnip casserole'. Further absent Finnish specialties are *karjalanpiirakka* 'Karelian pasty', *leipäpäjuusto* 'squeaky cheese', *kermaviili* 'curd cream', *mustamakkara* 'black blood sausage from Tampere'. Finally, two important Finnish beverages, *sima* ‘mead’ and (*koti)kalja ‘fermented, weak table drink which is made of malt and sugar’ are included. However, the Finnish user could have been grateful of some wine terminology, such as *hapokas* ‘acetic’ or *jalohome* ‘noble rot’.

Finland is the country of thousand lakes (in fact, there are close to 200 000 lakes in Finland). Thus, different forms of fish are essential for Finnish kitchen. *Karppi* ‘carp’, *monni* ‘sheatfish’ and *hauki* ‘pike’ are well known in Hungary, too. Examples of less known fish in the dictionary are *kuha* ‘sander’, *lahna* ‘bream’, *made* ‘burbot’ and *särki* ‘roach’. The difference between *silli* ‘herring’ and *silakka* ‘baltic herring’ goes beyond the imagination of most Hungarian readers. Finally, it goes without saying that *lohi* ‘salmon’ is included.

Changes in Finnish society have had changes in the lexicon, too. Among others, feminist Finnish linguists have stressed that the male gender should not be used as the unmarked case. Thus, marking the female gender with the feminine suffix -*tAr*, especially for occupations (e.g. *opettaja* 'teacher' *opettajatar* 'teacher-FEM', *laulaja* 'singer' – *laulajatar* 'singer-FEM'), has become obsolete. According to Mila ENGERLBERG’s (1998) study, there were 77 entries with -*tAr* suffix in the Finnish occupational catalogue in 1950 and only one in 1990 (*myyjätär* ‘saleslady’). Dictionaries in general had similar collections of the feminine suffix in the 1960’s. Papp included some that have endured time’s tide: *kaunotar* ‘beauty’, *rakastajatar* ‘mistress’. Some expressions, still in use, have pejorative meanings: *seikkailijatar* ‘adventuress’, *viettelijätär* ‘seductress’. Somewhat arhcic or romantic are mythological figures: *aallotar* ‘mermaid’, *hallatar* ‘frost fairy’, *hengetär* ‘guardian fairy’, *luonnotar* ‘nymph’, *raivotar* ‘fury’, *sulotar* ‘grace’ and *syöjätär* ‘gorgon’. The following occupational terms from Papp’s dictionary have been stripped from the -*tAr* suffix since then: *hoitajatar* ‘nurse’, *keittäjätär* ‘cook-FEM’, *kotiopettajatar* ‘tutoress’, *maalajatar* ‘paintress’, *ompelijatar* ‘seamstress’, *runoilijatar* ‘poetess’, *siivoojatar* ‘cleaning lady’.

For the delight of language learners’ Papp provides a wealth of abbreviations and acronyms. Beyond the customary *jne. = ja niin edespäin ‘etc’, mm. = muun/muiden muassa ‘among others’,* ks. = katso ‘see’ we learn that *KTA* stands for *kone- ja traktoriasema* ‘machine and tractor station’. The zeitgeist has been bottled in *SDPL = Suomen Demokraattinen Pioneerien Liitto ‘The Democratic Union of Finnish Pioneers’, *SNL, SNTL = Sosialististen Neuvrostotasavaltojen Liitto ‘USSR’, and *SKP = Suomen Kommunistinen Puolue ‘The Communist Party of Finland’.

The dictionary has many forename entries. As Papp István writes in his foreword, first names are included: „even though, as it is often happens, we are unable to give a Hungarian equivalent”. From a contemporary perspective, it could have been a better choice to provide forenames in an appendix and perhaps the goal of giving Hungarian „equivalents” at all costs could have been abandoned.
Fortunately, Papp often failed to meet his goal, for instance Kostia, Kuisma, Rauno and Kotivalo, Laila, Maire, Outi are explained as 'male names' and 'female names'. However, some equivalents still seem more or less humorous today: Kristian ~ Keresztély, Ludvig ~ Lajos, Timo ~ Timót. The associate names from the Kalevala are given explanations (Tapio 'king of forests'), however, vulgar name associations are left in the dark (Yrjö > yrjö 'puke', Tauno > tauno 'idiot' etc.). Due to its frequent use in fiction, name association could have deserved more space.

