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## **DIALECT LEXICOGRAPHY IN LATVIA. ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Abstract**

The paper gives an outline of the present situation in Latvian dialect lexicography and explore its opportunities to evolve in the future. The first complete dictionary of subdialects was published in the 1970s: the *“Dialect dictionary of Ergeme”* (1977-1983) by Silvija Raģe and Elga Kagaine. It was a predecessor to *“the Dialect dictionary of Kalupe”* (1998) by Antoņina Reķēna. The first differential dictionary of subdialects was published in 2000: *“Dialect dictionary of Vainizi”* by Elga Kagaine and Eduards Ādamsons. A year later a dictionary by Maiga Putniņa, Agris Timuška followed – the *“The Dialect Comparison Dictionary of Sinole”*. The paper examines those dictionaries of the subdialect of the Latvian language that are linguistically correct, good examples of compiling subdialect dictionaries. The author also inspects the opportunities of development of Latvian dialect lexicography, such as the work of compiling new popular scientific dictionaries of regional subdialects and subject-specific electronic dictionaries of subdialects.

### **Keywords**

dictionary, lexicography, dialect lexicography, dialect/subdialect dictionary, Latvian language

## **LA LEXICOGRAFÍA DIALECTAL EN LETONIA. LOGROS Y OPORTUNIDADES**

### **Resumen**

El artículo ofrece un resumen de la situación actual de la lexicografía dialectal en letón y explora sus posibilidades de evolución en el futuro. El primer diccionario completo sobre subdialectos se publicó en la década de 1970: el *“Diccionario del dialecto de Ergeme”* (1977-1983) de Silvija Raģe y Elga Kagaine.

Fue un precursor del “Diccionario del dialecto de Kalupe” (1998) de Antoņina Reķēna. El primer diccionario diferencial del subdialectos se publicó en el 2000: “Diccionario del dialecto de Vainizi” de Elga Kagaine y Eduards Ādamsons. Un año más tarde, le siguió el diccionario de Maiga Putniņa y Agris Timuška -el “Diccionario comparativo del dialecto de Sinole”. El artículo examina los citados diccionarios de los subdialectos de la lengua letona que son lingüísticamente correctos y buenos ejemplos de compilación de diccionarios subdialectales. También se exploran las oportunidades de desarrollo de la lexicografía dialectal en letón, tales como los trabajos de compilación de nuevos diccionarios de divulgación científica de subdialectos regionales y de diccionarios electrónicos sobre temas específicos de los subdialectos.

### Palabras clave

diccionario, lexicografía, lexicografía dialectal, diccionario dialectal/subdialectal, lengua letona

## 0. Introduction

Dictionaries are an essential monument of each language with high heritage value. Especially it is attributed to dialect dictionaries, which usually are explanatory dictionaries that have the lexicon of one or several dialects of a certain language (Skujiņa *et al.* 2007: 169) and those reflect the language in both synchronic and diachronic ways. German linguist M. Dietrich points that it is very often to be heard such question *If dialect dictionaries are just the cemetery of words?* (Dietrich 1975: 73). Author herself mentions 5 arguments against, which characterizes very well the important role of dialect dictionaries: 1) dialect dictionaries maintain independent language form [...]; 2) dialect dictionaries grasp district and its culture [...]; 3) dialect dictionaries are documents of the history; 4) dialect dictionary are different supplementary aid of different sciences [...] 5) dialect dictionaries help to take care of dialect [...] (Dietrich 1975: 73-76, also Friebehtshäuser 1976: 5-10).

The importance of dialect dictionaries is also stressed by Russian linguists. T. Kolokolceva (Т. Колокольцева) points out that the uniqueness of these dictionaries is that there is included not only linguistic information, they also consist of valuable folklore, ethnographic and history materials (Kolokolceva 2007), however E. Brisina (Е. Брысина) emphasizes that “[...] dialect dictionaries is a unique form to maintain

and pass the information about certain nation's features of world perception and world sense" (Брысина 2005: 109).

It must be noted that dialect dictionaries have a special place in the aspect of regional culture, because as it is pointed out by N. Labunec (Н. Лабунец): "[...] it is exactly dialect dictionaries that reflects the sources of national self-assurance" (Лабунец-е), as well as they accumulate the national memory of a nation, being peculiar barrier of the way of dissipation of national spiritual values (Боратова 1998: 119), they also allows to reconstruct traditional expressions of culture and material (Брысина 2005: 109; also Калиткина 2006, 12-19).

The history of dictionaries begun in 17th century with translation dictionaries, when in 1638 there was the dictionary *Lettus* of the court priest of duke of Kurzeme G. Mancelius, which brings out "that already in XVII century there were known existing dialects (Zemzare 1961: 37; also Jansone 2003: 64-67). An important role in the development of dialectal lexicography had also different semantics dictionaries, for example, the Latvian-German dictionary by J. Langijs which was created at the end of 17th century with short description of Latvian semantics in appendix (E. Blese issued by photo copies of manuscript in 1936); the three language dictionary Polish-Latin-Latvian by G. Elgers (*Dictionariym Polono-Latino-Lottaicum*, 1683); the Latvian-German dictionary by K. Firekers, which was preserved in handwriting (was issued by T. G. Fennels in 1997); German-Latvian and Latvian-German dictionary by J. Lange (*Vollständiges deutsch-lettisches un lettisch-deutsches Lexicon, nach den Hauptdialecten in Lief- und Curland ausgefertigt*, 1777); Latvian language lexicon by G. F. Stenders (*Lettisches Lexikon*, 1789); Latvian-German (about 4000 words) and German-Latvian dictionary (about 8000 words) (*Allererste Anleitung zum Gebrauch der lettischen Sprache für Deutsche*, 1875) which was created and issued by G. Barze and others (more Zemzare 1961; Markus-Narvila 2011).

