

Reviews

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Slavic-related publications in the academic journal *Magyar Nyelvjárások* [Hungarian Dialects]

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Рецензії

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Публікації на слов'янську тему в науковому журналі *Magyar Nyelvjárások* [Угорські діалекти]

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Introduction. Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] is a peer-reviewed academic journal specializing in the study of dialectal variation within the Hungarian language. It is published by the Department of Hungarian Linguistics at the University of Debrecen. Since its inception in 1951, the journal has served as one of the most significant platforms for Hungarian dialectological research. The establishment of the journal is closely associated with the name of Lajos Lőrincze, who, emphasizing the scientific

importance of dialectological inquiry, advocated for the foundation of a dedicated scholarly periodical in this domain.

The journal's cover traditionally features a clean and scholarly design. Typically, it displays only the journal's title, volume number, and year of publication, without any decorative elements or illustrations. This minimalist approach reflects the academic nature of the journal and emphasizes the primacy of its scholarly content.



Figure 1. Front covers of the inaugural and latest issues of Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects]

The journal is published by the University of Debrecen Press, the official publishing body of the University of Debrecen. Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] is issued annually, typically in the first quarter of the year. It is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal that provides a publication platform for research related to Hungarian dialects.

The primary objective of Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] is to facilitate the detailed and scientifically rigorous exploration and documentation of dialectal phenomena across the Hungarian language area. The journal places particular emphasis on the investigation of phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, and lexical features of Hungarian dialects, with

special attention to both their synchronic and diachronic dimensions. A central aim is to interpret linguistic changes and regional language usage patterns within their broader social, geographical, and cultural contexts. The journal's academic quality is ensured through a peer-review process, which guarantees the reliability and scholarly integrity of the published studies. The journal plays an important role in the analysis of dialectal onomastics, particularly place names and personal names, as well as in the publication of authentic dialect texts, which are of significance not only from a linguistic, but also from an ethnographic and cultural perspective. The journal is committed to preserving linguistic diversity, thereby

contributing to the exploration and sustainability of Hungary's linguistic heritage.

In recent years, the journal has become increasingly open to interdisciplinary approaches, with particular emphasis on sociolinguistic, dialectological-geographical, and digital linguistic methodologies. This initiative aims to examine dialectal phenomena in a more complex and integrated manner, employing the tools of multiple disciplines, thereby enriching the scope and depth of Hungarian dialectological research.

Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief:

István Hoffmann (since 2000) – Professor at the Department of Hungarian Linguistics, University of Debrecen; a renowned scholar in Hungarian dialectology and onomastics.

Editors:

Edit Dobi – Lecturer at the Department of Hungarian Linguistics, University of Debrecen; her research interests include dialectology and onomastics.

Anita Rácz – Researcher at the Department of Hungarian Linguistics, University of Debrecen; she specializes in toponymy and the analysis of historical name corpora.

Katalin Reszegi – Lecturer at the Department of Hungarian Linguistics, University of Debrecen; involved in the editing of dialect texts and responsible for technical editing.

Valéria Tóth – Lecturer at the Department of Hungarian Linguistics, University of Debrecen; her main research areas are toponymy and historical name studies.

Technical Editor:

Katalin Reszegi – In addition to her editorial duties, she is responsible for the journal's technical editing, ensuring consistency in the publication's appearance.

Former Editors-in-Chief:

Géza Bárczi (1951) – Founding editor of the journal and one of the most influential figures in Hungarian linguistics. He played a key role in

establishing the academic foundation for dialectological research in Hungary.

Béla Kálmán (1953–1975) – Professor at the University of Debrecen, who led the journal for over two decades. His outstanding contributions laid the groundwork for Hungarian linguistic geography and dialectology.

Árpád Sebestyén (1975–1999) – Researcher of historical and sociolinguistic aspects of dialects. Under his leadership, the journal embraced new methodological directions.

Scope and Methodology

The thematic focus and methodological approach of Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] closely align with the traditions of Hungarian dialectological research, while remaining open to innovations in linguistic methodology. The journal has consistently aimed – and continues to aim – at the collection, publication, and analysis of dialectal data from across the entire Hungarian language area. The studies published primarily address the following thematic areas:

1. **Investigation of dialectal phenomena:** phonetic and phonological characteristics; morphological and syntactic variations; lexical and phraseological elements; language contact phenomena (e.g., along linguistic borders).

2. **Synchronic and diachronic dialect research:** description of contemporary language use (synchronic approach); historical analyses (diachronic studies), with particular attention to former dialectal states.

3. **Onomastic studies:** dialectal variants of place names (toponymy), personal names (anthroponymy), field names, and other geographic names; historical and motivational analyses.

