



Press Release

Available once more:

Variantenwörterbuch des Deutschen (Dictionary of German Variants)

Berlin, February 11, 2005

After the first print run of 2,500 copies sold out completely in less than 4 weeks, the *Variantenwörterbuch des Deutschen* (Dictionary of German Variants) is once more available in bookstores. Filled with more than 12,000 words and idioms illustrating the richness of the German language, this novel reference work is right now one of a kind - the amount of interest it has so far garnered proving that dialectology is definitely 'in'.

Not everywhere in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, East Belgium, and South Tyrol is the way German is spoken and understood the same. Whether the whipping cream served with one's cake is *Rahm* or *Sahne* certainly depends on where one's sitting. And what is true for food is just as common for pleasantries, professions, household items, and other terms. It is the region and its dialect that determines the word - and often the meaning.

The *Variantenwörterbuch des Deutschen* is of groundbreaking scientific importance, not only for German lexicography, but for the entire field of linguistics. It is a reference work that has immense practical value for translators, authors, and teachers alike; for students of German, as well as, those studying *Deutsch als Fremdsprache* (German as a foreign language); not to mention, readers who enjoy German literature in the original. Linguists, as well as people with an avid interest in folklore will find the *Variantenwörterbuch des Deutschen* a valuable source of reference filled with an abundance of informative and amusing entries, whether it be the regional term for stickler in Germany (*Korinthenkacker*), Austria (*Tüpfelreiter*), and Switzerland (*Tüpfelscheisser*) or figuring out what to call a desk jockey in Berlin and Vienna (*Bürohengst*) or Bern (*Bürogummi*).

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