

**Nadia-Nicoleta Morărașu și Floriana Popescu AN ENGLISH-ROMANIAN EXPLANATORY DICTIONARY OF ONOMASTIC PHRASEMES**, București: Pro Universitaria, ISBN: 978-606-26-1909-1, 220 pages.

Romanian bilingual lexicography has an almost half a century heritage of phraseological dictionaries dedicated to the popularization of the English and Romanian language pair, which has gradually grown through the contribution of numerous authors (Banaș, Gheorghiuțoiu and Levițchi, 1966; Nicolescu, Popovici and Preda, 1967; Pârlog and Teleagă, 1999; Pârlog and Teleagă, 2000) and reached a huge climax with the publication in 2007 of the *Great English-Romanian Dictionary of Idioms* (Saileanu 2007), preferably named GERDI.

The compilation of such an impressive collection of over 18,000 idiomatic expressions would make any other contribution in the field of whatever you might call them (i.e. idioms, idiomatic expressions, phrasemes or phraseological units) both irrelevant and redundant. As things stand, this is hardly the case with this explanatory dictionary of onomastic phrasemes. This is due to the fact that each of the 748 entries makes exclusive descriptions of lexico-semantic structures developed around a proper name, which can be an anthroponym (which can be matronyms, patronyms, hagianyms, mythonyms, charactonyms, ethnonyms) or toponyms (that, in turn, include hydronyms, hodonyms, commonyms, and astionyms).

The 2014 onomastic phrasemes are approached briefly, but without omitting relevant details which facilitate their correct and accurate understanding the origins, nature and other etymological features are accounted for under the *Name data* section, which enlarge upon the source or meaning of the respective name, succinct geographical data or other details the two authors considered necessary and helpful in the grasping of the idiomatic meaning. Each entry in this dictionary comprises a variable sum of phrasemes, i.e. from one, in the majority of the situations (see, for example, *Abaton*, p. 1, *Jezebel*, p. 105 and *Thule*, p. 185), to three (for example, in the cases of *Aladdin*, p. 5, and *Billingsgate*, p. 21), to twelve in the case of *Adam*, to finally reach 77 onomastic phrasemes built around the name of *God* (pp. 77-82). The specifications regarding the origins and meanings of the phrasemes are followed either by their simple translation, when no possibility of error in translation can be envisaged or the literal translation, most often marked with an asterisk, which is intended to draw the reader's attention to a translation error, when an apparently easy to translate phraseme is actually a trap. It is a trap because of the possibility of false analogy, lack of pre-translation documentation or lack of adequate dictionaries, hasty work carried out under the pressure of deadlines, or, regrettably, superficial knowledge of both English and Romanian language, culture and civilization. The authors' recourse to late nineteenth-century dictionaries enlarged the number of onomastic phrasemes which may have become outdated to present-day speakers of English, but they may as well be necessary in the case of the translation of historic texts (documents, chronicles or, say, eighteenth-century literature).

Viewed as a whole, the dictionary of onomastic phrasemes reflects the authors' in-depth and lengthy study that involved the scouring and attentive examination of over one hundred dictionaries compiled by British and American authors which were elaborated during the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The authors were animated by the desire to cover a comprehensive inventory of such constructions and to provide a tool that could be useful to both a layperson who would like to learn more about the English language, translators and specialists focused on studies in the field of humanities.

The table of contents itself mirrors not only the authors' preoccupation for the elaboration of a high-quality dictionary, but also their minute knowledge of lexicographic frameworks. The introductory study, which prefaces the dictionary, has a double fold purpose: it aims to both place it among its other similar works in the European culture, and to define and classify onomastic phrasemes.

Due to the complex nature of onomastic phrasemes, which can be presented taking into consideration either the nature of names (e.g. their origin and structure), or the types of idioms proper names are part of (take, for instance, the adjectival use of *Friday* in a *Friday face*, the exclamations *Great Scott!* and *Queen Anne is dead!*, such similes *as true as Coventry blue*, *as proud as Queen of Sheba*, and *as fair as Eve in paradise*), the introductory part of the dictionary includes a section which advises the reader how to use the dictionary. Thus, in addition to the alphabetical order of names, each of names has an ordinal number which is mentioned both in the entry and in the Index at the end of the dictionary and which facilitates the name finding in the dictionary.

The specificity of this dictionary as well as its value lies in the fact that its rich collection of names comprises an impressive number of phrasemes which cannot be provided by the internet and its numerous search engines. This dictionary will be proven as a helpful tool for high school students, undergraduates and doctoral students as well as young professionals who intend and work hard on constructing their career in the art and craft of translations and interpretation.

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