The presentation of geographical names is more than a welcomed characteristic of Papp’s dictionary. To begin with, international place names are often modified to Finnish phonology and orthography: Lontoo 'London', Pariisi 'Paris', Kiowa 'Kiev', Moskova 'Moscau', Pietari 'St. Petersburg' and Krakova 'Cracow'. Furthermore, translations covered by the dictionary come in handy too: Kapkaupunki 'Capetown', Pohjanlahti 'The Gulf of Bothonia', Itämeri 'The Baltic Sea' etc. Finally, the Estonian capital is provided in the Russian induced form Tallin in Hungarian.

Different inflection types are indicated by upper index numbers attached to entries. Following the Finnish monolingual dictionary, Papp groups nouns in 85 inflectional types (31 with one stem, 54 with two stems) and verbs in 45 types (23 with one stem and 22 with two stems). In the appendix the following forms of different noun inflection types are given: singular genitive, essive, partitive and illative as well as plural genitive, partitive and illative (the essive is somewhat futile). For verb inflection types, the present singular first person, Sg3rd past, Sg3rd conditional and Sg3rd imperative are presented (the latter is rather peripheral in Finnish, Pl2nd imperative would have been of more use). In addition, the perfect participle and past passive forms are given. This framework of presenting the system of Finnish stems was a dogma in Hungary for some decades after the dictionary, but has since become unfashionable due to its complexity. Consonant gradation is displayed by an asterisk. This is a good idea. Nevertheless, the learner could have been further helped by giving examples of more complicated cases in the appendix, especially on the so called inverted gradation. For instance the entry maata 'to lie' has a 35 index with an asterisk (*) leading to salata 'to hide' in the appendix. However, finding the singular first person form, makaan on the basis of salaan takes a linguistic genius...

To sum up, István Papp’s masterpiece filled a huge gap. At the time of the publication it had an admirably wide lexicon, wealth of excellent examples and the most up-to-date approach to language. Undoubtedly, it belongs within the highlights of Finnish-Hungarian lexicography. However, times, language and lexicography change, and the author is the last to blame that it took 45 years to publish the next Finnish-Hungarian dictionary.

4. The extension of Finnish Hungarian contacts urged the production of a Hungarian–Finnish dictionary as well. The dictionary by Gyula Weörös from 1934 was already outdated and rarely available. Further, its concise character made it insufficient in many areas. This gap was filled by István Nyirkos, a distinguished professor at the University of Debrecen. At that time he was serving as lecturer for Hungarian in the University of Helsinki. Nyirkos began by preparing a Hungarian reader with a vocabulary, then he expanded the 140 page vocabulary to a 380 page Hungarian-Finnish dictionary, published in 1969 in Helsinki. Having a reader as the basis of the dictionary was an excellent idea because it included several genres: folklore, poetry, fiction and academic texts.

The new dictionary was suitable for communicative learning of modern Hungarian. It includes several expressions that were new back in the 1960’s: bruttó 'gross', diákmzena 'university canteen', expressszérel 'express letter', felhőkarcoló 'skyscraper', fotoreporter 'photojournalist', frottírtörülköző 'terry towel', gemkapocs 'paper clip', görkorcsolya 'roller-skate', műhold 'satellite', öngyújtó 'lighter', plüss 'plush', repülőposta 'airmail', sztaniol 'tinfoil' and villanyvonat 'electric train' (however, önkiniszolgáló 'self-service' is missing). Typically, some socialist jargon is

Some archaic words were included because they occur in the older texts of the reader. For instance, cipőkenőcs ‘shoe cream’, cserez ‘(leather) tan’, fekbér ‘demurrage’, nyelvtisztogató ‘purist (in language)’, keserv ‘grievance’. Cultural information is included to a smaller extent. Hungarian specialities, such as betvár, csárda, gémeskút, hajdú, krajcár, kuruc, országbiró, pityke, székely, végvár get their explanations and even the Hungarian fictive figure Hüvelyk Matyi is introduced. It is likewise important to tell the Finns that the Hungarian első emelet ‘first floor’ is in Finland actually ’toinen kerros’, that is, second floor. The dictionary contains a wealth of linguistic terms, which is fine, considering that Hungarian is often learnt as a part of linguistic studies. However, a part of the linguistic jargon could have been better placed in a separate appendix (allativus, dativus, instrumentalis-comitativus etc). Nyirkos includes colloquial expressions here and there (cucli ‘(baby’s) comforter, dutyi ‘lock-up’, hejh ‘heigh-ho’, zsupsz ‘oops’), which is a welcome novelty, however still somewhat haphazard. Finally, there are very few abbreviations, e.g. ENSz ‘UN’.

