



Runic script is unrelated to the Rovas. This fact was clearly demonstrated by several researchers, e.g. Györffy, István & Harmatta, János (1997): *Rovásírásunk az eurázsiai írásfejlődés tükrében* [Our Rovas script in the perspective of Eurasian script evolution], pp. 145–162. In Györffy, György (chief ed., 1997): *Honfoglalás és nyelvészet* [Magyars' Landtaking and the Linguistics]. Ed.: Kovács László és Veszprémy László, Budapest: Balassi Kiadó, especially page 156.

The script named *Runic* (Unicode range: 16A0-16FF) has several variants as orthographies: *Elder Futhark*, *Gothic Runes*, *Anglo-Saxon futhorc* (*Rök runes* and *Hälsinge runes*), and *Scandinavian runes* (*Markomannic runes*, *Medieval runes*, and *Dalecarlian runes*). All of them are close relative to each other. A. Stötzner proved the Germanic root of *run-* in Unicode mailing list on Friday November 7 2008: „... *Though we have the runic range named “Runic” & not “ Old Germanic” we have the old turkish ‘Runes’ named “Old Turkic” because \*run-\* is a germanic root & as such inappropriate to the turkish script. ...*” (Retrieved in 2010 from: <http://unicode.org/mail-arch/unicode-ml/y2008-m11/0107.html>).

Since the **Rovas** script with its various orthographies (e.g. Szekely-Hungarian Rovas, Carpathian Basin Rovas) is different from the Runic script, the Hungarian-origin term “**Rovas**” has to be used for naming it, and not the German-origin *rune* or *runic*.

It is noteworthy that scholars have examined the indirect relation of the Rovas script to the *Old Turkic* script as well (Sebestyén, 1909: 288; Németh, 1917-1920: 31-44; Ligeti, 1925: 50-52; Nagy, 1985: 269-276; Róna-Tas, 1994; Róna-Tas, 1996: 581; Sándor, 1996: 83-93; Hosszú 2012: *Fig. 3.1-1*). They resulted that the Old Turkic script is not an ancestor of the Rovas script; however, they are distance relatives.

## 2. Terminological conflict

In the paleography, the term “Old Hungarian” means the medieval version of the Hungarian orthography of the Latin script ([http://wiki.rovas.info/index.php/Old\\_Hungarian\\_script](http://wiki.rovas.info/index.php/Old_Hungarian_script)). In the linguistics, the “Old Hungarian” denotes the medieval age of the Hungarian language. These two meanings are coherent. Oppositely, the use of the term “Old Hungarian” to identify the Rovas script leads to serious terminological conflict. *Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7* demonstrate the correct use of the term “Old Hungarian” as the medieval Hungarian Latin orthography in different contexts.

Moreover, *Fig. 8* presents the incorrect use of the term “Old Hungarian script” in the English Wikipedia. In this context, the medieval Hungarian Latin orthography cannot be specified. Oppositely, in the Rovaspedia, there is no terminological conflict, see *Fig. 9*.

