

TOPONYMS AS A CULTURAL VALUE HERITAGE

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ABSTRACT

From the earliest stages of the development of society, the world in which we live can be called the world of names, because almost every real object, from man himself to the objects of nature, has its own name. So the ancient toponyms seem to have been created by themselves because we do not know their creators and the language of creation.

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Geographic names originated in ancient times, their origins lie in primitive society. Creating them, man proceeded from the need to distinguish one place from another, be it a river, a mountain, a lake. Primitive man did not have a large lexical stock, so his possibilities in the process of assigning names were limited. He often called water, and a river, and a lake, and the sea, and a mountain - and a hill, and a hill, and a ridge, and just a hillock. This was the case at the dawn of human civilization. Geographic names have arisen during specific historical periods. They are chronological evidence of historical events. Toponyms changed over time in form, content, and spread depending on specific events in history. Wars, population migrations, ethnic contacts left their mark on toponymy. Each historical era was characterized by its own set of geographical names. Place names arose in specific historical conditions, their origin is closely related to the social life and languages of the peoples who inhabited or inhabited certain areas. Historical conditions, languages and peoples changed, their areas and, thus, the geographical environment of human habitation changed. Geographical names were formed in the process of a long and complex development of human knowledge, showing the attitude of people to everything natural around them, the need to name objects of the environment. This was still at an early stage in the development of human society. Place names are created by society and for the society itself, therefore, historical science is engaged in their research. Any geographical name is historical and is a cultural monument of every nation. A geographic name is never accidental. Society gives it. The place names capture the historical stages of the settlement of the territory, the economic activity of people, ancient migrations and interethnic contacts, historical, political and socio-economic changes, geographical features, signs of the area, including those that have now disappeared. The place names, as in a mirror, reflect the diversity of the natural environment, the diversity of landscapes.

They often serve as a source of rich and varied scientific information. They express external forms, specific features, quantity and quality, internal structure and essence, belonging, location and other essential properties and signs of natural and other objects. It is important to determine the sources of ancient names, which were both geographical objects and the names of nationalities, the names of people. Man is the only object that gives rise to different ways of naming. The importance of man, in comparison with natural objects, is due to the variety of his names. Here it is also worth paying attention to the multidimensional approach to the person himself. Ethnonymy studies the origin and functioning of the names of nations, peoples, tribes, tribal unions, clans and other ethnic groups. Since ethnonymy studies the history of ethnonyms, its data are important for solving the problems of ethnic history. The results of ethnonyms are used by historians, ethnographers, demographers, linguists, anthropologists, archaeologists to study the paths of ethnic migration, cultural and linguistic contacts and all issues related to the life of ethnic groups. Ethnonyms as ancient terms provide a lot of valuable historical and linguistic information. The toponymic system is a reflection of the elements of the material and spiritual culture of various peoples that have survived for many centuries. Place names as a relict heritage of past generations have brought important historical events, elements of spiritual culture, including ceremonies and rituals, and religious beliefs to us without change. The development of social relations and the spiritual image of society in any period of history depends on the material basis of the society itself. Consequently, the addition of toponymy as a valuable heritage of material and spiritual culture has a certain historical meaning. EAT. Pospelov wrote that "... historical geography" stood at the cradle of toponymy, and the first toponyms were historical geographers

"(9, 4). Indeed, historical geography and toponymy have a close relationship. The range of tasks of historical geography includes the identification and localization of ancient and medieval toponyms and hydronyms, the study of landscape changes, the direction of trade routes, the dynamics of the development of settlements, the density of their distribution and, consequently, the intensity of settlement of the region under study.

Within the framework of historical geography, those historical events that are associated with certain historical regions, with geographical names are also studied. The analysis of toponyms makes it possible to trace ethnic and migration processes, migration routes of peoples, peculiarities of contacts between different ethnic groups, to show the reason for the historical change of one ethnic group to another, to recreate the geographical conditions of the area, historical events, ethnolinguistic past and in general, to present the ethnocultural background. Archeology and toponymy as auxiliary disciplines of historical science, play a very important role in the study of ethnic relations. As a result of the excavations, many objects of material culture were found as tools of labor, clothing, dishes and other household items.

According to the information of linguistics, toponymy, anthropology, ethnology and folklore, it can be assumed that these objects were created by certain ethnic groups. Place names, like monuments of material culture, are very old. They have been preserved for hundreds of years and are an informant of the history of settlement and life of various peoples - their creators. Toponymy data help to resolve controversial issues of the ethnic history of peoples of a certain period, when the toponym was created (6, 43-44). In some cases, toponymic material contains more information than archaeological and written monuments and, acting as the primary source, gives unexpected results. Here a special place is occupied by ethnotoponyms, toponyms associated with monuments of material and spiritual culture, which reflect a certain part of people's lives. In ancient times, the first names were given to objects that were in the sphere of practical action of the local population. In the absence of permanent settlements, such objects were often water - rivers, lakes, streams. However, over time, the role of rivers in human life decreases, and ancient permanent settlements appear. They become the main landmarks, and many small rivers and streams already get their names from the names of the settlements. As with archaeological materials, it is very difficult to date place names. However, archaeological monuments, unfortunately, are mute: while telling about material culture and even about social relations, they are silent about the languages of the creators of these cultures (8, 86). It is very difficult to determine the language for creating toponyms.

