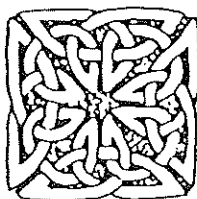




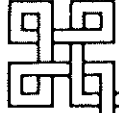
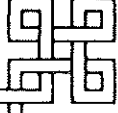
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## REVIEWS

Андрей Данчев, "Българска транскрипция на английски имена" (*Bulgarian Transcription of English Names*): "Теория и практика", Второ, преработено и допълнено издание (първо издание — 1979). Народна просвета, София, 1982. 234pp.

The transliteration of names written in the Cyrillic script into the Roman script has caused considerable difficulty and confusion. These problems, however, are relatively minor by comparison with those encountered in the reverse process, representing Roman script names in the Cyrillic script. The vagaries of English spelling rule out transliteration (letter by letter conversion) into Bulgarian; instead, transcription based on the phonology of English and Bulgarian must be adopted. While the sound of the English name should be reflected as accurately as possible, various factors may complicate this basic goal: a name may have differing pronunciations in various parts of the English-speaking world; a traditional transcription may be established which is not theoretically the best; or the obvious transcription may have negative associations in Bulgarian which are not present in English (pp.37-38).

Having first discussed these and other problems and established his basic principles for transcription (pp.57-58), Danchev goes through the phonemes of English one by one, discussing difficulties and alternative transcriptions on the basis of copious data. Then follows a bibliography, lists of sources and an English summary. The second half of the book is a list of approximately 10,000 English names with a recommended transcription (with an alternative in some cases) and an indication of the section or sections in the first part of the book where relevant information can be found. This list is a valuable resource.

The second edition includes various minor additions and corrections to the first, together with an expanded list of names and transcriptions. Though the bibliography has been updated, it still does not contain H.H. Wellisch's monumental work on transcription (*The Conversion of Scripts - Its Nature, History, and Utilization*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1978). Those who need to use transcribed forms will welcome this second edition, and no doubt hope for further expanded editions. While some will apply the methods explained in the first part of the book to transcribe names themselves, many more will prefer simply to use the forms given in the second part. In either case, Danchev's work will have contributed significantly to the standardization of the transcription of English names into Bulgarian.

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