

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF THE WORLD

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ISBN 9985-9218-5-2

The dictionary contains appr. 4200 articles on names of geographical entities outside Estonia. The articles are concerned mainly with the names themselves: which name forms should be adapted to Estonian texts, which are the equivalent names in the local language, in English, French, German, Finnish and Russian. The number of variants is about 16,000. Added are the pronunciation of principal names, references to their location, etc.

The names are extracted from the Place Names Database of the Institute of Estonian Language. All names are in a single alphabetic order, including the earlier variants known to Estonian users. Other non-Estonian name variants constitute a separate index.

The references to the locations of the named features are given out of practical needs and tend to reflect the actual political situation, however, the main aim of the dictionary is to give linguistic advice on name usage and not to recognize or not the legality of certain political entities, their boundaries or governments, etc.

For most of the names which are originally not written in Roman characters, the original script form has been added in brackets. For this end, the fonts of the WordPerfect programme and other fonts freely distributed in the Internet have been used.

In addition the dictionary contains a summary of the principles of foreign names writing, a table of the countries of the world, their capitals and ISO codes, and a guide for the transcription and pronunciation of names of some 80 foreign languages. Finally there are some word explanations.

In order to keep the content of the dictionary updated and correct, and to publish a systematic index of names a web site has been opened at the address of <http://www.eki.ee/knab/>.

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HOW TO USE THE DICTIONARY

(extracts)

Alphabetic order

In the main part and in the index the names are alphabetically arranged according to the Estonian alphabet: *Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, Ee, Ff, Gg, Hh, Ii, Jj, Kk, Ll, Mm, Nn, Oo, Pp, Qq, Rr, Ss, Šš, Zz, Žž, Tt, Uu, Vv, Ww, Õõ, Ää, Öö, Üü, Xx, Yy*. In the ordering the spaces between words as well as punctuation signs and numbers have been disregarded. The Estonian generic terms written separately have also been overlooked, e.g. the name **Suur nõgu** (Great Basin) precedes the name **Suur-Belt** (Great Belt).

In the case of characters not present in the Estonian alphabet the following principles have been adhered to.

1. If the character contains a diacritic sign (diaeresis, tilde, dot above, etc.) it will be disregarded and the character is treated like the one without the diacritic sign, e.g. *á, à, â, ā* are all regarded as variants of *a*.

2. The ligatures are treated as combinations of two characters, e.g. *æ* is equal to *ae*, *œ* to *oe*, etc. As the Icelandic *ð* and *þ* are

frequently replaced by respectively *dh* and *th*, they are treated as such combinations here also. The German *ß* is equal to *ss*.

3. Certain other characters are grouped according to their closest analogue, e.g. the Azerbaijani *ə* is treated as *ä*.

Many names contain articles. In general, their representation in the dictionary is not systematic and they are usually ignored in the alphabetic ordering. So e.g. the Arabic names starting with *al-* (*an-*, *as-*, *at-* etc.) are found according to their main name elements, e.g. **Al-Baṣrah** is grouped among names starting with „B“. The articles *the* (English), *ha* (Hebrew) etc. are also disregarded. However, the definite articles (*la*, *le*, *les* etc.) of the Romance languages are preserved in ordering if they form part of names of populated places, e.g. **Le Havre**, **La Habana** are found by the letter „L“.

If the generic term of a name is situated before the significant part of the name (e.g. **Lake Ontario**, **Mer d'Oman**, **Golf von Thailand**), the order of words is inverted: **Ontario, Lake**; **Oman, Mer d'**; **Thailand, Golf von**.

Pronunciation

Pronunciation, including accents and palatalization, is indicated for all principal names (headwords) as well as for a choice of variant names.

The sign of accent is always shown before the vowel of a stressed syllable:

´ signifies a syllable with a light accent: **Al´aska**, [fa´entsa];

` signifies a syllable with a heavy accent: **Gibr`altar**, [šamon`ii].

If there are two signs of accent in a word, the second of them would indicate an auxiliary stress.

Such a sign is always before a character and does not form part of the normal spelling of the name. If the same sign is used above a character, then it would constitute part of the original orthography of a name, e.g. **San Sebastián**, **País Valencià**.

Palatalization of a consonant is indicated by a small letter *j* in a word: **Ur`al^jsk**, [bl^jaakl^j`iəh]. This is not part of the normal orthography of the name either.