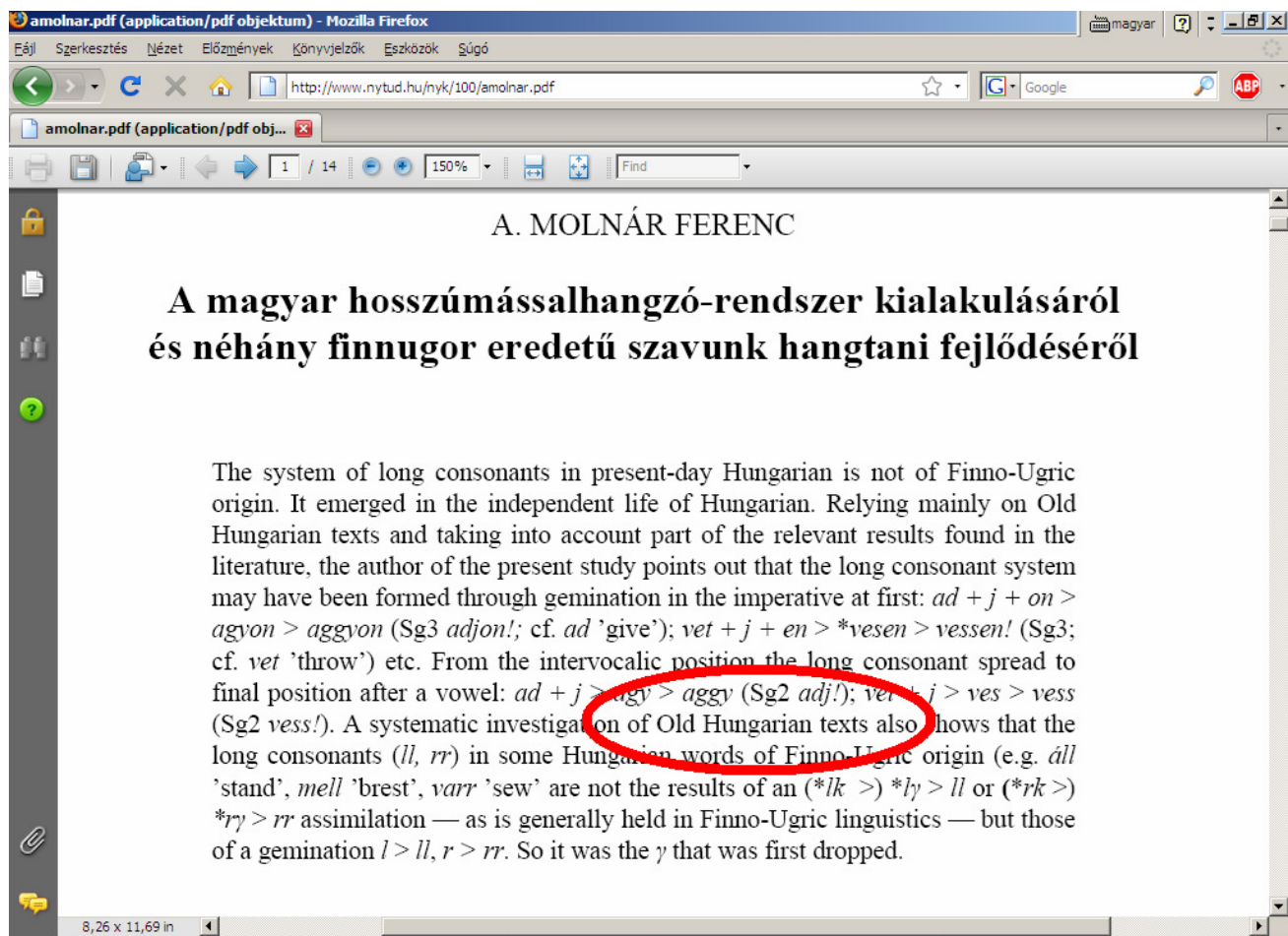


Figure 1: The use of the term “Old Hungarian” for medieval Hungarian Latin-based orthography (Molnár, A. Ferenc, 2003.)

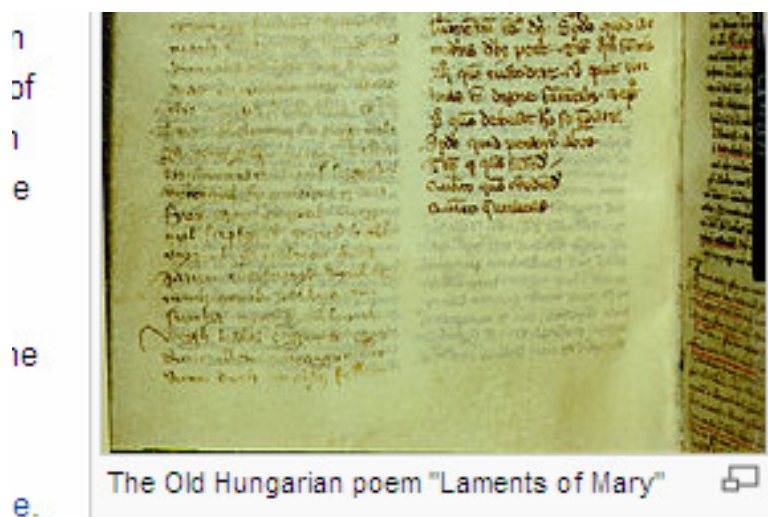


Figure 2: Old Hungarian poem from a codex in the English Wikipedia, written with Old Hungarian Latin-based orthography (Retrieved in July 4, 2011 from [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_the\\_Hungarian\\_language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Hungarian_language))

