

The publication *Metode za zbiranje hišnih in ledinskih imen* ('Methods for collecting oconyms and choronyms') presents problems and their solution in relation to the collection and documentation of oconyms (house names) and choronyms (field names). The publication has been produced as part of the FLU-LED Cultural Portal of Oconyms and Choronyms cross-border European project (Operational Programme SI-AT 2007-2013) being carried out by the Slovene Cultural Association (Slovenska prosvetna zveza/Slowerischer Kulturverband), the Christian Cultural Association (Krščanska kulturna zveza/Christlicher Kulturverband), Razvojnna agencija Zgornje Gorenjske (Development Agency for Upper Gorenjska) and Gornjesavski muzej Jesenice (Upper Sava Museum at Jesenice) in the border area of southern Koroška (Carinthia) and Gorenjska (Upper Carniola).

The introduction primarily defines the subject of research, i.e. oconyms (house names) and choronyms (field names); this is followed by an outline of the method employed to collect selected geographical proper names, with close attention paid to fieldwork based on preliminary archival and research work. Uniform survey forms are planned for the fieldwork; these are designed to lead to a more accurate dialect phonetic form of names in a variety of flexible forms. We wish to emphasise that the collection of this kind of non-material cultural heritage also constitutes an exploration of the Slovenian linguistic tradition.

Special focus is placed on the method used to transcribe the dialect material collected; since the collection of material in the field will also (or indeed largely) be undertaken by non-linguists, an explanation is given here of the rules pertaining to the simplified phonological transcription of names using the standard alphabet (still showing the dialectal form of the names), while the rules for standardised transcription (based on morphonological analysis) and the rules for the etymological and semantic interpretation of choronyms and oconyms are intended primarily for the research (linguistic) portion of this project (and potentially any other similar projects based on this one).

Choronyms and oconyms are therefore the subject of discussion in the FLU-LED project. House names are geographical proper names and denote an occupied or unoccupied house with a street number in a settlement or part of a settlement (e.g. homestead/farm with land, house without land), but not individual farm buildings (e.g. woodshed, barn). The survey may also include names for ancillary farm buildings (e.g. mill, saw, stamp mill etc.) and names for communal village buildings such as a church, presbytery, school, pub, fire station etc. House names are historically important for the purposes of identifying the houses and people of a particular village; they mark the smallest unit of settlement, i.e. a property or house/living area. They were especially important in the period prior to the existence of land registers, and the names stuck to houses and estates even after the original owners had moved on. House names were also the basis for family names and the names of settlements and villages, so they are a valuable part of the cultural heritage, the history of a village or town, and indeed the history of the nation.

Choronyms are non-settlement-related geographical proper names within geographical names in the narrow (toponymic) and wider (geonymic) senses, denoting: a) the parts of the land surface used for the cultivation of crops (agronyms), the cultivation of fodder, livestock pasture and forest growth (i.e. fields), fields, orchards, vineyards, olive plantations and hop fields, meadows, mountain meadows, pastures, mountain pastures or simply mountains, and forests and forest plantations (forest names); b) water areas (hydronyms); c) smaller slopes (mountain choronyms); d) paths and parts of paths; e) orientation points (viewing points, signs, crosses, mountain cabins, etc.). People once used choronyms to orientate themselves within their immediate living environment and while performing their (agricultural) tasks; today, however, they are mainly used as general points of orientation. The age of the choronyms differs, with some dating back to the origins of the settlement. They reflect the historical and linguistic development of a particular landscape. In the local dialect, choronyms have been handed down from generation to generation; the manner of their pronunciation and the way they are written have, of course, undergone various changes. With changes to the way of life (traditional farm management is disappearing, for example), choronyms and landscape names have lost their original purpose. They have nevertheless remained a source of information about the immediate surroundings of settlements and their inhabitants.

