

HYDRONYMS AS A LANGUAGE UNIT WITH LINGUISTIC VALUE

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Annotation: *The article analyzes the linguistic value of hydronyms, their formation, historical and etymological roots, and their role in reflecting the worldview and cultural memory of the people. It also covers the peculiarities of the territorial toponymic system, the semantic layers of hydronyms, and the linguoculturological characteristics.*

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Place names - the scope of toponymy also includes the names of water bodies and structures. The field that studies the names of water bodies and structures from a scientific, theoretical and practical perspective is called hydronymics.

The term hydronym consists of the Greek words hydro - water, onoma - name and -ika - belonging, and has the lexical meaning "The name of a river, water body".

In linguistics, hydronyms are classified according to various characteristics. Therefore, hydronyms are divided into the following types according to the name of the water body they denote, and N. Ulukhov emphasizes that there are several types of hydronyms that do not have special names:

“1. Oceanonym (Greek okeapos + opota) - proper names of the ocean and its parts.

2. Pelagononym (Greek pelagos - sea + onoma - name) - the name of the sea and its parts.

3. Limnonym - names of lakes.

4. Potamonym - names of rivers.

5. Gelonym - proper names of swamps and marshes”¹⁵.

Surkhandarya is one of the regions rich in water bodies. Like other regions, Surkhandarya is distinguished by the size, characteristics, and factors of formation of water bodies. The natural sources of Surkhandarya hydronyms

¹⁵ Улуков Н. Ўзбек тили гидронимларининг тарихий-лисоний тадқиқи. – Тошкент: Фан, 2008. – Б. 12.



are rivers, springs, lakes, ravines, and streams, and artificial sources are ditches, canals, corries, hydro-nodes, canals, collectors, reservoirs, and wells. The most common hydronymic objects in the region are streams, springs, lakes, and canals, and hydronym objects such as waterfalls and swamps are rare in the region. Surkhandarya hydronyms consist mainly of small-sized objects according to the size of the object. It was determined that rivers and lakes are large-sized objects among natural water bodies. It can be noted that reservoirs and canals are large-sized artificial objects.

Surkhandarya hydronyms can be divided into macrohydronyms and microhydronyms, depending on the size, width, whether the object is known or unknown to the general public, and whether it is shown or not on political, economic and natural maps:

1. Macrohydronyms include hydronyms that have been used for a long time, such as sea, ocean, river, and have taken their place on country and world maps. In Surkhandarya region, there are macrohydronyms such as Amudarya, Darbanddarya, Karatogdarya, Machaydarya, Obizarangdarya, Panjobdarya, Karasuv River, Kyzylsuvdarya, Sherobdarya, Surkhandarya, Topolangdarya, Turkondarya (local name of Sherobdarya), Vakhshivordarya, Khojaulkan River, and Khandizza River.

2. Microhydronyms include the names of water bodies (springs, streams, rivulets, ponds, wells, ditches, and canals) that are not known to the general public, are not shown on political, economic, and natural maps, and are used only by the local people of a certain area, and the lexical meaning of the words in the term is understandable to all people in the area. Examples of microhydronyms include Uybulok, Zarangli Azlar, Morbulok, Dillakol, Korkoriz, Sorikquduk, Khufor, and Daytulak. It seems that hydronyms are also names associated with the lifestyle of a particular people, and analyzing them from a linguistic point of view is a necessity of life.

Hydronyms are also a type of toponyms, and they also have an important place in the language system.

In scientific sources related to the field of toponymy, hydronyms are classified semantically in different ways. According to S. Qorayev, the names of rivers, lakes, seas, streams, ravines, canals, inlets, straits, and waterfalls are included in the category of prominent names in the field of hydronyms¹⁶.

According to N. Okhunov, "water bodies such as sea, river, lake, stream, ditch, spring, well, etc. are proper nouns."¹⁷ Some sources do not list the complete set of hydronyms, but rather refer to hydronyms as "the names of

¹⁶ Қораев С. Топонимика – жой номлари ҳақидаги фан. – Тошкент: Фан, 1980. – Б. 3.

¹⁷ Охунوف Н. Топонимлар ва уларнинг номланиш хусусиятлари. – Тошкент: Фан, 1989. – Б. 5.



rivers, bodies of water, etc.”¹⁸ The term hydronyms was explained by N. Begaliev as follows: “Hydronyms are the names of objects related to the presence of water in their depths, that is, belonging to the water area, ocean, sea, bay, strait, lake, swamp, river, stream, ditch, waterfall, well, etc.”¹⁹.

N.Ulukhov states that the term hydronym forms a semantic group - hydronyms at the toponymic level, indicating that the names of ditch, dam, swamp, spring, hydro-unit, hydroelectric power station, river, sea, yap, jilga, zakan, rivulet, canal, kechuv, collector, koriz, lake, bridge, glacier, pumping station, moon, olish, island, ferry, sardoba, selkhona, soy, solm, soqa, water reservoir, tashlama, chungul, sharshara, qog, well, pool are hydronym names, and he analyzed hydronyms by dividing them into 36 semantic groups.²⁰

One of the important features of hydronyms and their difference from other onomastic units is their objectivity in naming. For example, in the naming of water bodies in Surkhandarya, it can be observed that the location of the water body, the people associated with the creation of the water body, and the characteristics of the water body served as the basis for the creation of the name of the object. In linguistics, the division of water bodies into semantic groups is based on how the object was named, and there is a general similarity. Based on existing research, we have distinguished the following semantic groups of water bodies and water structures in the Surkhandarya region:

- 1) stream names: Jo‘yi Yusuf, Novariq (Boysun t. Darband q.), Tutisiyo(h) (Boysun t. Sayrob q.);
- 2) spring and fountain names: Pudinabuloq (Boysun t. Machay q.), Jiydabuloq (Boysun t. Sho‘rob q.), Khayrashiq (Boysun t. Sho‘rob q.);
- 4) river names: Surkhandarya, Karatog, Amudarya, Obizarang, Topalang, Sangardak, Sherabad, Khojaipak;
- 5) stream names: Kirq alma, Septalkh (Sherabad t. Kampirtepa q.), Dunovgi (Altinsoy t.);
- 6) tributary names: Sangardak, Karatog-Topalang (tributaries of Surkhandarya), Machay, Irgaylisoy (tributaries of Sherabaddarya);
- 7) channel names: Angor-1, Angor-2 (Angor t.), Egri (Egriariq), Bozariq, Munchoq (Boysun t.);
- 8) river names: Termez, Pattakesar (Termez t.), Yorgoh, Ayvoj, Kalif (Sherobod t.), Karakamar (Muzrabot t.), Sho‘rob, Cho‘chkaguzar;
- 9) collector names: Elbayonsoy (Altinsoy t.), Karasuv (Sariosiyo t.), Fayoztepa (Termez t.), Gulistan, Joncheka, Mehnat (Uzun t.);

¹⁸ Ҳоҷиев А. Лингвистик терминларнинг изоҳли луғати. – Тошкент: Ўқитувчи, 1985. – Б. 10.

¹⁹ Бегалиев Н. Самарқанд вилояти гидронимлари (лисоний таҳлил). Филол. фан. номз. ...дисс. автореф. – Самарқанд, 1994. – Б. 3.

²⁰ Улуков Н. Ўзбек тили гидронимларининг тарихий-лисоний тадқиқи. – Тошкент: Фан, 2008. – Б. 6-10.



10) stream names: Teshik koriz (Sherobod t. Gulistan village), Eshonkoriz (Sherobod t. Gurjak village), Olloyorkoriz (Sherobod t. Qizylma village);

11) lake names: Kattakol' (Boysun t. Sho'rob village), Kulimohi (Boysun t. Darband village);

12) stream names: Murdi Sahib (Boysun t. Darband q.), Omborsoy (Boysun, Denov t.);

14) waterfall names: Nilu (Sariosiyo t.), Sangardak (Sariosiyo. t.);

15) swamp names: Denov, Yurchi, Fayzova, Oqqu'r'gon;

16) well names: Soriqquduk (Boysun t. Machay q.), Oyinni kuduk (Boysun t. Sho'rob q.);

17) pool names: Hovzi Kawsar, Hovzi Qobul, Hovzi Rahmat, Hovzihomiho, Hovziqallaj (Boysun t. Darband q.);

It seems that hydronyms are also lexical units that form a large lexical layer and have various semantic properties, including the names of natural water bodies and water structures. An important feature of hydronyms is naturalness and artificiality. Hydronyms, like other lexical units, have the properties of survival in the language and extinction from the language. Often, the names of water bodies that are large in size and have a long history are viable.

The viability of hydronyms provides important information about the geography, history, ethnography, archeology, natural science, local history, and geology of the existing territory, providing rich material for research in these areas.

Surkhandarya hydronyms also contain many names of water bodies that can be an important source for studying the history of the oasis, providing geographical and ethnographic information.

According to sources, "the names of ancient states were based on the names of rivers, tribes, peoples, and central cities. In the history of the peoples of Central Asia, rivers were considered an important source of life."²¹. There are many districts, cities, and villages in Surkhandarya region named after rivers: Sherabad River, Machay River, Bandikhon River, Boysundaryo River, and Altinsoydaryo River. It seems that the boundaries of the population were divided according to the rivers.²².

Research shows that hydronyms, especially the names of large water structures, are of great importance in the socio-political and cultural life of peoples. Hydronyms formed the basis for the formation and creation of other types of toponyms. Accordingly, Prof. N. Ulukhov emphasized the breadth of the

²¹ Сагдуллаев А. Қадимги Ўзбекистон илк ёзма манбалари. – Тошкент: Ўқитувчи, 1996. – Б. 43.

²² Сагдуллаев А. Ко'rsatilgan asar. – Б. 43.



scientific, theoretical and practical issues studied by hydronyms, and indicated the need to study issues related to hydronyms belonging to the onomastic level of the language, and the aspects of hydronyms that should be studied, divided into 15 groups. The scientist notes the following when studying hydronyms. One of the important aspects in the study of hydronyms is the names of water bodies and structures. In the analysis of hydronyms, the scientist noted that the emergence of hydronymic names, factors in the naming of objects, the role of hydronymic determiners in the emergence of hydronymic names, and the semantic properties of hydronyms are the main issues in the study of hydronyms on a lexical-theoretical basis.²³.

Hydronyms, like other toponymic units, are associated with the life of the people, with the customs and views of the people.

Hydronyms are one of the least studied components of toponymy. In Uzbek linguistics, the above-mentioned studies of N. Begaliev and Professor N. Ulukhov are considered the first studies with a scientific and theoretical basis in this area. As is known, Uzbekistan is a vast territory, and there are various hydronym objects in it. If the collection and study of hydronyms from the point of view of linguistics is the collection of language materials, from the point of view of geography it is the determination of which water body is present in which area. Therefore, the theoretical and practical importance of studying hydronyms on a scientific basis is great.

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²³ Улуков Н. Ўзбек тили гидронимларининг тарихий-лисоний тадқиқи. – Тошкент: Фан, 2008. – Б. 14-15.