On the question of first names Nyirkos follows Weörös’ line. That is, at times he gives only the gender of the name, for instance Béla ‘male name’, Tünde ‘female name’. At times Finnish equivalents are given: Anna ~ Anna, Júlia ~ Julia, Judit ~ Juudit. Unfortunately, there are still some trivial „translations” too: Bertalan ~ Perttu, Pertti, Dezső ~ Desiderius, Győző ~ Vihtori, Imre ~ Emerik, Manó ~ Emanuel.

Among the geographical names there are some novelties. For instance Balaton ‘a lake in Hungary’ (also the German variant Plattensee is provided), Dunántúl ‘Beyond the Danube, in English Transdanubia, German Transdanubien’ (but there is no Tiszántúl, Erdély ‘Transylvania (Ger. Siebenbürger)’. However, there was no reason to include Mecsek with the explanation ‘mountain range’ or Eger ‘place name’ since the explanations leave the Finnish user in the dark. Foreign names are nicely documented from Albania to the Alps and Vienna (Bécs) to Geneve (Genf) and via Copenhagen (Koppenhága) and Paris (Párizs) to the Ural.

The entries display no information on the inflection of words, which is acceptable for a small size dictionary. The entries are well organized, homonyms are clearly separated. Further, literary and abstract use are kept apart. For instance, büntető ‘penalty’: dobás ‘free throw’, rúgás ‘penalty kick’, tabor ‘prison camp’, törvénykönyv ‘penal code’. The dictionary is superb in displaying idioms and collocations, for instance ész ‘mind’: –be kap ‘suddenly realize’, esze ágában sincs ‘he doesn’t have the slightest intention to’…megáll az eszem ‘I am flabbergasted, nincs ~nél ‘he is out of his mind’, többet ésszel mint erővel ‘more brain than brawn’. For the user’s delight, several expressions are presented as independent entries. For instance foganat: nincs ~ja ‘have no effect’, tapodtat: egy ~ sem enged ‘not yield an inch’. Imperative forms Éljen ‘hurray’ and nemulass ‘look out for squalls!’ are given independent entries as well igyunk ‘lets drink!’ and nőj ‘grow!’, the latter ones just point to the stem entry.

This excellent and up-to-date Hungarian-Finnish dictionary was soon out of business. In no less than seven years, Nyirkos himself replaced it with a new dictionary, which has since then become The Dictionary for Finnish friends of Hungary.

5. István Nyirkos’ new Finnish–Hungarian–Finnish pocket dictionary (Suomi–unkari–suomi taskusanakirja) came out in a highly popular series of Finnish dictionaries. Due to its small size it is easy to carry with and its simple layout is easy enough for an average tourist to use. This dictionary is a renewed and expanded version from Nyirkos’ earlier work in many ways. It was first published in 1976, updated in 1996 and revised in 2000; the newest edition is dated 2009.
Within the Hungarian–Finnish part, changes from the earlier dictionary include the merging of compounds to a single entry. This and other solutions made the dictionary more concise. Let’s take some examples from s-. Previously the following eight compounds were independent entries sajtóattsé ‘press attaché’, sajtójőnök ‘head of the information department’, sajtóhiba ‘misprint’, sajtótájkoztató ‘press conference’ and sajtótudósító ‘correspondent’. Now they are all conflated into one entry, sajtó in the form sajtó/attsé, ~jőnök etc. However, sebességmérő ‘speedometer’ and sebességváltó ‘gearshift’ are independent entries.

Further space is spared by taking homonyms into one entry. Nyirkos indicates word class (s = noun, v = verb), e.g. sejt ‘(s.) ‘cell’; (v.) ‘foresee’; sir ‘(s.) ‘grave’; (v.) ‘cry’. However, this is not the best solution, homonyms should be presented markedly apart. There are fewer examples in the entries than in the 1969 dictionary. For instance, sarok ‘corner’ retained two of its formerly five idioms and collocations, seb ‘wound’ has only one example left from the previous four. Finally, in one case, Nyirkos clearly threw away the baby with the bath water. Namely, the almost exclusively idiomatic spanyolviasz is just given the translation ‘sealing-wax’ and no examples. It would have been vital to demonstrate how this expression is used in context: nem ő találta fel a ~t ‘he did not set the Thames on fire’.