4. **Dialect geography:** mapping of regional linguistic variation; preparation and analysis of dialect maps.

5. **Sociolinguistic and pragmatic aspects:** social status, identity, and attitudes of dialect speakers; registers and stylistic variations of dialectal language use.

6. Publication of dialect texts: transcription, annotation, and publication of authentic spoken dialect materials (e.g., interviews, ethnographic descriptions); stylistic and pragmatic analyses of these texts.

Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] traditionally publishes its articles and reports in several well-defined sections that reflect the diversity of Hungarian dialectology, onomastics, and dialect research. Over the years, the journal's sectional structure has adapted to evolving scientific demands and research trends while preserving its core thematic focuses. The journal's structure is typically organized into the following sections:

Sections

Articles: The journal's main section, publishing comprehensive original research on various aspects of Hungarian dialects, including phonetics, morphology, syntax, lexicon, onomastics, and more.

Communications: Shorter, yet scientifically rigorous papers focusing on specific dialectal or onomastic phenomena.

Source Publications: Presentation of dialect texts, ethnographic materials, spoken language data, and authentic sources that provide important foundations for research.

Reviews and Critiques: Critical assessments and summaries of books, monographs, and edited volumes related to dialectology and onomastics.

Data Contributor Section / Dialect Wordlists: Selected issues feature regional dialect wordlists documenting the vocabulary of Hungarian dialects.

Professional News and Announcements: Information about events, conferences, research projects, calls for proposals, and other professional news.

Bibliography: Current bibliographic summaries and lists of new publications in dialect research and dialectology.

Peer-Review and Publication Process

The review and publication process of Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] ensures the

quality of scientific contributions in accordance with national and international academic standards.

Editorial or Editorial Board Preliminary Screening: Submitted manuscripts are initially reviewed by the editorial team to verify thematic relevance and conformity with formal requirements.

Expert Review: Suitable manuscripts undergo evaluation by at least two experts specialized in the topic, either anonymously or with named peer review.

Author Feedback: Based on reviewers' reports, the editorial board decides on acceptance, requests for revisions, or rejection. Authors can revise their manuscripts accordingly.

Final Decision: Revised manuscripts are re-evaluated before final acceptance or rejection is confirmed.

Accessibility and Availability

Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] is published both in print and online, each format bearing a distinct ISSN identifier (print: ISSN 0025-1618; online: HU ISSN 2063-6706). The journal's current website – which is available in both Hungarian and English – can be accessed at: <https://mnytud.arts.unideb.hu/mnyj/>. The site also serves as an archive for previous issues.

The website provides a comprehensive informational platform for those interested in the journal, particularly researchers, educators, and students. Its purpose is to offer an up-to-date and reliable source for those engaged in Hungarian dialectology, as well as to support the academic community in accessing and utilizing the journal's content. The following informational sections are available on the website:

About the Journal: Detailed introduction to the aims, history, and thematic scope of *Hungarian Dialects*.

Editorial Board: Current list of editors, contact details, and information on manuscript submission.

Tables of Contents: Contents of individual volumes and issues to facilitate quick overview of articles and studies.

Downloadable Materials: Selected issues, articles, or other documents available in PDF format, when accessible.

News and Events: Information on conferences, research projects, calls for papers, and professional events.

Contact: Contact details including postal and email addresses for the editorial office.



Figure 2. Homepage screenshot of the journal's website

The journal issues are accessible not only through their own archive but also via several prominent Hungarian scientific databases, including REAL-J (Repository of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences Library:

https://real-j.mtak.hu/view/journal/Magyar_nyelvj=Els=Elsok.html), MATARKA (Searchable database of Hungarian journal tables of contents: https://matarka.hu/szam_list.php?fsz=99), and EPA (Electronic Periodical Archive: <https://epa.oszk.hu/02200/02298>). Digital archiving facilitates retrospective research on earlier issues.

Scientometric Characteristics

Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] plays a significant role primarily within the fields of Hungarian language and dialectology. Consequently, its scientometric indicators tend to be lower compared to international journals; however, it

maintains considerable prestige and citation frequency within the Hungarian-language academic community. The journal is not currently indexed in major international scientometric databases such as Scopus or Web of Science. Citation metrics are primarily trackable through domestic scientific databases and the Hungarian Scientific Works Repository (Magyar Tudományos Művek Tára, MTMT).

Slavistic Contributions in the Journal Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects]

The thematic focus of Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects] primarily centers on the study of Hungarian dialects and regional speech varieties. Consequently, Slavistic topics appear only marginally, mostly in neighboring or related linguistic issues. Therefore, the number of articles explicitly addressing Slavic themes is limited. The relevant studies typically investigate the linguistic relationships between Hungarian and Slavic

languages, with particular attention to loanwords and language contact phenomena.

