With regard to the physical volume itself, the new binding is inferior, being glued, rather than sewn, which is evident once the new book is opened a few times and pages begin to fall out. Moreover, the page size is reduced by about two centimeters with a commensurate reduction in type size, making the readability that much more challenging for eyes on the wrong side of forty.

Both of these shortcomings might be addressed by taking the project to its next logical step, an openly-searchable Internet-based dictionary-database. Not only would this avert the inconvenience of retrieving scattered pages, but the user could quickly find the necessary research object while the author could update the database as new material is brought to light.

[After this review was written it was learned that Prof. Newerklâ's material has been included in an on-line database of German loanwords in Slavic languages: http://www1.ids-mannheim.de/lexik/lehnwortportal/]

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FREDERIK KORTLANDT: SELECTED WRITINGS ON SLAVIC AND GENERAL LINGUISTICS.

Scholars working in Indo-European and Balto-Slavic linguistics will welcome this new book with selected papers by Frederik Kortlandt (hereafter K), the main proponent of the so called “Leiden Accentological School.” The book is a free-standing sequel to other volumes which thematically present K’s papers: Italo-Celtic origins and prehistoric development of the Irish language (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2007), Baltica & Balto-Slavica (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2009) and Studies in Germanic, Indo-European and Indo-Uralic (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2010). The aim of all these books is to make K’s scientific work since the early 1970s more accessible to a wider public. This is a very praiseworthy attempt, even if a potential reader can download many of K’s papers from his web page.

K’s contribution to Indo-European and especially to Balto-Slavic linguistics cannot be ignored, especially if one wants to study the development of Balto-Slavic accentuation. K’s background originates from the work of Christian Stang in 1957, V. M. Ilić-Svityč, as well as from works by V. A. Dybo. While the Moscow accentological school (centered around Dybo) developed its research mainly on the synchronic state of Balto-Slavic, Baltic and Proto-Slavic, K deals mainly with the relative chronology of changes. His conception can now be considered as the most complete description of accentual changes from PIE to the separate Baltic and Slavic languages. Although it is not generally accepted, the main reason for refusing K’s theories is mainly the lack of information and difficulty in reading K’s papers. A reader is very often discouraged by the apparent unintelligibility of K’s texts, which require a broad context of knowledge: both the narrow topic of accentology as well as the context of some of K’s other papers. The latter is the main problem for scholars who are often discouraged after they read
one or two of K’s papers. One must study K as a whole and keep in mind the results of his individual papers to grasp his whole theory. Then scholars can see how detailed and elaborate K’s theory of accentual development from Proto-Indo-European to separate Slavic languages is. So what a scholar needs is both the sum of K’s important papers (which the volume reviewed partially supplies) as well as a short and clear introduction to the “Leiden mode of thinking,” which is still missing. Both would help with broader familiarity and acceptance of K’s theories.

In the present volume all of K’s important works, which can be taken as “canonical” for his theory, are reprinted. The original and revolutionary book Slavic accentuation, which includes the important chapter 3, “The loss of the Indo-European laryngeals,” is now presented with revised phonemic symbols. A simplified version of K’s early theories can also be found in his book On the History of Slavic Accentuation. A reader of the book will also find there the famous paper on the detailed chronology of all accentual changes (on the background of other sound changes) from Proto-Indo-European to Slavic and also the paper on the complex history of West Slavic accentuation. K’s important contribution to Polabian accentuation as well as the development of nominal paradigms are also reprinted in the volume.