However the dictionary traditions in Latvia are rather old, the source of impulse of the beginning of dialectal lexicography in Latvia can be mentioned the beginning of 20th century, when there was *Latvian language dictionary (Latviešu valodas vārdnīca)* created by K. Mīlenbahs & J. Endzelīns (1923-1932) and its Appendix (1934-1946), which is considered to be the most important work of Latvian lexicography, as one of

the most important achievements in Latvian linguistics in general (Roze 1982: 78); it is the dictionary that cannot be put in any certain type of dictionary classification, because there are collected vocabulary of literature, folklore and dialects, there are explanation or translation in German language, information about origin, pronunciation, spelling and use. It is explanatory and translation, also historic and etymologic, also literary pronunciation and orthography, it gives dialect words and folklores, also the phraseology (Kļavina 2008: 137; about development of Latvian lexicography also Jansone 2003: 64-95).

### 1. The achieved in Latvian dialectal lexicography

Dialect dictionaries are one of those special dictionaries that are actual in modern lexicography. Their main task is “to reveal the registration, meaning and use of lexeme in concrete dialect (or dialects)” (Kagaine 1999: 67).

Overall there are not very big amount of dictionaries in Latvian lexicography. This problem was highlighted by A. Timuška in 1997 (Timuška 1997: 44). In the beginning of 21st century the situation has changed only slightly – there are still missing different dialect lexicon thematic dictionaries, as well as dictionaries that are devoted to separate language features: dialect phraseology, stable word junctions and similar dictionaries. However the dialect dictionaries that are published until now contain bright examples to be taken into consideration of dialect lexicography.

The first dialect dictionaries in Latvian lexicography are *Dialect dictionary of Ergeme* (*Ērgemes izloksnes vārdnīca*) by E. Kagaine and S. Rāge, published at the beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> century (1977-1983), *the Dialect Dictionary of Kalupe* (*Kalupes izloksnes vārdnīca*) by A. Reķēna (1998) and *the Dialect Dictionary of Vainizi* (*Vainižu izloksnes vārdnīca*) by E. Ādamsons and E. Kagaine (2000). In 2001 there was published the first aspect dictionary *The Dialect Comparison Dictionary of Sinoles* (*Sinoles izloksnes salīdzinājumu vārdnīca*), which is devoted to concrete language feature- comparisons.

*The Dialect Dictionary of Ergeme* (from now on DDE) by S. Rāge & E. Kagaine and after its example there was created *The dialect dictionary of Kalupe* (from now on

DDK) by A. Reķēna are relatively full type dictionary, but *The Dialect Dictionary of Vainizi* (from now on DDV) by E. Ādamsons and E. Kagine is differential type dialect dictionary.

Based on criteria of word selection, the dialect dictionaries are assumed to be divided in two in Latvian lexicography:

- 1) Full type dialect dictionaries
- 2) Differential type dialect dictionaries

About *full type* dictionaries are considered dictionaries that “contain relatively all registered lexicon in dialects, not separating specific lexicon from literary language word stock” (Kagine 1985: 67, also Skujiņa *et al.* 2007: 165).

*Differential type* dictionaries do not have all encountered lexicon in dialects, but only that part that “do not belong to literary language or also semantically differs from corresponding literary language words” (Kagine 1985: 67, also Skujiņa *et al.* 2007: 165).

