



THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF STUDYING ONOMASTIC UNITS IN LINGUISTICS

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Abstract. *This article provides a comprehensive analysis of the classification and linguistic features of anthroponyms and toponyms based on the example of the Nurata district. The study examines the structural and semantic groups of anthroponyms, their formation factors, and their linguocultural significance. In addition, toponyms are classified into natural-geographical, ethnonym-based, anthroponym-based, and complex motivational types, and their lexical-semantic and morphological characteristics are revealed. The article also highlights the interrelation between anthroponyms and toponyms, as well as their connection with historical, cultural, and social processes within a specific region. The findings of the research serve as an important theoretical and practical resource for regional onomastics and linguocultural studies.*

Keywords: *anthroponym, toponym, onomastics, linguoculturology, ethnotoponym, semantics, Nurata district, naming system, etymology, linguistic features.*

Introduction. At the modern stage of linguistics, the issue of a comprehensive and systematic study of language units is of particular importance. In this regard, onomastic units — that is, the system of proper names — as an important component of the language, embody not only linguistic, but also historical, cultural and social aspects. The field of onomastics is aimed at studying the naming activity of mankind, its motivation and the laws of its development, and is one of the independent and complex areas of linguistics.

In today's globalization, the intensification of cultural and communicative ties between different peoples requires a deep and scientific study of onomastic units. Because proper names are an important means of reflecting the national identity of the language, through which the historical memory, worldview and mentality of the people are manifested. In particular, the study of the processes of formation and development of onomastic units, such as place names (toponyms), personal names (anthroponyms), and names of water bodies (hydronyms), serves to identify the internal laws of the language system.

The study of onomastic units is carried out theoretically based on various approaches. In particular, structural-semantic, etymological, functional and cognitive approaches allow for a deeper understanding of the essence of these units. At the same time, onomastic materials also serve as an important source for revealing the inextricable link between language and society. This creates the need to study this area not only within the linguistic framework, but also based on an interdisciplinary approach.

Literature analysis. The issue of studying onomastic units has emerged at the intersection of various scientific directions in modern linguistics and is recognized as a multifaceted object of research. Research in this area is primarily aimed at identifying the linguistic, semantic and functional characteristics of proper nouns in the language system.

The research work conducted by D.R.Isamova and A.A.Khaidarov sheds light on the issue of analyzing language units based on a literary text within the framework of the theory of linguopoetics. The authors substantiate the integration between language and literature and emphasize the importance of linguistic analysis in revealing the aesthetic function [1]. This approach allows us to interpret onomastic units not only as nominative units, but also as a means of carrying artistic and aesthetic cargo.

D.R.Umarova's research deeply analyzes the theoretical and practical aspects of onomastic units in the translation process. In particular, the use of such strategies as transliteration, adaptation and interpretation in the translation of anthroponyms, toponyms and ergonyms is justified [2]. The author pays special attention to the pragmatic and sociolinguistic features of onomastic units, showing that they are units that carry cultural connotations.

Sh.K.Niyazmetova's study analyzes the role of onomastic units in the phraseological system based on media texts. According to the author, the media not only preserve existing onomastic phraseologisms, but also actively influence the formation of new ones [3]. This indicates the dynamic nature of onomastic units and their inextricable connection with modern communicative processes.

In the work of U.Ismailov and B.Talibdzhanov, onomastics is interpreted as an independent field of linguistics, and its main sections - anthroponymics, toponymics, ethnonymics, etc. are systematically explained. Along with the identification function of proper nouns, researchers also pay attention to their hidden semantic and historical information-carrying properties [4]. This approach reveals the dual nature of onomastic units in terms of content and function.

The study conducted by M.N.Khusanova sheds light on the linguistic features of onomastic units and their role in the educational process. The author emphasizes the need to study onomastic units phonetically, morphologically, semantically and etymologically, and justifies their role in the formation of linguistic culture and national identity [5]. This shows that onomastic research has not only theoretical, but also practical significance.

G.Sh.Khusanova analyzes the stages of historical development of the direction of onomastics, highlighting the process of its formation as an independent scientific field from ancient times. The study provides a scientific explanation of the dual interpretation of onomastics - that is, as a set of proper nouns and as a science

that studies them [6]. The author also places special emphasis on revealing the sociolinguistic and cultural characteristics of onomastic units.

The above-analyzed scientific sources show that the theory of studying onomastic units is multidirectional and complex in nature. Among them, structural-semantic, linguocultural, pragmatic and translation approaches occupy a leading place. At the same time, the role of onomastic units in the language system, their social and cultural significance, and their functional properties in modern communicative processes still remain one of the urgent issues requiring in-depth research.

Main part. Onomastic units constitute a separate layer of the language system, and their linguistic nature differs from common nouns in a number of important aspects. First of all, proper nouns are characterized by the predominance of the nominative function, that is, they distinguish an object or phenomenon from other similar objects by naming it. At the same time, onomastic units often move away from their original lexical meaning and become an identification sign. However, this does not mean that they are completely “empty” semantically; on the contrary, they secretly retain historical, cultural and social information. In linguistics, various theoretical approaches have been developed to the study of onomastic units, among which structural-semantic, etymological, functional and linguoculturological directions occupy a special place. The structural-semantic approach analyzes the internal structure, formation models and semantic transformation of proper nouns. For example, many anthroponyms or toponyms are originally formed from common nouns, and over time they lose their original meaning and are formed as independent nominative units. This process is considered a natural result of language development.

The etymological approach is aimed at identifying the origin of onomastic units, the stages of historical formation and their root meanings. In particular, ancient toponyms and anthroponyms contain important information about the historical

migration of the people, their social structure and cultural ties. Therefore, onomastic materials often serve as an important source for historical-linguistic research.

Within the framework of the functional approach, the role of onomastic units in the speech process, their communicative functions and their role in the text are studied. Proper nouns participate in the text as a means of reference, refer to a specific object and ensure the clarity of speech. Especially in literary texts, onomastic units acquire an additional stylistic and aesthetic load and serve as an important tool in the formation of the author's individual style. In some cases, they also express a symbolic or allegorical meaning, which expands their linguopoetic possibilities.

The linguoculturological approach interprets onomastic units as a connecting element between language and culture. Each name reflects the worldview, values, and mentality of a particular nation. For example, personal names can express national traditions, religious views, or social ideals, while place names, along with geographical features, reflect historical events or ethnic factors. Therefore, onomastic units are considered important empirical material in linguoculturological research.

The internal structure of the onomastic system also has its own complexity. It is divided into various subsystems - anthroponymy, toponymy, hydronymy, ethnonymy, theonymy, etc. Each subsystem differs in its own laws of formation and functional features. For example, anthroponyms are determined more by social and cultural factors, while toponyms are formed in close connection with geographical, historical and ethnic factors.

In modern linguistics, the study of onomastic units is becoming interdisciplinary. In particular, new aspects of onomastic units are being discovered in the process of integration with the directions of sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics and pragmalinguistics. For example, when viewed from a sociolinguistic point of view, it is determined that the naming process is inextricably linked with the system

of social relations and values in society. The pragmalinguistic approach analyzes how onomastic units are used in accordance with the speech situation.

Also, globalization processes are having a significant impact on the onomastic system. As a result of increased contacts between different languages and cultures, new names are emerging, and some traditional naming models are changing. In particular, the introduction of foreign anthroponyms and ergonyms into the language, their phonetic and graphic adaptation, is becoming one of the important areas of modern onomastic research.

Conclusion. In conclusion, onomastic units are an important and unique component of the language system, and their study allows for a deeper understanding not only of the internal structure of the language, but also of its connections with society, history, and culture.

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