- Old Hungarian texts manually normalized by historical linguists (up to 20.000 tokens)
- 200 default  $M_i^j \rightarrow O_k^l, j = i + 1, l = k + 1, j = l$  one-to-one equivalent mappings

Figure 3: Using the term “Old Hungarian text” in a conference presentation: Csaba Oravecz, Bálint Sass, Eszter Simon: “Semi-automatic Normalization of Old Hungarian Codices”; the authors are from the **Research Institute for Linguistics**, Budapest (Retrieved in July 4, 2011 from [http://ilk.uvt.nl/LaTeX2010/LPF/4\\_slides.pdf](http://ilk.uvt.nl/LaTeX2010/LPF/4_slides.pdf))

**Dániel Szmerka: The land of priest John – notes on the sources of Saint Thomas apostle's legend**

The Carthusian Anonym's sermon collection written in Hungarian (1526-27) was primarily compiled by choosing texts from printed Latin sources available for the author. For the identification of these sources a close, word-for-word comparison of the possible source texts with the old Hungarian text is inevitable, because the results of our research group's previous works show that during the compilation our author selected texts remarkably carefully and knowingly for the Hungarian translation.

Figure 4: Using the term “Old Hungarian text” in the summary of a study in the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (Dániel Szmerka: The land of priest John – notes on the sources of Saint Thomas apostle's legend, Retrieved in July 4, 2011 from [http://sermones.elte.hu/?az=356tan\\_plaus\\_szdaniel](http://sermones.elte.hu/?az=356tan_plaus_szdaniel))

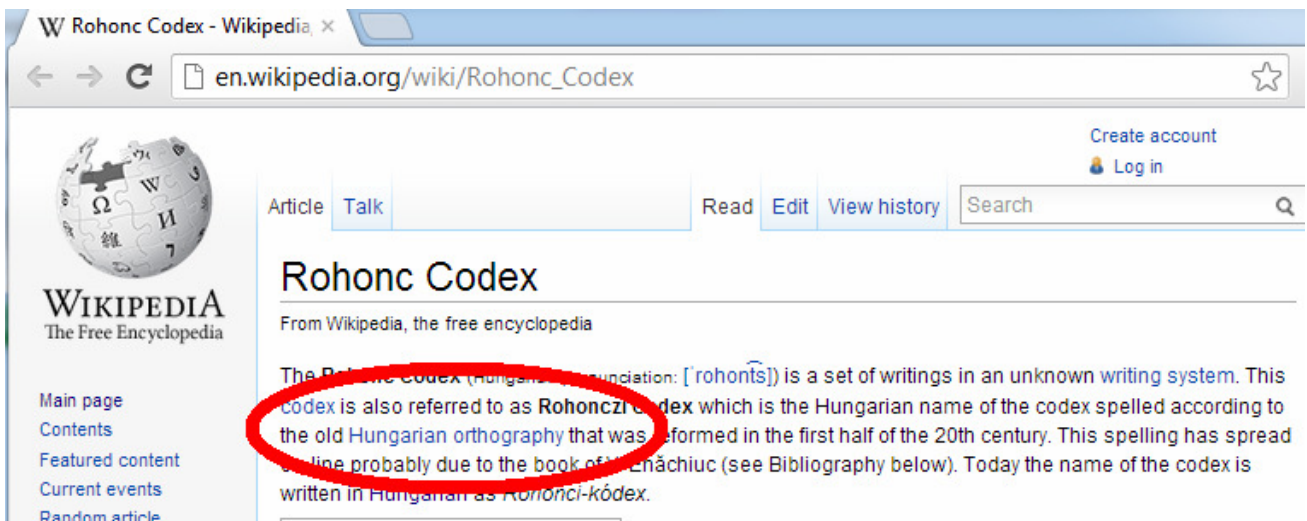


Figure 5: Wikipedia article: the name “Rohonczi” is written with Old Hungarian orthography (Retrieved in July 4, 2011 from [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rohonc\\_Codex](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rohonc_Codex))



spect reference is made to the Transylvanian genealogist Dénes Szabó's comment: "The family name Konkoly Thege has no relation to the plant r it originates from the village Konkol, which was located on the land of Matyus in Comorn County before the village was devastated by Turkish ently the name should be pronounced as "konkoli" rather than as "konkoj".