Geographic names appear long before they are recorded in written sources. In some cases, it is impossible to find ancient toponyms in the sources, since they are not included there. The problem is that toponyms are created by different languages in accordance with the derivational models of the national language, but when they are pronounced or fixed in sources by representatives of other languages, they lose their original form. From a chronological point of view, the oral form of a toponym is basic and earlier, and its written form is a way of storing an oral word. which appeared later, with the development taking the form of a document. Historical conditions, including external factors, affect the development of society, which is reflected in the toponym and changing it and giving it a different form, thus contributing to the appearance of a double word. But, in most cases, the toponym word and the double word diverge, since the former, unlike the latter, remains unchanged in the new status. There are a number of reasons that ensure the stability of the toponym. These include: 1) the acquisition of a documented form; 2) the long-term existence of the geographical, which determines its stability; 3) connection with specific historical events and personalities; 4) the public significance of the object during the period of its naming; 5) the spread of the toponym to other territories. Place names, despite rooting in a certain territory, eventually penetrate into other places. At the same time, they change under the influence of local social or geographical and linguistic conditions, acquiring other features. They can spread to areas that are far beyond the area where they were created. This can be seen during the period of bilingualism in Maverannah: the spread of the Farsi language led to the disappearance of the Sogdian language - the language of literature and culture of the Sogdians. In toponymy, the fact is established that the habitat of a people, both in the present and in the past, can be determined using toponymic areas (1, 73). Toponymy acts as a valuable source.

The toponym becomes a kind of "language of the earth" and does not lend itself to falsification. As in archeology, in toponymy there are many layers belonging to different periods of time. Therefore, a historian who undertakes the study of historical toponymy should be wary of the results of the work of even recognized authorities in the field of linguistics and involve, if possible, the entire complex of available historical and geographical data. So, at first glance, it may seem that many place names recorded in written sources were created in Greek, Latin or Chinese. However, at their core, they are of Eastern Iranian or Turkic origin. The toponyms, about which the Chinese sources provide information, are usually tracings or

equivalents of local Turkic or Iranian-language names (10, 55). The correct etymologization of these names requires from the researcher even greater scrupulousness and comprehensive analysis. Any geographical name exists not only from the moment of its fixation in the sources. Hundreds, maybe thousands of years before that, it could function in oral speech. In addition, far from all ancient toponyms were recorded in written sources (2, 33). Toponymy is, first of all, a linguistic science. But when etymologizing toponyms, along with linguistic analysis, it is necessary to take into account the history of the people, the geography of the area, as well as the originality of the people's vision as a native speaker of the features of the area and geographical conditions. A purely linguistic approach without taking into account historical and geographical data does not always give a reliable etymology (7, 72). Therefore, toponymy is the subject of research not only for linguists, but also for historians and geographers.

The oldest place names in Central Asia are based on the Iranian languages. They survived throughout Central Asia, both on the plains and in the mountainous regions. However, S. Karaev, a toponymic researcher, writes that "... it cannot be argued that Iranian names are the most ancient in the region" (3, 96). He means those toponyms that were created by the local Turks of Central Asia in the era before the mass arrival of the Turkic ethnic groups. It should also be noted that at the moment it is impossible to determine the linguistic affiliation of many geographical names. The first place names began to form tens of thousands of years ago in the south of the northern hemisphere (4, 41). At present, due to the intensive development of research in the field of archeology, numismatics, linguistics and source studies, a huge amount of materials on Central Asia has accumulated. Along with this, toponymy and historical geography received great development. In this regard, the time has come for comprehensive research, which will require the use of information from various historical disciplines. One can agree with the opinion that due to the insufficient source base and scientific literature, many works in the field of etymological research suffer from relatively weak argumentation (5, 30). However, on the other hand, many European researchers can also be caught in one-sided views and unwillingness to take into account opposing opinions. Therefore, in our opinion, in the study of historical toponymy, all available data should be taken into account, including the works of philologists, who have the opportunity to take into account not only the data of historical linguistics, but also many other factors, such as features of the landscape of the area, folk legends and a kind of vision. the local population of the history of their region.

Thus, historical geographical names - the names of our cities and settlements, streets and squares, outposts and settlements - are a monument of spiritual culture of a special kind. Place names as a creation of the people serve as landmarks in time and space, creating the historical and cultural image of the country. Toponyms are an indispensable element in the development of society and humanity as a whole. Their totality within a particular territory is the result of centuries-old folk art, the creation of geographical names.

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