A part of previously included words have been removed. We can do well without samánisztikus ‘shamanistic’, sebzettel ‘unwounded’, selejmentes ‘without wastage’, sirályvijjogás ‘seagulls’ cry’ etc. Likewise good idea was to drop out peripheral examples such as sarkantyúba kapta a lovát ‘put spur’s to one’s horse’. Furthermore, other things of the past are the present participle forms (sárguló ‘becoming yellow’, sistergő ‘hissing’), parts of linguistic terminology (sociativus, sublativus) and some interjections (sej, sejehaj). However, sakkzik ‘play chess’, sarkvidék ‘polar area’, sőhajt ‘sigh’, sinsc ‘neither’ should not have been thrown out. Sasszem ‘eagle eye’, sebhelyes ‘scarred’, segélyez ‘subsidize’ and selejtes ‘drossy’ are borderline cases, perhaps they should have been maintained. Instead, we would have deleted sehonnai ‘bad penny’, sílőz ‘silo’, sparhert ‘stove’ and svindliz ‘swindle’. First names are history, which is a pity, they could have been saved in an appendix. Finally, geographical names retain their deserved place.

The first edition has few new entries. Under the letter s- there is only one: sarlatán ‘charlatan’. There are however several modifications of equivalents. For instance, serdülő was previously translated to the cumbersome nuoruusiässä oleva ‘ca. somebody who is young’, now it has been replaced with the modern teini-/murrosikäinen ‘teenager, pubescent’.

From the point of view of Finnish lexicon, István Nyirkos was the first academic capable of elegantly solving the problem of derivative suffixes and compound words. Nyirkos’ minute foreword does not mention the Finnish sources used, so it remains unknown whether he had a solid corpus or whether he just had a talent for not including the wealth of derivatives included in previous dictionaries (see our critique of István Papp’s work). The solution was not to simply leave out all longer derivatives and compounds. For instance, there are still hiihtokeli ‘skiing weather’, hiihtokipailu ‘skiing competition’ and hiihtoloma ‘winter vacation’. Not to mention the lengthy sa-nomalehtikatsaus ‘press review’, or the complex toimettomuus ‘inactivity’. Unfortunately, however, Nyirkos still left out some frequent and extraordinary compounds, which contain archaic first parts and cannot thus be deduced easily: vanhempainilta ‘parents’ meeting’, käätykuolema ‘cot death’ or even vankeinhoitolaitos ‘prison administration’. In the Finnish part there are some important missing entries. For instance culture specific expressions such as kaamos ‘period of darkness’ and ruska ‘autumn colours’.

The new editions are most often reprints. Even when changes have been carried out, they remain minor due to the unfortunate request of the publisher. However, the 2009 edition is much more user-friendly than the earlier one in 1976. It has larger font and the entries are highlighted in bold letters. Further, compounds and homonyms now get their own entries, making the dictionary easier
to browse. Nevertheless, the lexicon is in need of a major update. In the Hungarian side, under the letter s-, we find the following new expressions *saját maga* ‘he himself’, *sárgaborsó* ‘split yellow pea’ and *sárgadinnye* ‘honeydew melon’. No entries have been deleted, even the obsolete *sinautó* ‘railcar’, *sehonnai* ‘bad penny’ and *sparhert* ‘stove’ have survived the revisions. It is also very unfortunate that *Tallinn* is still mistakenly given with one n in Hungarian.

The newest version has its deficiencies in the Finnish side, too. For the letter l- it misses *laadunvalvonta* ‘quality control’, *laajakaista* ‘broadband’, *lahjalista* ‘wishlist’, *kirjasto/- lainaajankortti* ‘library card’, *lainaus* ‘citation, loan’, *laitosmies* ‘maintenance man’ and *laktoosi-intoleranssi* ‘lactose intolerance’. Room for these could be made by dropping the following infrequent l- entries: *lahjapalkkio* ‘bonus’, *lainalause* ‘citation’, *lakisankivirka* ‘sinecure’, *laivanveistämö* ‘dockyard’ and *lakonrikkoja* ‘scab’. The dictionary is out-dated in that it still merges ‘Romany’ with ‘novel’ in *romaani*, even though gypsy has for some decades been spelled *romani* in Finnish. Finally, even though all Hungarian–Finnish dictionary editors have been male so far, a linguist is by far no longer *kielimies* ‘language + man’ in Finnish, as Nyirkos claims in 2009. However, fortunately *kielitietelijä* is the entry in the Finnish-Hungarian part for a linguist. The dictionary might still be a red flag to a Finnish feminist as long as entries such as *lastenhoitajatar* ‘nursery maid’ keep their obsolete feminine -tar suffixes.

