ABSTRACT
This diploma thesis examines the colour terms hopea (‘silver’) and kulta (‘gold’) in Finnish place names. The aim is to find out about the distribution of the toponyms starting with Hopea- and Kulta- by type of place (e.g. oronyms, hydronyms, etc.) and about the motivation of naming in these place names, and also about possible similarities and differences based on the colour terms used as the specific part in these place names. The first part of this thesis provides the theoretical background of colour terms study in general and the situation of hopea and kulta used as colour terms in Finnish. The situation of Finnish toponomastics is also briefly introduced. In the second part, the Finnish place names starting with Hopea- and Kulta- are analyzed according to the type of place they refer to and according to the type of motivation that can be behind the naming.

Keywords: place names, colour terms, gold, silver, Finland, the Names Archive