If the name is in Estonian or it can be pronounced as if it was written in the Estonian orthography, the auxiliary pronunciation signs are inserted to the name form itself:

J`uuda kōrb (the generic written separately contains no signs)

L`aos

Nann`ing

For all other names the pronunciation is added in square brackets and a smaller script after the name. Sometimes the pronunciation concerns only a part of the name:

Jammu [dž`ammu]

Krâvanhi mäed [krav`anji]

Walesi Pr`intsi saar [w`eilzil]

There are cases when in Estonian an adapted pronunciation is used for a regular (endonymic) name. Then two pronunciations are given: the Estonian adapted pronunciation and the original pronunciation with the label of the language. The original pronunciation may sometimes occur in Estonian contexts also:

Illinois [*ingl* ilin`oi] [*ingl* = *English*]

L`ondon [*ingl* l`andən]

Missouri [miss`uuri, *ingl* miz`uəri]

Language of the names

For all names the language of the name has been indicated, i.e. in which language the name form mainly may occur. The name of the language is written in italics after the toponym: **Sud`aan** *ee*, **Rashīd** [raš`iid] *ar*. Of course, the list of the languages is by no means exhaustive since the original (endonymic) name form can be used by most other languages as well, e.g. most Roman-script languages would use the Swedish name **Västerås** as given here

If only a part of the name is translated into Estonian, but the main part remains unchanged, it will be indicated as follows:

Shetlandi saared *ee + ingl [=Estonian + English]*; **Calabria Apenn'iniid** *ee + it [Estonian + Italian]*; **São Tomé ja Príncipe** *ee + port [Estonian + Portuguese]*.

The determination of the language is often inevitably automatic and does not reflect the origins of a name. So e.g. the name of a city in Tanzania **Dar es Salaam** is indicated as being an English or Swahili name because these are the official languages of the country, although the name itself is of Arabic origin (**Dār as-Salām**).

The determination of the language for romanized name forms is complicated by the multiplicity of systems used which often depend on the language in which the names are written. In that case the method of romanization is added in brackets, e.g. '**Annâba** *ar (pr transkr)* — Arabic name in French transcription —, or without the name of the main language: **Kökshetaū** *ingl transkr* (Kazakh name in an English transcription).

Name variants

The name variants are usually presented in a fixed order: 1. Estonian names, 2. names in the official language(s) (endonyms), 3. names in other languages (exonyms) grouped alphabetically according to the names of languages in Estonian. Obsolete names, also official names of countries are grouped separately. An attempt has been made to give name variants at least in English, French, German, Finnish and Russian but there are also other name forms used in neighbouring countries that are not easily recognizable. Not all the name forms in the above languages have been identified, the shortcomings particularly concern the names in German and Finnish, sometimes also French. However, often the absence of a name in a language would mean that the endonym is used in it. E.g. the name of a Land in Austria **Kärnten** has got name variants in English (Carinthia) and French (Carinthie) but not in Finnish as the German name form is used there.

The sign of equality (=) is used to indicate an official parallel name (**K`auni`ainen** *sm* = Grankulla [gr`aank`ülla] *rts*). The tilde (~) replaces the word 'or'.

Litteral translations of names are given between apostrophes ' ': **St`ara planin`a** *bulg* ('vana mäestik' = 'old mountain').

Summary of auxiliary signs

- ˘ syllable with a light accent (Q1, Q2)
- ˘ syllable with a heavy accent (Q3)
- j palatalization
- ˘ word limit (in compound names)
- ~ or
- = official parallel name
- ' ' litteral translation of a name
- ◆ notes
- (1) ordinal number of an identic name
- ? unverified, questionable data