The dictionary is closed with salutary appendices, especially for the tourist (list of dishes and beverages, a „Visit to Budapest” and travelling information). Nyirkos solves the important culinary lexicon subtly by his 519 entry list of Hungarian dishes. Some of them find Finnish equivalents easily (*alma ~ omena* ‘apple’, *borjú ~ vasikka* ‘veal’, *szőlő ~ viinirypäle* ‘grape’). Others can be named in Finnish, but they are actually quite different dishes: (*halászlé ~ kalakeitto* ‘chowder, fish soup’, *marhapörkölt ~ vatkuli* ‘beef stew’). True problems are posed by those Hungarian dishes that an average Finn has not even heard of. Nyirkos quite wisely does not aim at equivalents here, rather he attempts to explain them. Thus, the Finnish tourist gets an idea what on earth might be *körömpörkölt* (according to Nyirkos, it is a kind of stew prepared from meat around claws) or *lecsó* (a warm dish made from green paprika, tomatoes, and onions). The list explained by Nyirkos is continued with issues such as *májgombócleves, fatányéros, kolozsvári káposzta, székelygulyás, tarhonya* and *Gundel palacsinta*. Hungarian drinks are not that peculiar, only *tokaji aszú* and *fröccs* are Hungarian specialties. The Finnish list has similarly international dishes (ananas, lamb etc.) and Finnish traditional specialties, such as *kalakukko, maksalaatikko* etc. (see the „culinary discussion” of Papp’s Finnish-Hungarian dictionary). *Pizza* entered the dictionary in 1996.

The Visit to Budapest appendix presents the experience of two tourists in Budapest. In the form of conversations, traditional themes are covered (arrival, at a hotel, in a restaurant, in a cinema, visiting a museum, transportation, shopping, in a bank etc). This appendix might be better placed in a language book than in a dictionary.

There is a table of inflections among the appendices. However, instead of a list of irregular verbs and nouns it could have been better to provide a complete table of stems in Hungarian, since it is impossible to learn the Hungarian paradigms on the basis of the presented table. The phonetic guide to Hungarian sounds is valuable, however. The dictionary ends with travel information (visa and customs regulations, useful addresses and opening hours) which better suits a travel book than a dictionary. However, the aforementioned do not reduce the high value of this dictionary as an outstanding practical guide to the two languages and cultures.

6. Instantly after completing his Finnish–Hungarian dictionary, *István Papp* begun to gather a corpus for a Hungarian–Finnish dictionary. He proceeded by reversing the Finnish–Hungarian dictionary, which resulted in ca. 45% of the new corpus for the Hungarian–Finnish dictionary. Papp suffered a premature death, quite morbidly just after editing the entry *elszelel* ‘go away’. His work
was taken over by László Jakab, a professor at the Lajos Kossuth University in Debrecen. Jakab had the honour to publish the first large scale Hungarian–Finnish dictionary of high scholarly value in 1985.

The dictionary consists of ca. 56 000 entries in 850 pages. Its lexicon is up-to-date and modern. Some of its expressions were rather daring in the 1980’s, for instance yoghurt, yach’t, tweed, whisky and yard. Even komputer ~ számítógép was included. The novel entry ajatollah shows that we are beyond the 1979 Iranian revolution. Today we smile at önborotvakészülék 'electric razor’, but it was a big deal in socialist Hungary.

The dictionary is especially rich in the lexicon of flora and fauna. The Hungarian general public might be unaware of such botanical terms as csorbóka 'milkweed', ezerjófű 'centaury', salátaboglárka 'lesser celandine’, tyúkhúr 'chickweed’, varjüköröm 'rampion’ and zsásza 'cress’. There are less known fauna, too: halfarkas 'skua’, hősármány 'snow bunting’, lilik 'greylag goose’, májmétely 'liver fluke’, orsóhal 'lamprey’ and őn 'asp’.

