

EDITORS' PREFACE

Dear friends,

We are pleased to present the second issue of our journal — and the first to appear in 2026. The contributions included in this issue deal mainly with Finland and Karelia, as well as the Vepsian region. The majority of them are historical in focus, ranging from the early modern period to the mid-twentieth century, but archaeology, historical geography, and especially linguistics — above all the study of the Vepsian and Karelian languages — are also represented. Nordic literatures and languages, which are important to us, have not been forgotten either, although we must admit that they received less space in this issue than they deserve.

This issue includes only one book review, although we hope there will be more in the future. It is devoted to a recent Russian translation of Teemu Keskisarja's study of the Russo-Swedish War of 1741–1743. The publication of a contemporary Finnish work on early modern history in Russian translation is rather rare, which makes this an especially interesting case.

We have decided to revive the “Bibliography” section that once existed in *The Nordic and Baltic Studies Review*. In this issue, it commemorates the anniversary of Nina G. Zaitseva, one of the foremost scholars of the Vepsian language.

Two other anniversary pieces are dedicated to two scholars of particular importance to us: Tatjana N. Jackson, a member of our editorial board who provided invaluable assistance in preparing the first issue, and Irina R. Takala, the founder and editor-in-chief of *The Nordic and Baltic Studies Review*. Without the experience accumulated through the publication of that journal, our journal could hardly have come into existence. One of the articles published in this issue was also written by Dr. Takala.

Overall, the “Academic Life” section has turned out to be quite substantial, which we tend to interpret as a good sign.

Sadly, this issue also includes an obituary, as we were compelled to respond to the sorrowful news of the passing of Antti Laine, a well-known scholar from Joensuu who made a significant contribution to the study of twentieth-century Karelian history and was a friend of many historians in Petrozavodsk.

Irma Mullonen

Alexander Tolstikov

Alexander Krivonozhenko

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(Transl. by Alexei Golubev)