

# LEXICON GRAMMATICORUM

A Bio-Bibliographical Companion to the History of Linguistics

Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged

Volume II

L-Z

Niemeyer

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**Ligeti, Lajos (Louis)**, b. Oct. 28, 1902, Balassagyarmat, Hungary, d. May 24, 1987, Budapest; Turkologist, Mongolist, Tibetist, Sinologist, one of the most outstanding figures of Hungarian scholarship in linguistics and oriental studies.

From 1921 to 1925, L. studied Classical and Oriental philology at the University of Budapest and the *Eötvös Collegium* under Z. → Gombocz and J. → Németh, obtaining his doctorate in Turkology. From 1925 to 1928, he continued his oriental studies in Paris at the Sorbonne, at the *École des Langues Orientales Vivantes*, the *Collège de France*, the *École des Hautes Études Philologiques*, and the *École des Hautes Études Religieuses* under P. Pelliot, H. Maspéro, J. Bacot. He went on an expedition to Inner Mongolia, Northern China and Manchuria from 1928 to 1931. From 1934 to 1939 he was an assistant and from 1939 to 1972 professor and chair at the Department of Inner Asian Studies in Budapest. He was also chair of the Department of Far Eastern Studies from 1942 to 1962, and from 1964 to 1971 of the Department of Turkology. In 1936 he was elected a member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and served as its vice president from 1949 to 1970, and in 1941 he became acting director of the Institute for Hungarian Studies. In 1938 he became the editor of the series *Bibliotheca Orientalis Hungarica* and in 1950 he founded the *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* and was its editor until 1976. In 1968 he reorganized the Csoma de Kőrös Society.

L.'s interests in Turkology covered an exceptionally wide spectrum. He discovered the significance of vowel-length in Old Turkic parallel with, although independently from, E. D. → Polivanov and M. Räsänen (1938). His monographic treatment of the Sino-Uighur

monuments of the Ming was published in several parts (1966, 1967, 1968a, 1969). He recurrently explored the languages of the Comans (1962, 1981). It was, however, the examination of Turkic loanwords in Hungarian which constituted the focus of his studies in Turkology. His articles related to Hungarian were published in two volumes (1977/79). The main theme of his last book, in which he synthesized a lifetime's research, was also concerned with the Turkic loanwords in Hungarian (1986).

In Inner Mongolia, on his expedition from 1928 to 1931, L. studied the Dagur language and the Mongolian text of the Buddhistic canon, the *Kanjur*, which were hardly known until that time. He compiled a catalogue of the *Kanjur* (1942–44) and later made concordances to a *Kanjur* ms. housed in Paris (1965). He thought that the investigation of the archaic dialects was very important; accordingly, he collected material of the Turkic and Mongolian languages spoken in Afghanistan (1954, 1957). L. dealt with the Ancient Mongolian language (1970) and investigated the Khitan language and script (1927, 1950, 1960). This led him to investigate the Jurchen language and script, about which he wrote several important studies. He also devoted his attention to the extant fragments of the Middle Mongolian language and literature, many of which he published himself while others were published by his former students under his supervision in the series *Mongol Nyelveléktár* (Collection of Mongolian Linguistic Remains) and *Monumenta Linguae Mongolicae Collecta*. It was in this series that, among others, L.'s interpretations of the 'Secret History of the Mongols' (1964, 1971a) were published.

Relatively little was published from L.'s Tibetological activity (1968b, 1971b), although he made a detailed examination of Old Tibetan texts; his Tibetan linguistic history also remained unpublished.

As a Sinologist L. was interested for the most part in the texts of Inner Asian languages written in Chinese characters (1941, 1949, 1956).