Although readers will welcome the selected papers of K as a scholar who cannot be ignored, it is still doubtful whether the Selected papers … as well as other collections of his papers will help readers to understand his theories better. There are several deficiencies that might discourage potential readers. First, the papers are not reprinted with the original paging. K refers to the original quotations in the cumulative references at the back of the volume, but it is of no help. If a reader wants to work with a page from, e.g., the “Early Dialectal Diversity of South Slavic I,” he or she must either quote the original paper published in 1982, or the text reprinted in the Selected papers … The cumulative list of references in the back of the book is also very impractical because one cannot follow the references to the original individual papers. Adopting this policy, one also cannot be sure which version of the paper one should actually use, e.g., West Slavic Accentuation has been published three times: originally on K’s web site in 2009, then in Selected papers … and finally in From present to past and back: Papers on Baltic and Slavic accentology (Frankfurt/Main: Peter Lang, 2011). Each time the paper has been published with different pagination. One is also puzzled by the original publishing dates and K’s own reworked version; e.g. the important paper “From Proto-Indo-European to Slavic,” originally published in 1994, also has a 2002 internet version (apart from the version published in the Selected papers …). So which version should one use for references?

Apart from the short Preface, the Selected papers …. should be thematically arranged into blocks and accompanied with a short introduction with the aim of explaining to the reader the brief results of the papers. It would help to orient the reader in K’s theories and would even broaden their popularity. For a person who is not familiar with the history of accentuation, the book represents another kind of jungle and he or she will not be able to follow the main points of K’s theory, which is not good, alas. At least we have another accessible book with papers of Leiden
guru, but the user-friendly introduction and explanation of the main points are still hanging in the air.

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KONFERENCA O POUČEVANJU JUŽNOSLOVANSKIH JEZIKOV IN KNJIŽEVNOSTI


Plenarnemu predavanju uglednega raziskovalca ciril-metodovske knjižno-jezikovne tradicije Radoslava Věčerke (Latinska složka cyrilometodješkega pisemništva na Velike Moravě) z Masarykove univerze in predavateljici s slojške univerze sv. Klimenta Ohridskega, Margarite Mladenovi (Cyril a Methodj a jejich Slovane – nerozdělene dědictví), so sledile predstavitve referatov v sekcijah, namenjenim posameznim južnoslovenskim jezikom: (1) Hrvaški in srbski jezik – sodelujoči: Pavel Krejčí, Alisa Mahmutović, Ivančica Banković-Mandić, Lenka Šmídková, Karel Jirásek; Dubravka Bogotovac in Vrina Karlič; Sandra Lucija Udier, Marijana Aleksovski, Marica Čilaš Mikulić, Anka Čilaš Simpraga in Irena Miloš; Barbara Buršič, Jeleena Cvišanušić Tivco in Aida Korajac, Irena Krumes Šimunović, Mirna Stehliková Đurasek, Pavel Pilch, Vesna Polovina, Ivan Knjižar, Sandra Vlaič, Miloš Pantić, Ana Petrov (30. 5. in 1. 6. 2013); (2) Bolgarski in makedonski jezik – sodelujoči: Pavlina Kancheva, Andreana Efthimova, Valentina Dimitrova, Zorница Цветкова, Катя Иска in Надежда Симеонова, Мария Панова; Борян Янев, Мария Жерева и Галина Молхова, Илияна Димитрова, Божана Нишева, Елена Чашева, Елена Крейчова, Катерина Димовска, Богдан Дичев, Катерина Томова (30. 5. in 31. 5. 2013); (3) Slovenski jezik – sodelujoči: Saša Vojtechová Poklač, Katarzyna Bednarśka in Kamil Szafraniec; Mateja Goikošek, Mateja Kosi, Мая Џукановић in Борко Ковачевић in Наталия Пањић Ћеровски, Наталия Улчник, Светка Ренгео (31. 5. 2013); (4) Bolgarski jezik – sodelujoči: Цветелина Шубова, Никола Топузов in Янка Михайлова, Борислав Борисов, Pavel Zeman, Гинка Бакърджиева, Данка Апостолова, Мария Ракова, Фани Бойкова, Нела Мартинкова, Станислава Къчева (1. 6. 2013). V okviru posebne sekcije je bilo predstavljeno poučevanje češkega in slovaškega jezika: Veličko Panajotov, Диана Иванова, Миаелда Кузмова, Даниела Константинова, Марианда Руменова; Milvia Gulešić Machata