GLOSSARY OF USED ABBREVIATIONS ¹ AND WORDS

<i>*abh</i>	Abkhaz	<i>Haldus-</i>	administrative
<i>*afrik</i>	Afrikaans	<i>jaotus</i>	division
ahelik	range	<i>*hbr</i>	Hebrew
<i>*ajal</i>	historical, in a historical context	<i>*hn</i>	Chinese
ala	territory	<i>*holl</i>	Dutch, Flemish
<i>*alb</i>	Albanian	<i>*horv</i>	Croatian
<i>*ametl</i>	official(ly)	<i>*hrl</i>	usually
<i>*amh</i>	Amharic	<i>*hrv</i>	rare(ly)
<i>*ar</i>	Arabic	hääldus	pronunciation
<i>*arm</i>	Armenian	ida-	East(ern)
<i>*asr</i>	Azerbaijane	<i>*indon</i>	Indonesian
asula	populated place	<i>*ingl</i>	English
<i>*bašk</i>	Bashkir	<i>*isl</i>	Icelandic
<i>*beng</i>	Bengali	<i>*it</i>	Italian
<i>*bsk</i>	Basque	<i>*jak</i>	Yakut
<i>*bulg</i>	Bulgarian	<i>*jpn</i>	Japanese
<i>*burj</i>	Buryat	jõgi	river
<i>*ebas</i>	undesirable spelling, futile adaptation	järv	lake
edela-	South West	<i>*kab-tš</i>	Kabardian- Circassian
<i>*ee</i>	Estonian	kagu-	South East
endine	former	<i>*kalm</i>	Kalmyk
<i>*Eur</i>	in (many) European languages	<i>*karak</i>	Kara-Kalpak
<i>*gr</i>	Georgian	<i>*kar-b</i>	Karachay-Balkar
<i>*gudž</i>	Gujarati	<i>*kas</i>	Kazakh
		<i>*kat</i>	Catalan
		<i>Keeled</i>	languages
		kesk-	central
		<i>*khm</i>	Khmer

¹ The abbreviations are indicated by an asterisk. To obtain the full corresponding words in Estonian see pp. 25-26 of the dictionary.

kirde-	North East	<i>*nr</i>	Norwegian
<i>*kirg</i>	Kirghiz	osa	part
<i>*koh</i>	local name or pronunciation	osariik	state
<i>*korj</i>	Koryak	<i>*oss</i>	Ossetic
<i>*kr</i>	Greek	parem	right (side)
<i>*krj</i>	Karelian	pealinn	capital
<i>*Ksk</i>	centre	<i>*piib</i>	in the Bible
<i>*k-viis</i>	spelling method	piirkond	region
<i>*kõnek</i>	colloquial	<i>*pl</i>	Polish
kõrb	desert	<i>*Pl</i>	capital
küla	village	<i>*pms</i>	mainly
<i>*lad</i>	Latin	poolsaar	peninsula
laht	bay, gulf	<i>*port</i>	Portuguese
<i>*ld</i>	Lithuanian	<i>*pr</i>	French
linn	city	<i>*prg</i>	at present
lisajõgi	tributary	<i>*prs</i>	Persian
loode-	North West	põhja-	North(ern)
<i>*lt</i>	Latvian	rannik	coast
lõuna-	South(ern)	riik	country, nation
lähedal	near	ringkond	district
lääne-	West(ern)	<i>*rum</i>	Romanian
<i>*lüh</i>	abbreviated	<i>*rööpn</i>	parallel name
maa	land	saar	island
maa-ala	territory	saarestik	archipelago
maakond	county	samanimeline	with the same name
<i>*maked</i>	Macedonian	<i>*sks</i>	German
<i>*malag</i>	Malagasy	<i>*slvk</i>	Slovak
<i>*malaj</i>	Malayalam	<i>*slvn</i>	Slovene
meri	sea	<i>*sm</i>	Finnish
<i>*mitteam</i>	unofficial	<i>*som</i>	Somali
<i>*mold</i>	Moldavian	<i>*srbh</i>	Serbo-Croatian
<i>*mong</i>	Mongolian	<i>*suah</i>	Swahili
mägi	mountain	<i>*tadž</i>	Tajik
mööndav	acceptable (but less frequent)	<i>*tag</i>	Tagalog
		<i>*tam</i>	Tamil

<i>*tat</i>	Tatar	<i>*ung</i>	Hungarian
<i>*tb</i>	Tibetan	<i>*usb</i>	Uzbek
<i>*teg</i>	actual name	<i>*UT</i>	in the New
<i>*tel</i>	Telugu		Testament
<i>*tn</i>	Danish	vabariik	republic
<i>*transkr</i>	transcription	<i>*van</i>	obsolete, earlier
<i>*trg</i>	Turkish		used name form
<i>*t-s</i>	in a text	vasak	left (side)
<i>*tš</i>	Czech	<i>*vietn</i>	Vietnamese
<i>*tšetš</i>	Chechen	<i>*vkr</i>	Old Greek
<i>*tšuv</i>	Chuvash	<i>*vlgv</i>	Byelorussian
<i>*türkm</i>	Turkmen	<i>*vn</i>	Russian
<i>*udm</i>	Udmurt	<i>*VT</i>	in the Old
<i>*uig</i>	Uighur		Testament
<i>*ukr</i>	Ukrainian	väin	sound, strait