

Response to the review of Idström, Anna & Sosa, Sachiko (eds.) (2009) *Kielissä kulttuurien ääni* [The voice of cultures is in the languages], reviewed by Kalle Korhonen in *SKY Journal of Linguistics*, vol. 23 (2010), pp. 351–355.

Response written by Maria Kela

I was delighted to notice that volume 23 of *SKY Journal of Linguistics* included a review by Kalle Korhonen of the publication *Kielissä kulttuurien ääni*, and I curiously read through the review – of course focussing on what was said about the article I had contributed to the publication. To my astonishment, in the eleven lines where my article is discussed, the reviewer manages to present two peculiar “facts” that cannot be found from my article – and to top of it all – that are totally untrue.

First, Korhonen claims that I took the metaphor ‘horns of Moses’ as an example of a difficult biblical metaphor. I did not, because such a metaphor does not exist in the whole Bible. The metaphorical ‘horn’ has its origin in the shape of the ancient Jewish altar where the sacrifices were carried out – it has nothing to do with the appearance of Moses. Korhonen may have been thinking of the famous mistranslation by Saint Jerome in Vulgata (405), where Exodus 34:29 seems to suggest horns to Moses, who is descending Sinai. The Finnish Old Testament translations (1642, 1776, 1933, 1992) never repeated this lapse and thus this mistranslation is not included in my corpus.

Second, he suggests having read from my article that the phrase *Ihmisen Poika* (‘Son of Man’) “has disappeared from the most recent Finnish Bible translation” (p. 352). This is of course not true and by no means have I ever presented such a claim. A quick check from the electronic Bible tells that there are at least 78 occurrences of *Ihmisen Poika* in the newest edition of the Finnish-language Bible (1992).

As a review editor of the oldest Finnish linguistic quarterly, *Virittäjä*, I know that the process of producing literary reviews often demands active dialogue between the reviewer and the review editor. Unfortunately it seems to me that this time there has been a gap in the process.

## References

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