Preparatory research work (the copying-out of name-related material from written sources, such as the cadastral register produced under Emperor Francis I of Austria and the land survey produced in the 1870s ('Reambulančni kataster'), the parish register, the local and field-related scientific studies and literature) will be followed by fieldwork conducted in several stages. It is difficult to prescribe the fieldwork methods in advance, since these vary from individual to individual; therefore, only the basic methods of work are stated in these publication. Oeconyms and choronyms must be documented in writing as well as sound recording. Sound recording represents a basis upon which we can subsequently develop written records of the names collected. Sound recording also enables linguists to make a precise phonetic transcription of names and may lead to an explanation of the name's origin. Sound recordings should be published subsequently on the project website or other electronic source.

For the most accurate possible documentation of geographical proper names in dialect form, and for their subsequent dialectal and etymological onomastic study and other research, it is important that a researcher document each name in the various forms in which it appears. For Slovenian, which is an inflected language, the following grammatical forms are especially important: the noun/adjectival phrase in the nominative (the answer to the question *what?*); the prepositional phrase in the role of the adverbial particle of the place or in the meaning of the location (the answer to the question *where?*), if the proper name has the structural type of prepositional phrase; the non-prepositional genitive (subject in the negative in to be clauses (*there is no ...*) or direct object in the negative (*I do not see ...*)); and forms that answer the questions *where?* (location), *where to?* (destination of verbal action), *where from?* (origin of verbal action). To ensure that researchers in the field write down all the necessary forms of names, the publication is accompanied by several tables containing the intended fieldwork questions, and work with the map, prepared in advance, is also presented here.

An extensive chapter is devoted to explanations regarding the dialectal transcription of oeconyms and choronyms, which must reflect all the features of the local speech in which it is used and be comprehensible to specialist linguists as well as non-professionals. The following options are possible for the (professional) recording of the dialect forms of geographical names: scientific dialectological record, simplified phonological transcription, and standardised transcription.

To help preserve non-material (linguistic) cultural heritage as fully as possible and make it suitable for linguistic research (i.e. the analysis of dialect characteristics as reflected in the names) and for etymological and onomastic research into names, the publication contains some recommended guidelines, i.e. on how to write or mark accents, the length and quality of accented vowels, lost vowels, weakened vowels, semi-vowels, vowels in the suffix and the dialectal development of vowels, the plosive ⟨ʔ⟩ with **k** and the phoneme ⟨h⟩ with **g** (instead of *k* and *g* in parts of the Rož and Podjuna dialect areas in Carinthia), and morphological, word-formation and syntactical features as preserved in the names. The degree of abstraction resulting from the identification of the marked by the marker should be as low as possible, with local population being involved for the simple reason that their explanation of the ‘reasons’ for a particular name can be of great help in the proper dialectal abstraction and standardisation of names. While house names, owing to their identification function, should be standardised only at the phonetic-orthographic level, choronyms have a wider, national use; therefore, it seems reasonable that they be standardised at a higher level, i.e. in accordance with the etymological-historical principle in the event that their origin is clear, and phonetically-orthographically in the event that their origin is not completely clear.

The collecting of oconyms and choronyms and their correct transcription is important not only for linguistics but also for broader sociological research. People have always named the things that surround them in order to orient themselves within and understand their surroundings; they have left in those names traces of linguistic information about themselves, as well as information about the bearer of the name: their social status (mayor, cottager), their personal mental and physical characteristics (snotty-nosed, deaf, lame), their activities (smith, shoemaker, tailor, wheelwright, saddler, sexton), spatial position (hollow, log), and so on. Oeconyms and choronyms, properly collected, recorded and interpreted, are therefore important not only for linguistics but also for historical research, the exploration of geographical changes within an area, ethnology, and so on.

The final part of the publication contains the sources of the collection of oconyms and choronyms in Gorenjska and Carinthia, as well as the most important onomastic, etymological and dialectological literature also used in the preparation of this methodology, and annexes containing the fieldwork tables.