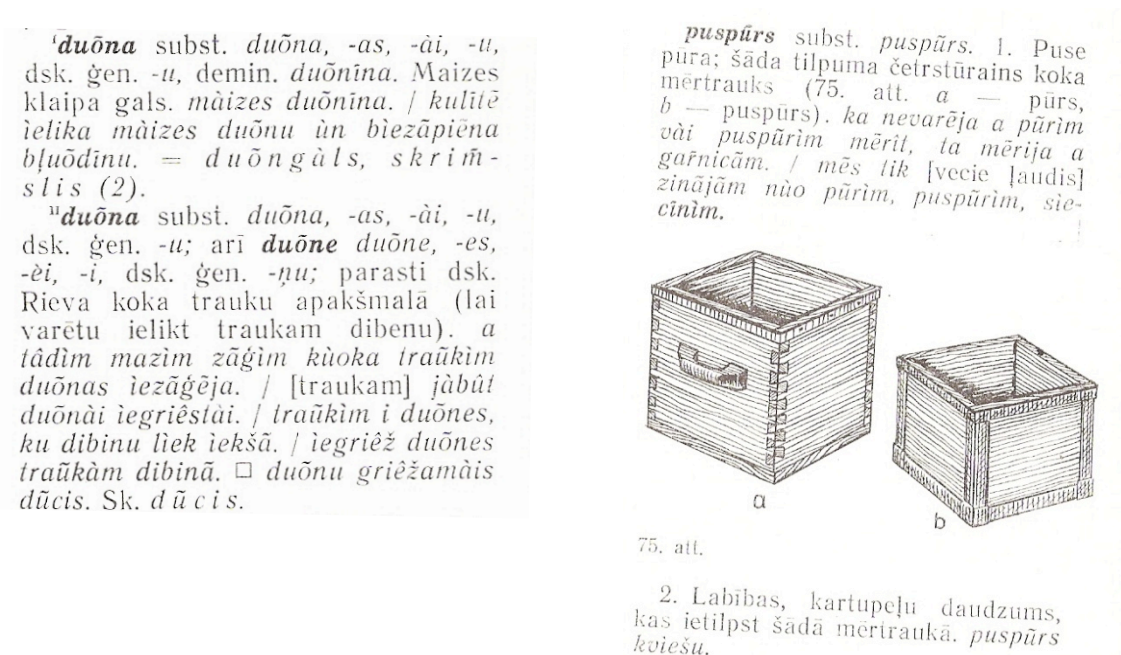
DDE is the first Latvian dialect dictionary, as well as important turn point in Latvian lexicography. Its first volume published in 1997, third volume in 1983. The importance of dictionary is pointed out that: “There are a rather big amount in Latvian language dictionaries, which can be said that each of them are the first in this kind of dictionary with Latvian language material and some of them are masterpieces. In 1977 there was issued the first volume for new three-volume dictionary, to which can be attributed both previously mentioned characteristics [...]” (Grabis 1979: 172).

DDE as a basis have entry system, but there are also separate nest system elements. Nests have: 1) phonetic and morphologic variants of words, 2) person names of male and female genders; adjective; 3) declinable numeral and pronoun male and female forms; 4) diminutives of regular formed substantives.

DDE entry has 9 components: 1) entry name; 2) reference about class, 3) the word in dialect basic form with its grammatical forms; 4) references about the limitations in the use of word; 5) the explanation of word meaning; 6) illustrative text; 7) stable word collocations: word class titles, phraseologies; 8) words which with corresponding entry word have semantic equivalent or synonym attitude; 9) other words with the same stem (about that Kagine & Rāģe 1977: 11-12, also picture 1).

However DDK is one dialect relatively full type two-volume dialect words dictionary, which was issued in 1998. Also DDK has entry system as basis, as well as separate nest system elements.

Entry of DDK has several elements: 1) entry name; 2) reference about word class; 3) dialect form of entry form in phonetic transcript; 4) primary verb person forms (the paradigm examples of other word conjunction are given in the description of separate dialect); 5) adjectives are given in female gender form; 6) references about limitations in word use; 7) the explanation of meaning; 8) illustrative material; 9) word collocations, which semantics directly do not derive from word semantics or which has a stable characteristics in dialect, they are included in entry separately with special explanations (word collocations without separate meaning transfer, comparisons, word collocations (mostly phraseology), which have transfers); 10) word synonyms; 11) creations from basic lexemes (more Reķēna 1998, I: 22-25; also Picture 2).



Picture 1. Examples of DDE entries (Kagainė & Raģe 1997: 286; Kagainė & Raģe 1983: 163).

Nevertheless both previously mentioned dictionaries are considered to be full type dialect dictionaries, in the process of creating dictionaries very often it becomes clear that it is not possible to include absolutely all word stock, as well it is not even

necessary (e.g. if separate phenomenon do not create new quality, but only nuances already the existing one), that is why there is certain word selection, which is chosen by dictionary author according to his/her own criteria.

This idea is accented by German linguist L. Ciller: none of dictionaries are complete; there are missing, for example, separate compound and word collocations, individually created word or some expression connected to certain field and so on (Ziller 1999: 9). Later similar idea is said by H. Haller & F. Lanthaler, pointing out: "With time we understood that the creation of live word stock is as barrel without bottom" (Haller & Lanthaler 2004: 7). Also Russian scientists point that out, saying: "The object of research- oral dialect speech- it is specific, that any of dictionaries, including one dialect dictionary, is not ensured against word eliminations and imperfections" (Нефедова 2003: 22).

**miērs** *s.* – mīrs, *vsk.* 1. *Stāvoklis, kad nav kara.* ka koč byūtu mīrs, ka nabyūtu kara! □ mīra lāiks. *Sk.* l ā i k s (2). 2. *Stāvoklis, kad kāds nav nodarbināts.* apmozgavu trāuks, tagā i mīrs. ◇ īl pi mīra – *iet atpūsties, iet gulēt.* vajak jāu īl pi mīra, vīši vokora dofbī abdareīī. 3. *Stāvoklis, kad ir klusums, kad netrokšņo.* goļvys laūš bārni, i nāu mīra. kūr tu mīra dabūši, ka tā vīši dāuzuōs. ◇ līkī mīru – *netraucēt, neapgrūtināt.* līc bārnām mīru, lāi jis muōcuōs! ◇ (nasa)līkīš mīrā – *netraucēt, ļaut strādāt.* līcīš mīrā, ļaun tū kūdelī dabāikī sprīcī! ◇ nadūt mīra – *traucēt, apgrūtināt.* bārni mañ nadūt mīra nī mynoēnī! ◇ sadžeīt mīru – *dzerot salab.* sadžiēra mīru, i tagā lōbī. ◇ džeīvuōt vīnā mīrā – *dzīvot ļoti mierīgi, bez raizēm, rūpēm, uztraukumiem.* džeīvōi vīnā mīrā, jām nīkuōdys bādys nī pār lūpīm, nī pār sātu. O nēmiērs.