garian Academy of Science issued in 1930 revised rules of orthography. Here the letter "y" was used and the correct pronunciation was illustrate erebély". According to these orthographic rules, the "ly" should be pronounced as "li". In the old Hungarian orthography for family names, one u f "i" when the previous consonant was "l", "n" or "t" 4). In these cases the "y" should be pronounced "i".

be noted by those readers who do not speak Hungarian that there is a further element of distinction in the use of "y"/"y" instead of "i". The use o place name means "from" as well. However in most cases this does not indicate nobility. However, when "y" or "y" is added to a place name t hen, almost without exception, we are talking about a noble family.

Figure 6: Web page with the use of the term "Old Hungarian orthography" (Retrieved in July 4, 2011 from <http://konkoly-thege.com/enhist.html>)

Village with 2,500 inhabitants 15 km northwest of Miskolc on the southern part of the Cserehát range of hills Calvinist church, originally a Benedictine abbey where the Funeral sermon, the first old Hungarian text of some length was written (around 1200). The text was found in the Pray Codex. On the northern side of the church built from 1175 to 1180 in Romanesque style the remains of the monastery, while on the southern side the foundations of a round church with a 12 m diameter and in the church traces of a settlement from the so called Bükk culture of about 3000-2800 B.C. can be seen. Roman Catholic church of neoclassic style (1838-39).

Figure 7: Mention an Old Hungarian text in a web page (Retrieved in July 4, 2011 from <http://www.1hungary.com/info/boldva/>)

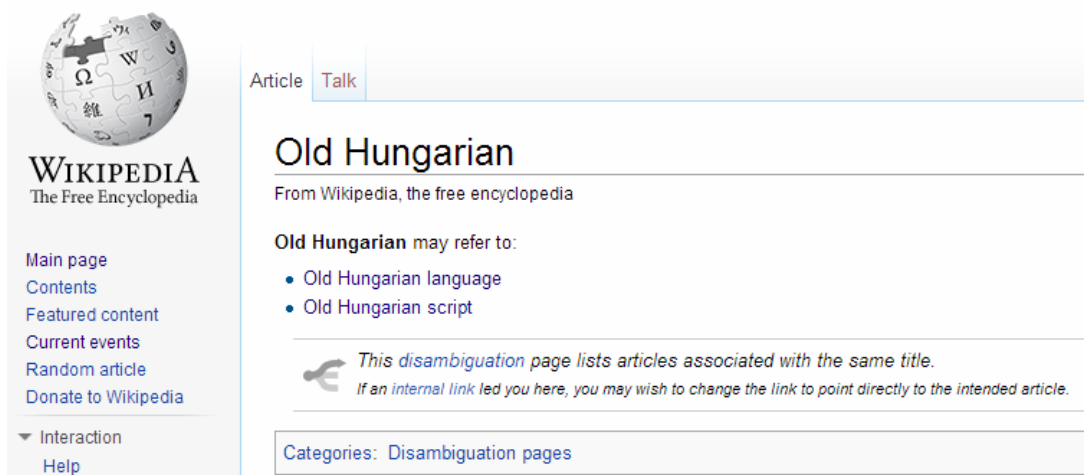


Figure 8: The confusion clearly appears on Wikipedia "disambiguation page".

The "Old Hungarian language" is linked to the correct article

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Hungarian\\_language#Old\\_Hungarian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Hungarian_language#Old_Hungarian);

however, the „Old Hungarian script" is linked to the page of Rovas script. Consequently, the medieval version of the Hungarian orthography of the Latin script cannot be specified in this context.

