



Commemorative naming practises in Finland

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Commemorative Naming

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Recommendations of the Place Names Committee of Helsinki

- In harmony with the resolution VIII/2
- A five year long waiting period after the individual's death
- Places cannot be named after public or private corporations still in operation
- Commemorative names shall not be gathered in dense groups within an area
- Adopted in 2004

Recommendations of the Institute for the Languages of Finland

- Gives guidance on name planning nationwide
- First guidelines on commemorative naming in 1980's in the journal for the language planning of Finnish named *Kielikello*
- Follows the recommendations of the Place Names Committee of the City of Helsinki
- Website:
http://www.kotus.fi/ohjeet/nimistonsuunnittelun_ohjeita/muistolistonimet_ja_nimikkopaikat

Commemorative naming in practice

- Enquiry concerning naming practises in municipalities in 1999
- 55% of the municipalities have sometimes given place names after living individuals
- Commemorative names are given to commemorate for example local politicians or officials, municipal managers, athletes or entertainers
- Renaming places that have commemorative names is relatively rare

Recent examples



Photograph: Pertti Nisonen. The city of Helsinki (August 20th 2015):

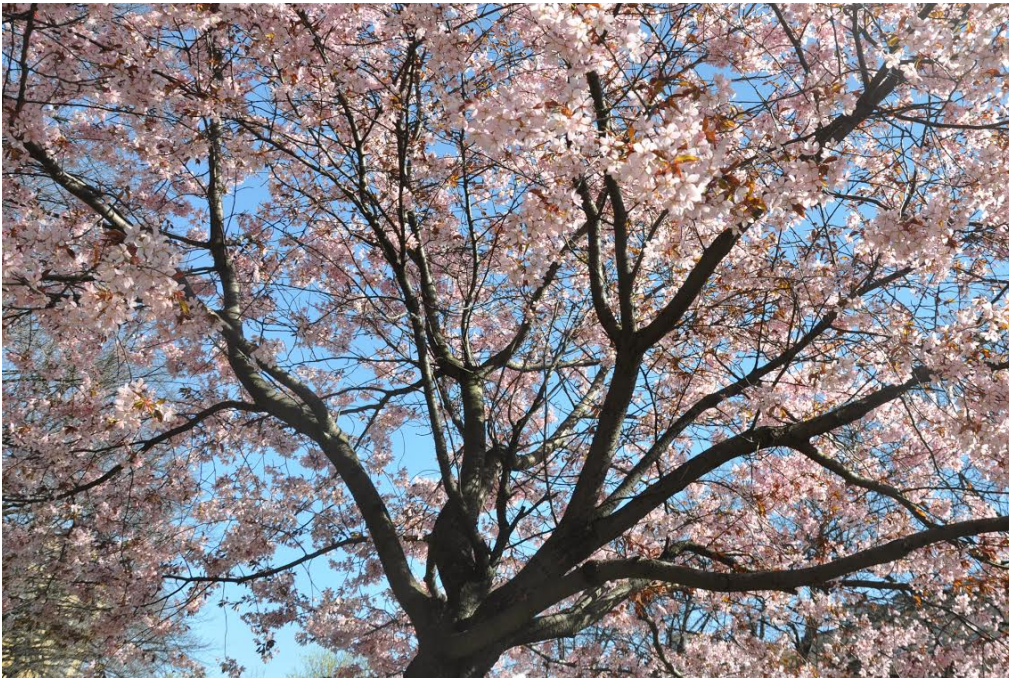
<http://www.hel.fi/www/uutiset/fi/kaupunginkansli/a/tarja-halosen-nimikkopuisto-avattiin>



The underground station *Kaisaniemi* will be renamed as *the University of Helsinki*. Speech bubble: "Here I am mum. Getting in was quite easy." *Helsingin Sanomat* (April 25th 2014)

Thank you!

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