**pieci,-as** *num.* – pīci,-ys. 1. *Pieci. iz džešcīnys varē iššīcī pīci puđi lyncāklu.* □ pīcu zūbu trapaks. *Sk.* t r a p a k s . 2. *Pulksteņa laika moments: piecas stundas pēc pusnakts vai pusdienas.* nu reīta pīcūs jāu cīēļomīš. bīe našcīk iš pīcīm, ka gūoju gūvīs slāukī. □ līdīzī pīci – *pulksten pieci (pēc pusnakts vai pusdienas).* □ pīci pī zemīš – *kāda minūte pāri pulksten pieciem (pēc pusnakts vai pusdienas).* 3. *Sekmju vērtējums, atzīme skolā – teicami.* mañ dīktātā bīc pīci. 4. *lok., adv. noz. Piecatā. pīcūs dasakīēruōs pī mašynys, to čutīk izruōva. / jūos pīcuōs lync pīlēšā šudīq. O puspīeci.*

Picture 2: Example of DDK entry (Reķēna, 1998 I: 616; Reķēna, 1998, II: 205)

*The Dialect Dictionary of Vainiži* (from now on DDV) by E. Ādamsons and E. Kagaine differs from both dictionaries previously mentioned, which is differential type dictionary, where in the dialect lexicon is reflected in selective way. There is that

lexicon part included in dictionary, which does not belong to Latvian literary language; in the dialect and literary language the common words are considered only those meanings and meaning nuances, which have not been mentioned for these words in Latvian literary language dictionary or shown there with limitation reference (Ādamsons & Kagine 2011, I: IV).

DDV as well as DDE and DDK words are arranged in entries in alphabetic order do not separating long and short vowels. In separate cases there are word combination in nests used (combined mostly word phonetic and morphologic variants).

DDV full entry forms 7 components: 1) entry name; 2) reference about word class; 3) word in dialect basic form, along with all grammatical forms; 4) reference about limitations in the use of word; 5) the explanation of word meaning; 6) illustrative text; 7) stable word collocations (Ādamsons & Kagine, 2001 I: VI).

In 2001 there was the first aspect dictionary created in Latvian dialectal lexicography, it is *The Dialect Comparison Dictionary of Sinole* (from now on DCDS) by M. Putniņa and A. Timuška. There is with lexicography means one certain language feature revealed in this case: comparisons, [which] give very rich fact material for further investigation, contrasts and comparisons with analogue comparative constructions in different dialects and other Latvian language systems..." (Putniņa & Timuška 2001: I). DCDS proves that also such type dialect qualities are valuable research and culture historic material (also Markus- Narvila 2008: 154).

An important work in Latvian dialect lexicography was started in 2005, under the provision of E. Kagine there was created an edition *Latvian dialect dictionary. Prospect (Latviešu izlokšņu vārdnīca. Prospekts; from now on LDD)*. There are such viewpoints for the LDD to be created: structure, entry content and description, there are phonetic transcript problems being solved (Kagine *et al.* 2005a: 5-24), also there are problematic word origin references (Kagine 2005b: 235-333), lexeme variants (Jansone 2005: 347-351), homonym reflection (Bušmane 2005: 334-346) and other issues being looked at, as well as there are given entry examples: *āda-ādrēmele, ait-aitvilla, aiziet-aizieties, ba-baņķis, be-beicēt, braka-brāļuties, buda-buķiski, buocis-bupetskapis* (Kagine and others 2005a: 49-314). This work is important step in the development of Latvian linguistics; LDD creation is acknowledged as one of the



necessary works of Latvian linguistics, because “the saved up lexicon material, new dialect words and their dissemination registrations, as well as etymologic research has created pre-conditions for creating new joint dialect dictionary [...]. The necessity to create new dictionary was created by several outer conditions, which were connected to rapid loss of older lexicon layers, historic domestic objects and tools” (Kagainė *et al.* 2005a: 4).

In 2007 there was issued *Latgalian language word stock* (2007) (Latgaļu volūdas vārdu krājums) by A. Bērzkals. There is mostly given lexeme list with explanations in German. In separate cases there are given also illustrative examples with translations. But in 2009 there was *Latgalian language dictionary* (Latgaļu volūdys vuordneica) by A. Slišāns, which contains about 1500 words and which similarly to previously mentioned can be considered popular science. And with this it was the first popular science dialect dictionary in Latvian linguistics. It should be mentioned that these dictionaries do not reflect one dialect lexicon, but contains compilation of wider region dialect.