Geographic names are extensively provided. A part of them are highly necessary since they are transliterations in both languages: Baktérítő ~ Kaurin kääntöpiiri 'Tropic of Capricorn’, Êszaki-tenger ~ Pohjanmeri 'North Sea’, Finn-öböl ~ Suomenlahti ‘Gulf of Finland’, Fokföld ~ Kapmaa 'Cape Province’, Sziklás-hegység ~ Kalliovuoret 'Rocky Mountains’. A part of the geographical terms is good to have, but not indispensable: Bengália, Berlin, Bosznia, Chile, Göbi, Hága, Jáva, Kína, Kuba, Palesztina, Sahara, Tibet etc. Hungarian geographic names are widely covered: Balaton, Buda and Pest, Duna-kanyar 'Danube Bend’, Kunság and Dunántúl ‘Transdanubia’. It took a lot of courage to mention Kárpátalja ‘Subcarpathia’, and it is no accident that several Hungarian regions in the adjacent territory to Hungary are not mentioned. Missing are Felvidék 'historical northern Hungary’, Délvidék 'historical southern Hungary’, Partium ‘the areas between Transylvania and current Hungary’, Vajdaság ‘Vojvodina’ and Székelyföld ‘Szeklerland’ etc.

Hungarian first names are among the entries. However, very fortunetely Jakab does not give Hungarian equivalents, rather he just characterizes them as male or female names. A novel virtue of the dictionary is that several nicknames are explained: Árpi, Berci, Erzsi, Eta, Feri, Ferkó, Nusi, Panni, Pityu etc. Also several abbreviations get their deserved place in the dictionary (for instance pl. 'e.g.’, pu. 'station’, ui. 'i.e.’, ün. 'so called’). However, u.p. = utolsó posta 'last post office (where post is still carried)’ is definitely obscure today (but might come back any day). The era was characterized by pvc/pévécé which got its place among the abbreviation entries. Finally, it was very clever to include the frequent B.u.é.k. = Boldog új évet kívánok 'I Wish You a Happy New Year’.

The dictionary was published in the final moments of socialism in Hungary. Happily, it is not characterized by a political ballast. However, such entries were unavoidable: for example elvívás 'comrade’, kolhóz 'kolhóz’, Béke-világtanács 'World Peace Council’, MSZBT Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Society, SZOT 'National Council of Trade Unions’, tsz. 'collective farm’. Entries beginning with munkás 'worker’ number 46 and párt 'party’ 67, some of which surely could have been left out. For instance, expressions such as munkásáruło 'traitor of the working class’ still document Hungarian bygone socialist jargon. At that time, samizdat was too hot to enter a dictionary. Other characteristic expressions for the socialist period, now obsolete, were for instance lakáshiány 'lack of flats’ and valutakorlátozás 'exchange restriction’. Also happily gone are the days when a telephone was worth its weight in gold in Hungary (it was usual to wait ten years for it) and when Hungarians still knew what telefonkezelő 'operator’ and telefonállomás 'telephone station’ meant. However, in general only an insignificant part of the dictionary is outdated. Such obsolete expressions as the following could have been left out: anzágol 'brag’, bacchánsnő 'maenad’, faköpönyeg 'sentry box’, főcstej ‘colostrum’, kékő 'copper sulphate’, mosó-asszony 'laundress’, oft 'bud’, sajtruha ‘cheese cloth’, távirda ‘telegraph office’ and zsárátnok 'ember’.
The dictionary has a wealth of literary and linguistic terms, which is due to the dictionary’s target group of university students, for instance asszonánc ‘assonance’, pentamer, trocheus ‘trochee’; labializáció ‘labialization’ and zongészülés ‘voicing’. There are some terms from the academic life, such as szigorlat ‘final examination’ and ávézík ‘to do re-examinations’. Finnish feminism was too current for this dictionary, since Jakab still considered a linguist as a male (kielimies). It is a very useful, however challenging, innovation to have Hungarian noun suffixes as entries, for instance ból, -ból, -ból/-ból; -ként, -képpen; -szöri. Jakab solves this demanding task with great insight.

Professional vocabulary is presented in the dictionary to a certain extent, only printing terms (petit ‘small text’, térzó ‘lead’) are a bit too abundant. Hungarian football’s past glory is displayed in the entries bal- and jobbősszekötő ’inside right and left’, bal- and jobbjedezet ’left and right halfback’ and dribliz ‘dribble’. Centerhalf was already obsolete, but center and centercsatár ’centerforward’ are still included in the dictionary. Unfortunately, aranycsapat ‘golden team’ is not included and explained.

