

Folklore: Animal tales]. In *Fo'klor: Kompleksnaja tekstologija*, ed. V. M. Gacak, 252–317. Moscow: Nasledie, 1998.)

PROPP, Vladimir Ja.

1928 *Morfologija skazki* [Morphology of the folktale]. Leningrad: Academia. (Second ed. Moscow, Nauka, 1969. English translation published in Philadelphia in 1958; 2nd ed. in Austin in 1968.)

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MIEDER, WOLFGANG. *International Proverb Scholarship: An Annotated Bibliography*. Supplement III (1990–2000). Bern, New York: Peter Lang, 2001. ix + 457 pages. Name index, subject index, and proverb index. Hardcover FR 110.00; US \$73.95. ISBN 0-8204-5707-8.

This bibliography displays the wide range of research that has been done and, by implication, still needs to be done on proverbs. Since proverbs are a basic part of any language and reveal much about the people and culture that use them, they are a rich mine for research and publication in various fields. Not only proverb specialists but also linguists, language teachers, literature lovers, psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, theologians, historians, public speakers, and writers can learn something from the references. The third supplement adds 2,769 items to the list begun in the original proverb bibliography and expanded in the two supplements; in total, 7,368 articles and books are listed.

What becomes apparent as one reads the bibliography (easy to skim read because the annotations are key words) is the failure of many disciplines to make full use of the possibilities for research that proverbs offer. In literature, for instance, Charles Dickens leads with 25 references, followed by Cervantes with 17 and Shakespeare with 11. Poor Benjamin Franklin, who popularized many proverbs with his farmer's almanac series, has only 4. Of course there may have been more studies about these and other authors before 1990; nevertheless, very few writers have been probed for their use of proverbs. Also, there are few articles about proverbs in Asia. Is this due to the problem of language and the availability of publications in Asian languages? Even *Asian Folklore Studies*, according to its fifty-year index, has published only six articles featuring proverbs.

The word "annotation" in the title may be misleading. I expected a summary of each article in a few sentences. However, since such annotations take up a lot of space, Mieder has chosen to give a few key words for each title. (He has seen each of the titles listed.) In the long run, this feature may be more valuable as it allows a greater number of key words than could be expressed in sentences and it makes it easier to index and correlate items.

The key words are indexed. Is a CD-ROM version in the making? The printed version would still be good for browsing but a CD-ROM would be more helpful for a quick view of all the articles under the chosen key-word. A CD-ROM version would also make special searches possible, such as the titles of books or poems, e.g., Frost's "Mending Wall." Furthermore, the CD-ROM could contain the contents of the three previous volumes, making it an invaluable research tool for proverb study.

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