In 2010 in web site <http://www.nacionala-identitate.lv/> there is the first thematic dictionary being published: K. Draviņš prepared in German and with 1964 dated manuscript *Dialect word stock of Stende (Wortschatz der Mundart von Stenden)*, which was supplemented and edited by B. Bušmane & A. Timuška. As the dictionary compilers point out: “Containing very different subjects, the work of K. Draviņš *Wortschatz der Mundart von Stenden* is to this moment the compilation of content developed one dialect word stock in this context in Latvian dialect lexicography. It is also one of some dialect oldest word stocks, because as it was pointed out by K. Draviņš, its most important feature is formed by older and the oldest (it is since the end of 19th centuries 1930s and then was born the generation language” (Draviņš 2010: 111).

Lexemes are arranged in several thematic groups: occupation, flora, human, cattle, raising cattle, food, social life, farming and others (more Draviņš 2010).

New branch in Latvian dialect lexicography is being maintained by U. Grīnbergs and L. Reitere's created *Īs ventiņ gramatik un vārdnic jeb „bliņķs” ventiņmēle* (2010).

There are gathered some Latvian authors written works in Liv dialect;<sup>1</sup> as well as it has included a little dialect grammar, after each chapter there are added also practical tasks (for example, Grīnbergs & Reitere 2010: 12, 5, 19). In the second part of the book there is a little dictionary (Grīnbergs & Reitere 2010: 23-47) where there are words arranged according to thematic groups, for example, *All around the man, Nature, Beautiful words*, as well as separate expressions in dialect are included. However it is possible to notice some linguistic and orthographic inaccuracies, it should be noted that this little dictionary is an important contribution in Latvian dialect lexicography, because it is the first popular science (also one of the first thematic) dialect dictionaries, which represent culture historic district of Kurzeme.

In 2011 there was published another dictionary of dialect of Eastern part of Latvia *Latvian-Latgalian dictionary (Latgaliešu-latviešu vārdnīca. Vīna cylvāka specvuorduojs)* by V. Lukaševičs, where there are gathered 4000 words. Author himself shows that it is popular science dictionary, because author created it as an enthusiast, not as linguist, it is also not a certain dialect dictionary, but it reflects compiler's "inter-dialects" compilation (about it, see Magazeins 2011: 15-16).

Latgalian dialect lexicon is included in electronic dictionary *Latvian-Latgalian dictionary (Latviešu-latgaliešu vārdnīca)*, which work version was published in 2012 (available online <http://vuordineica.lv/>), but which is still being added up with new lexemes. It is special with that it is the first electronic dialect dictionary in Latvian dialect lexicography, as well as there the entry word is written in Latvian literary language, but translation is given in the dialect of Eastern part of Latvia in Latgalian, as well as there are given additionally word registrations in different literary or linguistic materials. At the moment there are included 21270 words (more <http://vuordineica.lv/>).

Attention is being drawn to dictionaries, which aim is not to become dialect dictionaries, but where there is dialect lexicon included. One of such dictionaries in Latvian linguistics is eclectic non-academic *Latvian language dictionary or district dictionary (Neakadēmiskā latviešu valodas vārdnīca jeb novadu vārdene)* (2007) by J.

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<sup>1</sup> Liv dialect is one of three Latvian language dialects. Liv dialect is characterized with a strong Liv language substrate: the end syllables and suffix syllables are shortened, the same as languages, there are not grammatical gender [...] (Skujina *et al.* 2007: 214).

Kursīte. As it is mentioned by Dz. Hirša this: “dictionary is a value because firstly it is an intelligent person’s point of view on language and secondly lexemes are activated even to linguistic products value, which gives its own contribution in Latvian language in language market” (Hirša 2007: 2).

J. Kursīte accents the peculiarities of her dictionary by writing: “In academic dictionary all dots should be put on all letters “i”. Non- academic dictionaries in some places can be left out without dots on “i”, but also deliberately not included. [...] At the same time this is not a literary language dictionary, but also it is not dialect dictionary” (Kursīte 2007: 5).

In 2009 J. Kursīte’s *Tautlietu vārdene* (2009) is being published, where all is included that can be attributed to nation’s traditions in very different ways: 1) spiritual conceptions, 2) material conceptions, 3) social and family, material conceptions (more Kursīte 2009: 6-8).

However there is already a lot done in Latvian lexicography, in the nearest future it seems there should be focusing on both formation of one dialect (some villages) dictionaries, as well as popular science dictionaries should be created, because there are tasks to be done easier and faster, as well as it should be worked parallel of creation of dialect dictionaries.

## **2. The future perspectives of Latvian language lexicography**

In the world there are old traditions of dialect dictionaries, dialect dictionaries in Europe have been encountered at least since 17th century, where there was issued *The dictionary of Bavaria (Glossarium Bavaricum, 1689)*, which is not only the beginning of Bavaria dialectology, but it is as well one of the oldest dialect dictionaries in German speaking region (Niebaum 1979: 345; Bayern als Vorreiter.. 1997/98: 6; Löffler 2009: 15-17).

Latvian dialect lexicography does not have such rich roots; it has several development possibilities, which can be promoted by the experience of foreign dialect lexicography (also Markus- Narvila 2012: 107-130).