Alike any good dictionary Jakab’s work presents a wealth of cultural information. The traditional Hungarian image was still strongly present with betyár, csárdás, csikós, gulyás and pusztja. Fortunately, Jakab did not stop here: Árpád-ház ‘the Árpád dynasty’, Habsburg-ház ‘the Habsburg dynasty’, atilla ‘hussar jacket’, csángó and palóc (Hungarian ethnographic groups). A part of the expressions are especially hard to explain: Kossuth-díj ‘Kossuth prize’, kopjafa ‘wooden headboard (on grave)’, kurtanemes ‘petty noble (without property)’, lacikonyha ‘cook’s stall at fair’. Among the Hungarian monarch’s, only Könyves Kálmán is included. However, less is more, since the explanation Kálmán Kirjojen Suosija ‘Kálmán the Patron of Books’ says very little. Babszem Jankó (peukaloinen ’Tom Thumb’) and hűbelebalázs (módiára) (~ harkitseamma ‘recklessly’), remain rather mysterious for the Finnish user. A nice experiment was to include Öperenciás tengeren túl (kaukana vallameren takana ‘far away, beyond the ocean’) among the entries. There are some “reverse realia”, too such as kantele and sauna.

Numerous Hungarian culinary specialties get their explanation in the dictionary. The traditional Finnish equivalents are highly problematic. For instance, to the chagrin of Hungarians the Finnish makkara ‘sausage’ (N.B. English cannot help you either!) is a generalizing term for several Hungarian delicacies: hurka ~ makkara, kolbász ~ (liha)makkara, debreceni páros kolbász ~ debreceni láainen kaksoismakkara ‘Debreccener twin’, szalámi ~ salami(makkara). The equivalents gulyásleves ~ lihakesitto ‘goulash’ and pörkölt ~ lihamuhenos ‘stewed meat with paprika and sour cream’ are as far from equivalency as the Finnish version’s taste is from the Hungarian originals. Despite the formidable cultural differences, wine and other drinks get their share, too. For instance, fröccs ‘wine-and-soda’, hosszulépés ‘wine-and-soda (one deciliter wine and two decilitres soda)’ and kisfröccs ‘wine-and-soda (one deciliter wine and one deciliter soda)’. For some reason nagyfröccs ‘two dl. wine and one dl. soda’ is not included. The following are likewise good to know for a Finnish ‘wine tourist’: must and murci ‘stum’ as well as seprőpálinka ‘marc-brandy’.

Proverbs are frequent in Jakab’s dictionary. Part of them belong to the common European heritage, where it is easy to find Finnish equivalents, e.g. ajándék lónak ne nézd a fogát ~ ei lahjahevosen suuhun katsota ‘don’t look a gift horse in the mouth’. There are however some Hungarian specialties, for instance él mint Marci Hevesen is „translated” to ‘lives like a cow on the field’ in Finnish, meaning ‘have an easy time’ in English.

The presentation of stems and suffixes is exemplary, which demonstrates the well known fact that Jakab is among the finest experts on the theory of Hungarian stems. The nouns are followed in first inflection forms, and where needed, third singular forms. In addition, third singular imperative
and conditional forms are given. For instance, kér ‘want’ [~t, ~jen, ~ne], ad ‘give’ [~tam, ~ott, ~jon, ~na], lát ‘see’ [~tam, ~ott, lásson, ~na]. Jakab’s solution is much more user friendly than Papp’s strategy examined earlier.

To sum up, László Jakab produced an excellent dictionary. His work has an update lexicon, a wealth of examples, and a grammatical rigor with an exemplary view on stems. This dictionary remains to this day the indispensable reference dictionary for Hungarian and Finnish language learners alike.

7. It took 45 years after István Papp’s Finnish-Hungarian dictionary before the next work in this category came out. None other than Jakab László published this long awaited work in 2007. It appeared in the student’s dictionary (diákszótár) series of Akadémiai Kiadó. However, its title does not give full prestige to this excellent work. This clear and easy to carry edition has 28 900 entries. It is a pity, that the dictionary’s foreword is only in Hungarian. On the face of it, it is hard for a Finnish beginner, among others, to find out that the entry form for verbs in Hungarian is the singular third active, not the infinitive form as in most languages.

Since the Papp’s dictionary is already hopelessly outdated, the first question is whether Jakab has been able to carry out a major update? Jakab’s main source has been the new monolingual, reference dictionary Suomen kielen perussanakirja (I–III, 1990–1994) which has 100 000 entries. It is a good starting point, however it would have been even better, if Jakab had used its latest editions as well (Kielitoimiston sanakirja, digital version 2004, print edition 2006). Furthermore, more use could have been made of the several monolingual internet and digital sources, too. That is, due to technical advances Finnish lexicography has rapidly increased the production of monolingual dictionaries during the last twenty years. (Perhaps there is a delay in this aspect on the latest Finnish–Hungarian dictionaries, cf. chapter 5).