## Main Page

Rovaspedia has been launched. Check the leading articles:

- Hungarian scripts
  - Hungarian orthography of the Latin script
    - Old Hungarian orthography
  - Rovas script
    - Szekely-Hungarian Rovas
    - Carpathian Basin Rovas
    - Steppean Rovas
    - Rovas numbers
    - Rovas Punctuation Marks
  - Hungarian orthography of the Braille script
- Issues of encoding the Rovas script
  - Old Hungarian - the erroneous name for Rovas script
  - International Rovas terminology
  - The Rovas character names
  - Static and dynamic models in the Rovas paleography
  - Script Encoding Initiative (SEI) issues
  - ISO 15924 issues
- Rovas Atlas



Figure 9: The correct use of the terms “Old Hungarian” and the “Rovas” in the Rovaspedia, the Rovas-related information base. Retrieved in October 21, 2012 from <http://wiki.rovas.info>

### 3. The international use of the term Rovas

Table 1 presents the variants of the word “Rovas” in different languages. The contribution N4120 (2011-07-05, <http://std.dkuug.dk/jtc1/sc2/wg2/docs/n4120.pdf>) contains several examples for the international use of the word “Rovas” or its derivatives. In the following, some additional examples are added.

| Language          | Version of the word Rovas                  |
|-------------------|--|
| Albanian          | <i>rabush, labush</i>                      |
| Bulgarian         | <i>pавouи, pавyии, pовyии, pъвouи</i>      |
| Czech             | <i>rabuše</i>                              |
| Danish            | <i>Rovás Skriften</i>                      |
| Dutch             | <i>Rovasschrift</i>                        |
| French            | <i>le rovache</i>                          |
| German            | <i>die Rovás-Schrift</i>                   |
| Polish            | <i>rowasz</i>                              |
| Romanian          | <i>răvaș, răbuș, răboj, ráboș rábaș</i>    |
| Serbian, Croatian | <i>rovaš, ravaš, raboš, rabuš, r(e)vaš</i> |
| Serbian           | <i>pоvашкo нuсmо</i>                       |
| Slovakian         | <i>rováš</i>                               |
| Slovenian         | <i>rováš, rováša</i>                       |
| Ukrainian         | <i>pовauи</i>                              |

Table 1: Examples of the international use of the word *Rovas*



Figure 10: The use of the term “Rovas” in a web page in Dutch language. Retrieved in October 20, 2012 from <http://www.kaasenbrood.eu/Dunaszekcsocultuur.php>.



Figure 11: The use of the term “Rovas” in a web page in Dutch language. Retrieved in October 20, 2012 from <http://hongarije.startpagina.nl/prikbord/14076416/14077227/re-plaatsaanduiding-in-rovas->.

In der Innenstadt von **Miskolc** gibt es zahlreiche Möglichkeiten für eine Shoppingtour. Insbesondere in den Fußgängerzonen reihen sich die Geschäfte nacheinander, wodurch es mehr als genug Auswahl gibt. Mit der nostalgischen Straßenbahn kann man sich zum Beispiel auch die Universität von Miskolc ansehen. Schon am Stadieneingang wird man neben dem normalen Stadtnamen auch ein Schild mit seltsamen Symbolen entdecken. Dabei handelt es sich um die **Rovás-Schrift**, welche ungarische Runen sind. Sehr sehenswert ist auch die große Steinskulptur, die das Wappen von Miskolc repräsentiert und bis heute gut erhalten ist.

Figure 12: *Miskolc (Mischkolz)*. Web page in German language. Retrieved in October 20, 2012 from <http://www.urlaub-ungarn.at/regionen/staedte-ungarn/staedte-nordungarn/miskolc.html>.

- ≠ U+2760 ≠ U+301F
- U+201F &#8223; “ gespiegelteres Anführungszeichen rechts
  - Szekler-Ungaren Rovás-Schrift
  - U+2E42
- **Allgemeine Interpunktion**

Figure 13: *Unicode™ 6.2 Zeichen und Symbole auf Deutsch*. Web page in German language. Retrieved in October 20, 2012 from <http://rainer-seitel.onlinehome.de/unicode-de.html>.

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