While looking at dialect dictionaries, that were created abroad, it is possible to conclude that their differences can be characterized, according to different criteria are used as such characteristics as lexical material quantity (lingvo statistics), geographic criteria, social criteria- the amount of story tellers, their relative bonds and so on.

Frequently the connection of several mentioned criteria are used in dictionaries.

An important role in dialect lexicography should be given to Diaspora or language island dictionaries, which are actual research object, e.g. in Austrian and German lexicography. Also Latvian linguistics can be talked about Diaspora language research and creation of dictionaries, this issue is actual, for example, in Sventoji, Butinge (since 1921, March 20, this territory is included in Lithuania according to Latvia- Lithuania border convention) or connected to Latvian language being spoken in Siberia. Separate language compilations in small dictionaries could be made also among Latvians living in the USA, Australia, Germany, and Sweden.

Special interest about such type of dictionaries is created also from sociolinguistic point of view in connection to the inclusion of inhabitants in new society and dialect functions in it, as well as its different social factors influence on dialect: inhabitants integration in local society, its unanimity, religious and culture life traditions and so on.

The compiler of the dictionary has the possibility to choose also completely different, peculiar and individual way, how it is being done by J. Korolova. Author has created one family dictionary (*Диалектный словарь одной семьи*, 2000). In the mentioned dictionary the story tellers were her family- grandmother, grandfather, brother, godmother and her husband (Королёва 2000, I: 5). Usually in the creation of dictionary wider amount of story tellers are questioned, although also a family language as the main source was used for more than one lexicography work (Laumane 2004, 200). The created dictionary by J. Korolova is special also with that there unlimitedly was used place names and onomastics lexicon, as well as there are used folklore materials (proverbs, sayings, riddles and others). It was important for author to include in this dictionary also religious lexicon and all noticed phrasal verbs and comparison structures (Королёва 1999: 99-102; Королёва 2000, I: 8-13).

Taking into account the peculiarities of Latvian geopolitics, also life dynamics of 20/21st centuries and other tendencies, in the viewpoint of Latvian researchers could be also idiolect research, which in 21st century is actual in Russia; there were created several idiolect dictionaries, e.g. *The Dialect Dictionary of Personality* (Диалектный словарь личности, 1971) by V. Timofejeva, *The Dialect Personality Dictionary* (Словарь диалектной личности, 2000) by V. Lutikova and others (more Диалектные (областные) словари; Нефедова 2008: 44-45). Also E. Nefedova mentions that: “the necessity to set research modern dialect dynamics, sources, resources and varying means in the foreground if linguistic research promotes idiolect carrier” (Нефедова 2008: 44). This and similar type of dictionaries as basics offer expressivity, e.g. in *The Dialect personality expressive dictionary* (Экспрессивный словарь диалектной личности, 2001) by E. Nefedova, was included about 1400 expressive units, out of which more than 300 are individual creations (Нефедова 2001: 2).

In Latvia such dictionaries could be actual for researchers, because it gives new research possibilities; also to society it reveals the importance of each individual in the research of local dialect.

The compilers of dictionaries are looking for peculiar midways and combines several criteria or trying to find new, unprecedented approach to dialect lexicography. It is proved by several dictionary titles and also lexicon selected for dictionary, for example, *The dictionary of Pskov district with historic data* (Псковский областной словарь с историческими данными, 1967-2008), which is full type regional historic dictionary (Псковский областной словарь.. 1967: 6, 7). Such compromise is being searched by the authors of *The dictionary of Turava* (Турайські слоўнік 1982-1987) and they point out traditional lexicon full dictionary (Турайські слоўнік 1982: 5, 9, 16).

Similar is B. Sychta's *Dictionary of Koceva in nation culture light* (Słownictwo Kocięskie na tle kultury ludowej, 1980). There are included typical words for districts, also wide range of additional materials – poems written in dialects, saying, and riddles and so on.

Foreign linguists specially accent the role of thematic dictionary in dialect lexicography (also Ананьева 2006: 9-16); there have been issued different thematic dictionaries, for example, H. Gel have prepared *Dictionary of the titles of clothes*

creating of Danube Swabians (*Wörterbuch der donauschwäbischen Bekleidungsgewerbe*, 2005) and others. There were such dictionaries created in Russian lexicography *The meteorological lexicon of Orlov dialects* (*Словарь метеорологической лексики Орловских говоров*, 1997), *The dialect dictionary of Orlov* (*Словарь Орловских говоров*, 1989-1996), that was issued in five volumes. *Dialect thematic dictionary of Tver district* (*Тематический словарь говоров Тверской области*, 2003-2006), where lexicon was collected in more than 20 thematic groups and 160 sub groups ((*Тематический словарь..*, 2003: 5) and others.