It is also noteworthy that several authors from the Transcarpathian region have published in the journal over the years, especially researchers working on the Hungarian dialects of Transcarpathia, language contact, and dialectology.

Selected Slavistic Studies Published in Magyar Nyelvjárások [Hungarian Dialects]:

Balogh László (1990): A szamoszegi földrajzi nevek szláv eredetű rétegeiről [On the Slavic Layers of the Toponyms of Szamoszeg]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vols. 28/29, pp. 105–112.

Dudics Lakatos Katalin (2019): Kárpátaljai magyar pedagógusok nyelvjárási attitűdjének alakulása két felmérés eredményei alapján (2008–2018) [The Development of Dialectal Attitudes Among Hungarian Teachers in Transcarpathia Based on Two Surveys (2008–2018)]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 57, pp. 123–134.

Dudics Lakatos Katalin (2020): Kárpátaljai magyar pedagógusok és tanítványaik metanyelvi ismereteiről [Metalinguistic Knowledge of Hungarian Teachers and Their Students in Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 58, pp. 165–173.

Csige Katalin (1998): Lexikai és szemantikai russzicizmusok a sajtónyelvben (1948–1951) [Lexical and Semantic Russicisms in the Press Language (1948–1951)]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 35, pp. 191–198.

Fodó Sándor (1973): Szláv jövevényszók a kárpátaljai magyar nyelvjárásokban [Slavic Loanwords in the Hungarian Dialects of Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 19, pp. 41–52.

Gazdag Vilmos (2019): A kárpátaljai magyar nyelvjárások különfejlődéséről az államnyelvi kölcsönzavak fényében [The Divergent Development of the Hungarian Dialects of Transcarpathia in Light of Official Language Loanwords]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 57, pp. 101–121.

Gazdag Vilmos (2020): Államnyelvi hatás a kárpátaljai magyar felsőoktatásban tanuló diákok nyelvhasználatában [Official Language Influence on the Language Use of Students in Higher Education in Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 58, pp. 175–187.

Hoffmann István (2004): Kiss Lajos (1922–2003). *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 42, pp. 217–222.

Hoffmann István (2019): Magyar–szláv helynévmintázatok az ómagyar kori Bakonyalján [Hungarian–Slavic Toponymic Patterns in the Old Hungarian Bakonyalja Region]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 57, pp. 5–29.

Kávássy Sándor (1990): Szláv nevek a szatmári nemesség 1809. évi összeírásában [Slavic Names in the 1809 Census of the Szatmár Nobility]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vols. 28/29, pp. 95–104.

Kiss Lajos (1959): Szláv eredetű tájszavainkhoz [On Slavic-Origin Dialect Words]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 5, pp. 147–152.

Lizanec, Petro M. (1970): A kárpátontúli ukrán nyelvjárások magyar jövevényszavainak fő térképezési elvei [Main Principles of Mapping Hungarian Loanwords in the Ukrainian Dialects of Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 16, pp. 3–10.

Lizanec, Petro M. (1984): Szláv–magyar lexikai–szemantikai egyezések a Kárpát-Balkán térség nyelvjárásában [Lexical and Semantic Convergences between Slavic and Hungarian in the Dialects of the Carpathian-Balkan Region]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vols. 26/67, pp. 23–30.

Lizanec, Petro M., Horváth Katalin (1982): A kárpátontúli magyar nyelvjárások főbb sajátosságairól [Key Characteristics of the Hungarian Dialects of Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 24, pp. 3–18.

Rot, M. Alekszandr (1967): A magyar–ukrán nyelvi kölcsönhatás a kárpátukrajnai magyar nyelvjárásokban [Hungarian–Ukrainian Language Contact in the Hungarian Dialects of Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 13, pp. 57–70.

Sebestyén Árpád (1973): Jegyzet néhány kárpátaljai tájszóhoz [Notes on Some Dialect Words from Transcarpathia]. *Magyar Nyelvjárások*, Vol. 19, pp. 53-56.

Overall, *Magyar Nyelvjárások* [Hungarian Dialects] plays a pivotal role in research related to Hungarian dialectology, particularly in the exploration of the linguistic environment of Central

and Eastern Europe and cross-border language phenomena. With its reliable, peer-reviewed publications and editorial principles that draw on both tradition and contemporary scientific standards, the journal holds an important position within the Hungarian academic landscape. It serves as a valuable resource for researchers as well as professionals interested in Hungarian dialects.

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The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest

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