

FOREWORD

This special edition of “The Journal of Estonian and Finno-Ugric Linguistics” is dedicated to Marja Kallasmaa, an onomastician and senior lexicographer of the Institute of Estonian Language for her 70th birthday. This collection includes texts by Marja’s colleagues as well as incidentally by Marja herself which is exceptional in the case of dedicated works. This is explained by the fact that Marja was aware of the future publication of a names edition, but did not know that it would be dedicated to her. It was initially not planned, but as work progressed, other onomasticians began to like the idea and we decided to surprise Marja.

Probably all colleagues have noticed Marja’s diligence in organising her work. Of all the authors of this collection, she was the first to complete her article. Nine articles in total from 12 authors have been published in this collection. These have been divided into two parts: 1) personal names, 2) toponyms and name planning. In addition, *varia*-section has been dedicated to Marja. Studies conducted on first names and surnames prevail in this edition, but studies on the toponyms of our small related languages – Votic and Livonian – are also noteworthy. Topics that Marja Kallasmaa has treated thoroughly stand out in the articles, such as links between personal names and place names.

Together with her colleague **Fred Puss**, **Marja Kallasmaa** has studied the origin of surnames ending with *-mees* ‘man’ and the role models of such names, primarily in German. **Fred Puss** has explained in his article the problem of distinctive parallel surnames by the example of Võnnu parish which resulted from the fact that surnames were given both at the manor and the church. **Evar Saar** has observed Finnic pre-Christian personal names ending with the suffix *-mas* or *-mäs* and refuted the previous argument that names with *-mes* and *-meß* components contain the word *mees* ‘man’. **Annika Hussar** and **Minna Saarelma-Paukkala** address the use of names of native origin from the 19th century to today in Estonia and in Finland. In Finland, *Marja* has been one of the most frequent first names in the 20th century. Based on the data of Statistics Estonia, it is the most frequent among Estonian

women of 70–74 years. **Taavi Pae** has concentrated on the spread and disappearance of two first names of Hargla parish – *Hipp* and *Mehka* – within one century. Male name *Mehka* has been a basis for the emergence of the region name *Mehkamaa*. **Tiina Laansalu**, **Peeter Päll** and **Tõnu Tender** make a first-time thorough attempt to describe the names of artefacts or man-made facilities. They use names of rural environment and urban environment as well as slang names as examples. **Enn Ernits** has gathered all Votic names of natural and cultivation objects in his fundamental article, analysing these by categories and explaining the etymology of names. **Valts Ernštreits** has untangled the issues of preserving and collecting Livonian place names and discusses ways to make these names visible again. **Oswald Chanda** and **Peeter Päll** compare name-related situations in Estonia and Zambia, similarities and differences in the name situation and name planning, and try to formulate general name planning recommendations on this basis.

The collection ends with a study on the surnames of Marja Kallasmaa's family, written by **Fred Puss**. This could provide a good example for genealogy enthusiasts interested in the history of surnames in their family. And the reader can find Marja Kallasmaa's bibliography covering the years 1975–2019, compiled by **Tiina Laansalu**, which is helpful for everyone interested in onomastics.

Health and happiness, Marja!
Joyful discoveries in the world of names to everyone!

Mariko Faster and Peeter Päll
On Walpurgis Night 2020