In Latvian lexicography until now this function was done by separate monographs, where there were given word explanations, illustrative examples, given the registration place of lexeme and so on, for example, *Fish names in Latvian language* (*Zivju nosaukumi latviešu valodā*, 1973) by B. Laumane, *Craft lexicon in different dialects of the South of Latgale and its connection to corresponding titles in Slavic language* (*Amatniecības leksika dažās Latgales dienvidu izloksnēs un tās sakari ar atbilstošajiem nosaukumiem slāvu valodās*, 1975) by A. Reķēna, *Latvian language flora titles* (*Latviešu valodas augu nosaukumi*, 2003) by A. Ozola, I. Ēdelmane, *Golden rain was falling gently* (*Smalki lija zelta lietūs*, 2007) by B. Laumane, *Dairy titles. Dairy products in Latvian language* (*Piena vārdi. Piena produktu nosaukumi latviešu valodā*, 2007) by B. Bušmane, *Fence titles in Latvian language* (*Žogu nosaukumi latviešu valodas izloksnēs*, 2008) by I. Kurzemiece. The creation of thematic dictionaries in Latvian language should be actualized and intensified, it is pointed out by B. Bušmane: "In Latvian dialect lexicography along there are combined dialect dictionaries, separate dialect, respective dialect group dictionary elaboration would be preferable to aggregate the dialect, resp. Dialect qualities in lexical thematic groups" (Bušmane, Hirša et al. 2009: 155).

Similar also including aspect dictionaries. In Latvian lexicography this given field is represented by M. Putniņa and A. Timuška's *Dialect comparison dictionary of Sinole* (2001, about it previously L.M-N). Broad experience there is of these dictionaries in Russian, German dialect lexicography, comp. Dictionaries: *Dialect Phraseology dictionary of Siberia Russian* (*Фразеологический словарь русских говоров Сибири*, 1983), where there is included 7000 phraseology units from which the main part

creates individual phraseology (Федоров и. д. 1983: 3, 4); A. Anikins (А. Аникин) has prepared the dictionary of about 4000 entries *Siberia dialect etymology dictionary: loans from the Urals, the Altai, Paleo Asia* (Этимологический словарь русских диалектов Сибири: Заимствования из уральских, алтайских и палеоазиатских языков, 1997, repeated edition 2000), which was the first finished etymology dictionary in East Slavic lexicography (Журавлев 2001a: 250); K. Demidova (К. Демидова) has prepared *The systematic dialect dictionary of everyday cultural words' titles of Sverdlovsk district's Talica region* (Системный словарь предметно-обиходной лексики говоров Талицкого района Свердловской области, 1986), there are words included, that are referred to 12 thematic groups: clothes, fruit, healing plants, vegetables, indoor plants, materials, weeds, berries, food, wild plants that can be used as food, dishes, water plants (Демидова 1986: 10).

There are such dictionaries in German speaking countries lexicography, for example, M. Mongold's *Inverse dictionary of Saarbrücken: rhyming and inverse dialect dictionary of Saarbrücken* (*Saarbrücker rückläufiges Wörterbuch: Reimwörterbuch und Rückläufiges Wörterbuch der Saarbrücker Mundart*, 1986) or E. Braun's *Homonym dictionary of Saarbrücken* (*Saarbrücker Homonymwörterbuch*, 1989), where there were German pairs of homonyms of articles, substantives, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections (Braun 1989: 13-92). The experience of creation of this dictionary is adoptable and continual in Latvia.

The non academic or popular science dialect dictionaries are common in dialect lexicography. This dictionary formation method can be developed also in Latvian dialect lexicography (about popular science type dialect dictionary in Latvian lexicography mentioned before). As 21st century demands that the necessary information for every person would be given as fast as possible, making readers interested and getting their attention, this dictionary type is possible to be created, with many thanks to the speakers of local dialects – enthusiasts, because such type dictionaries might not have such strict regulated formation, principles, because their main task is the fixation of lexeme. But it does not mean that their meaning would be less important, on the contrary – with its simplicity it could be more preferable for readers.

The importance of these dictionaries is proven by its rather big amount of foreign lexicography, comp., for example, dictionaries: *South Tyrol- German lexicon. Dictionary and supplementary aid in transaction for foreigners, tourists and immigrants* (*Lexikon Südtirolerisch-deutsch. Wörterbuch und Übersetzungshilfe für Fremde, Touristen und Zugereiste ausgewählt und mit Zeichnungen von Hanspeter Demetz*, 1999), and in its introduction it is mentioned that: “it is not scientific dictionary. It is a research move through our word stock, which is originated from our own word stock, accidentally heard on the streets and pubs, created from jargon spoken by youth and acquaintances [...]” (Demetz 1999: 6); H. Prünster’s *Are you God blessed? My Tyrol dictionary. A cheerful guide into South Tyrol dialect* (*Griaß di? Mein Tiroler Wörterbuch. Lustiger Sprachführer der Tiroler Mundart*, 2003), where the translation part is supplemented by peculiar caricatures, attracting reader’s attention, as well as with additional information about Tyrolean dialect grammar, practical expressions and so on (more Prünster 2003: 5-49); similarly created is H. Bruckner’s *From A to Z in the dialect of Most Quarter* (*Most Viertel. The Western and middle dialect of Lower Austria* (*Mostviertlerisch von A bis Z. Mundart aus dem westlichen und mittleren Niederösterreich*, 1999), in: “The speed in which our native language is disappearing is scary. This book is (most probably unlucky) a try to resist this fashion and our dialect to be put in all mouths. At least in this book it should be preserved” (Bruckner 1999, 4. Cover).

