

WOLFGANG MIEDER

INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEW AND
REPRINTED PROVERB COLLECTIONS

For Rev. Joseph G. Healey

During this past year another 89 paremiographical publications have been added to my International Proverb Archives at the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont (USA). This means that I am adding one new collection every four days, and it is always with much pleasure and excitement that I receive these books from all corners of the world. As always, some of them have been published decades ago while others are reprints of earlier collections. Of course, there are also many new collections of proverbs, proverbial expressions, quotations, and other phraseological units that have appeared during the year 2014. By now I have assembled almost 4,000 collections from various languages and cultures that include monumental scholarly works as well as small collections for the popular market. All of them register the rich treasure trove of preformulated language that informs our oral and written communication.

During a visit with Valerii Mokienko and Harry Walter in the summer of 2014 at the University of Greifswald at Greifswald, Germany, I discovered and copied Adolf Eduard Graf's significant *1200 neue russische Sprichwörter. Aufgezeichnet nach der grossen sozialistischen Oktoberrevolution* (1963) that I had not come across before. Let me also mention Annelies Häcki Buhofer's massive *Feste Wortverbindungen des Deutschen. Kollokationswörterbuch für den Alltag* (2014) that includes much proverbial material. The same is true for William Walsh's *Hand-Book of Literary Curiosities* (1892; rpt. 1966), another significant resource that had escaped me. But the following two books also deserve to be singled out as especially valuable new publications: Liwei Jiao and Benjamin Stone, *500 Common Chinese Proverbs and Colloquial Expressions* (2014) and Janice Raymond, *Mongo-*

lian Proverbs. A Window into Their World (2014). In any case, this annual bibliography is once again solid proof that paremiography and phraseography prosper everywhere.

I would like to dedicate this bibliographical compilation to Rev. Joseph G. Healey. We have been good friends ever since we met in October of 1995 during an Interdisciplinary Symposium on the African Proverb in the 21st Century at the University of South Africa in Pretoria, of which the proceedings were edited by Willem Saayman as *Embracing the Baobab Tree. The African Proverb in the 21st Century* (1997). An outgrowth of this unforgettable conference was the creation of the African Proverbs Working Group that Father Healey has led for the past twenty years. One of this group's goals is the collection and publication of African proverbs from languages for which no such compilations exist. By now numerous collections of usually 100 richly annotated proverbs from small and endangered regional African languages have been published in Nairobi, Kenya. As has been the case for some time, the present bibliography also contains several such invaluable and truly unique collections. They register proverbs that would be lost due to the disappearance of such languages that are spoken by ever smaller numbers of native speakers. We thus owe a great debt to Joseph Healey and his hard-working group of field researchers for registering and saving these important proverbs. Some day we shall have a giant data-base of thousands of African proverbs that will unlock the wealth of proverbial wisdom from the large African continent. In the meantime let me refer you to the website www.afriprov.org and Rev. Healey's e-mail address JGHealey@aol.com for further information. Thank you, Father Joseph Healey, for everything you have done for African paremiography.

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