(1927): “A kitaj nép és nyelvé”, *MNy* 23, 293–310. (1938): “Les voyelles longues en turc”, *JA* 1, 177–204. (1941): “A kínai-átírások barbár nyelvi glosszák kérdése”, *NyK* 51, 174–207. (1942–44): *Catalogue du Kanjur mongol imprimé*, Budapest. (1949): “Le chinois en écriture ‘phags-pa’”, in: *Actes du XIIe Congrès Intern. des Orientalistes*, Paris. (1950): “Mots de civilisation de Haute Asie en transcription chin.”, *AOASH* 1, 141–85. (1954): “O mongol'skix i tjurkskix jazykax i dialektax Afganistana”, *ib.* 4, 93–114 (Fr. summ., 114–17). (1956): “Le Po kia sing en écriture ‘phags-pa’”, *ib.* 6, 1–52. (1957): “Sur la langue des

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AUBIN, F. (1988): "Louis L.", *JA* 276, 1–22. KARA, G. (1987): "Louis L.", *AOASH* 41, 3–6. RÓNA-TAS, A. (1987): "L. Lajos", *Keletkutatás* 2, 3–11. Id. (1988): "Lajos L.", *UJb N. F.* 8, 183–86. SCHÜTZ, Ö. (1989): "L. Lajos", *MNy* 84, 373–78. Klára Sándor

**Lightner, Theodore M.**, b. Sep. 3, 1934, New York, d. Mar., 1984, Boston, MA; generativist, specialized in phonology and morphology.

L., who got his B. S. degree from Duke University in 1958 and his Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1965, played a key role in the development of early generative phonology, pushing the approach of abstract underlying structure to its logical conclusion. Of his over 40 linguistic publications, his *Problems in the Theory of Phonology* (1972), which focussed on Russian, constitutes an influential contribution to Slavic linguistics, presenting abstract generative treatments of many traditional problems. The same concerns with economy and generalization are evident in his *Introduction to English Derivational Morphology* (1983).

(1972): *Problems in the Theory of Phonology*, Edmonton, Alberta & Champaign, IL. (1983): *Introd. to E. Derivational Morphology*, Amsterdam.

KENSTOWICZ, M. (1985): "T. M. L.", *LSA Bull.* 109, 15–16. Carlota S. Smith †

**Lignana, Giacomo**, b. Dec. 19, 1827, Tronzano Vercellese, Italy, d. Feb. 10, 1891, Rome, Italy; Orientalist and Indo-Europeanist.

L. specialized in Indian and Iranian studies under C. → Lassen and F. von Spiegel in Germany. In 1861 he became Professor of Com-

parative Languages and Literatures at Naples University. He was also the director of the *Collegio Asiatico* (now *Istituto Universitario Orientale*) where he taught Mongolian, Hindustani and Bengali as well as Modern History of Central Asia. He later taught Comparative History of Classical Languages and Sanskrit at the University of Rome, where he remained until his death.

L. staunchly defended the human origin of language. He also believed in the superiority of the 'Indo-Germanic' group because of the existence of an autonomous verbal category which, as a synthesis of matter and form, guaranteed the development of philosophical thought. Though convinced, in his youth, of the polygenesis of language, he gradually admitted the applicability of biological evolutionism to the history of languages. A relentless opponent of Hegelianism, he joined the anti-Hegel movement, which went back to Kant via W. v. → Humboldt, J. F. Herbart and the *Völkerpsychologie*. L. used to state that there can be no science without experiment, and he praised F. → Bopp as the first to demonstrate experimentally the historical affinity of all Indo-European languages (1866: 9). Since he believed in the Romantic identification of language with culture, he also sustained that Bopp's 'Comparative Grammar' permitted the reconstruction of the original unity of all Indo-European peoples in their languages and cultural manifestations (1866: 13–14). An enthusiastic follower of W. v. Humboldt's 'dynamic philology', L. regarded it as the best expression of the history of philology (1868: 66–67). Moreover, he considered philology — identified with linguistics and conceived as absolute history — to be the future of science, a new form of the philosophy of history.

L.'s manuscripts, transcribed by G. Ferraro shortly after his death, have recently been rediscovered in the National Library of Florence. They include notes for lessons and texts of lectures dealing principally with questions of comparative grammar and with the origin of languages.

(1866): *Della grammatica comparata di Bopp*, Napoli. (1868): *La filologia al secolo XIX*, Napoli. (1871a): "Applicazione del criterio filologico al problema storico della filosofia", *Atti della Accademia Pontaniana* 9, 165–78 (1865). (1871b): *Le trasformazioni delle specie e le tre epoche delle lingue e letterature indo-europee*, Roma.—Mss. in: Fondo Pullè, Firenze, Biblioteca Nazionale.

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