As Latvian language dialect network is small, also the amount of people speaking them is relatively small, this kind of popular science dictionary elaboration should help to maintain the interest about local dialect, it also would be valuable historic evidence for next generations.

In foreign dialect lexicography attention is paid to elaboration of dictionaries or digitalization of already existing dictionaries, where there are active work by for example, university staff of Trier, who are realising project *The digital compilation of dialect dictionary* (more: <http://germazope.uni-trier.de/Projekte/DWV>). Also in Latvia the digitalization of dictionaries in an actual issue in website [www.tezaurs.lv](http://www.tezaurs.lv) there are several digitalized dictionaries, but none of them are dialect dictionaries (about electronic *Latvian-Latgalian dictionary* mentioned before), that is why this process is



preferably actualized, because it is what way dictionaries would be available for wider amount of people who are interested.

Not always it can be unequivocally said what type of dictionary should be better created, for example, E. Kagaine points out that “the choice of dictionary type is set by objective factors [...], as well as known subjective considerations [...]. For example, if [...] is rather broad material and the idea is to more or less generally characterize dialect lexicon, semantics, then [...] appropriate could be non-differential dictionary on the other hand, if this project is connected mostly with revelation of dialect peculiarities, then [...] appropriate could be differential dictionary, if material amount is rather small, limited, meaning and use explanations [...]” (Kagaine 2005c: 322)

Of course in foreign dialect lexicography there is prepared many more different interesting dictionaries that attract information: there is a Russian linguistics *dialectal historic dictionaries*, for example, G. Hristosenko (Г. Христосенко) and L. Lubimova's (Л. Любимова) created dictionaries *Materials for regional historic business-like documents of 17th-18th century of Nercinska* (*Материалы для регионального исторического словаря Нерчинских деловых документов XVII-XVIII вв*, 1997-1998), *Dictionary of Russian (nation) dialect of Siberia in the first half of 17th-18th century* (*Региональный исторический словарь нерчинских деловых документов XVII-XVIII вв*, 1997-1998) which would be possible to develop also in Latvia's lexicography, in dialect dictionaries including already issued dialect text and description excerpts, as well as dictionary materials of earlier times (K. Mīlenbahs and J. Endzelīns *Latvian language dictionary* and other materials); rather often also *belief (religious belonging)* is a feature that was put as a I. Grek-Pabisowa and I. Maryniakowa's created dictionary *The dialect dictionary of old believers living in Poland* (*Słownik gwary starowierców mieszkających w Polsce*, 1980), similar dictionary was also created in Russian dialect lexicography: *Dialect dictionary of Transbaikalian region* (*Словарь говоров старообрядцев (семейских) Забайкалья*, 1999), which is a differential type explanatory dictionary with about 8000 explained lexemes (including variants), the specifics of dictionaries contains word thematic group, which is rarely met in different dictionaries or is not reflected in those, for example, the lexicon of religion or cult sphere. Whereas words that are directly connected to old believers uniqueness is 10%

of total amount of the existing word amount (Журавлев 2001b: 259, Коготкова 2000); there are also dialect dictionaries which *in the basis of research region is some important object* such as under the guidance of A. Gerda Seliger: *materials in Russian dialectology. The dictionary* (: *Материалы по русской диалектологии: Словарь*, 2003-2007). Seliger – they are 23 lakes, 165 islands, tens of bays, branches of rivers and water territory; this region not once has attracted the attention of linguists and researchers of local history (there were descriptions, linguistic atlas, archaeological and anthropologic researches created, about it Селигер... 2003: 3-4).

As it was mentioned before one of the most important tasks of Latvian lexicography is to create joint dialect dictionary, the work of which has already begun in 2005, but in future in Latvian dialect lexicography also the dialect groups or one dialect lexicon aggregation in dictionary should be developed and strengthened.

It is to be taken into consideration for example, the experience of Lithuania, where there are regularly created dictionaries, that contains separate dialect groups or only some dialects, comparing V. Vitkauskas' *Dialect dictionary of North dunininki* (*Šiaurės rytų dūnininkų šnektų žodynas*, 1976), which is the first dialect dictionary issued in Lithuania (Jakaitienė 2005, 116); in 2005 there was a *Dialect dictionary of Dieveniski* (*Dieveniškų šnektos žodynas*, 2005) by L. Grumadienė, D. Mikulėnienė, K. Morkūnas, A. Vidugiris and others.

#### 4. Conclusion

As it can be according to the examined dictionary material, dialect dictionary can be different in quantity and in qualitative way the peculiarity of dialect dictionaries is that in them not always the most important is the quality or scientific quality or precision; lexicographer has to create them so that the dictionaries are interesting, exciting and can attract the attention of readers. It is also not possible to talk about common access in the creation of dialect dictionary, because the work at dialect dictionary is process full of research and findings that is why the author can approach each new dictionary in a creative way, because also E. Wandl-Vogt points out that the

most essential that is necessary for the elaboration of dialect dictionaries, is “patience, intuition and creativity” (Wandl-Vogt 2009: 10). Mainly each dictionary should aspire to the users of given dialect, it should fill him with the understanding about how important and peculiar is his spoken dialect, that he/she should not be ashamed of it, but to be proud.

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