At the same time, Jakab’s dictionary has gone through a general update since Papp’s work. A wealth of modern terms is included, such as katumuspilleri ‘morning after pill’, kovalevy ‘hard disk’, kännykkä ‘mobile phone’, lerppu ‘floppy’, luomutuote ‘organic product’, potkupuku ‘romper suit’, sähly ‘floorball’ and sähköposti ‘email’. Also Papp’s problem of having too many ad hoc compounds and derivatives has now been solved. For instance, among examples from the letter H the following are no longer included: haltijamaisesti ‘on a fairy manner’, hassumainen ‘funny-like’, heikkoverinen ‘weak-blooded’, höystyä ‘become spiced up’. (Still, the peripheral hiushuokisoitus ‘capillarity’ remained). In general, the dictionary has frequency as an apparent category of word selection. Thus colloquial expressions get their place, too. For instance, verkkari ‘sweatsuit’ (33 800 hits at google.fi) or the slangy heido ‘see ya’ (2180 hits).

A virtue of the dictionary is that it has several special terms. For instance, medicine is well presented. We find *fisteli* ‘fistula’, *rasituskoe* ‘tolerance test’ and *tiehyt* ‘duct’. Abbreviations have been cut to a minimum. The most important (e.g. *jne.* ‘etc’ *mm.* ‘i.a.’) are still there, but most acronyms are gone.

Finnish culture specific vocabulary, for instance dishes and beverages are most often similarly treated as in Papp’s dictionary. Only *lanttulaatikko* ‘rutabaga casserole’ has since been added. Important historical terms, included in the Papp’s dictionary have unfortunately been removed, for instance *talvisota, jatkosota* and *nuijasota*. As an odd novelty we find *punamultahallitus* ‘government, formed by the social democrats and the agrarian party’, literally “red ochre government”. However, no other governmental coalitions are mentioned.

Similar to Papp’s dictionary, Jakab has clitic particles among the entries: *-kin, -pa/-pä, -han/-hän*, as well as *-mainen/-mäinen* ‘-like’ derivational suffixes. The former is salutary, the latter rather haphazard. Following that road, all the derivational suffixes that go back to a cognate should be included: *lainen/-läinen* ‘-ian, -an, -er’, *-omainen* ‘-like’, *-tar/-tär* ‘-ress, -lady’, *-kunta* ‘-corps’ etc. The *-tar* suffix, has now been put into its place and several entries have been deleted. However, some archaic cases remain: *aallotar* ‘mermaid’, *laulajatar* ‘songstress’, *näyttelijätär* ‘actress’, *tanssijatar* ‘dancer-FEM’. Finally, the accepted and frequent *kuningatar* ‘queen’ has been mistakenly forgotten.

The entries have a solid, transparent structure. Different meanings are clearly distinguishable. The dictionary has a nice collection of examples, and it is salutary, that Jakab presents several idioms. The dictionary presents first names wisely in an appendix. Male and female names are in separate lists and *unisex* names (e.g. *Muisto, Kaino* and *Tuisku*) in a third list. Fortunately, there is no longer any attempt to find equivalents for the names.

Finally, inflection is displayed by an upper index after the entry. This practice was criticized in our discussion of Papp’s dictionary. Even the categories are mostly the same (of the 85 noun categories Jakab has 82). Consonant gradation is further indicated by an asterisk. It would have been worth the effort and space to rather follow the example of Jakab’s Hungarian–Finnish dictionary and adjust it to the Finnish–Hungarian pair.

To sum up, Jakab’s dictionary is undoubtedly a milestone in Hungarian–Finnish lexicography. Putting aside some slight shortcomings, its lexicon is in general level up-to-date and entries are easy to use. It is a pity, that there is no digital version available.

8. The student’s dictionary series (*díákszótár*) at Akadémiai Kiadó will soon be followed by a Hungarian-Finnish edition. The grand old man for Hungarian–Finnish lexicography, Jakab László will be the editor and Petteri Laihonen the consultant for Finnish. A novelty of this work, to appear by the end of 2011, will be that at the end of verb entries, their prefix variations are indicated, too. For instance the *megy* ‘go’ entry ends with reference to *be~, ki~, fel~, le~* etc. entries. In general, the dictionary follows the good traditions of Papp–Jakab school with an update of the latest insights from Finnish–Hungarian lexicography.

Bilingual dictionaries for general use


**Specialized bilingual dictionaries or vocabularies**


**Bibliography**