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Onomastics as the Science Names

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Abstract: *The article focuses on the term onomastics and its meaning, and also examines special onomastic problems from the general range of linguistic positions of proper names in the language. The article argues that Proper names are a part of the language that demonstrates the most paradoxical situations, the analysis of which should contribute to the emergence of new, more in–depth general linguistic concepts.*
Key words: *anthroponym, Russian anthroponymy, onomastics, name, proper names, science, linguistics, analysis, onymy.*

Introduction

The term "onomastics" has two meanings: − firstly, it denotes the complex science of proper names; - secondly, proper names themselves (in the latter sense, the term "onymy" is also used). The allocation of special onomastic problems from the general range of linguistic ones is due to the position of proper names in the language. Proper names are a part of the language that demonstrates the most paradoxical situations, the analysis of which should contribute to the emergence of new, more in–depth general linguistic concepts.

According to A.V. Superanskaya, the construction of a general theory of proper names is "the identification of common patterns inherent in a given lexical category, it is the search for the natural properties of names (onomas), regardless of the language in which they are created or used"

Onomastics emerged as an applied science necessary for historians, geographers, ethnographers, and literary critics, and did not go beyond the "auxiliary scientific discipline" while representatives of these specialties were engaged in it. When linguists joined the study of this problem, bringing with them methods of structural and semantic analysis, onomastics emerged as an independent discipline analyzing onomastic material using linguistic methods.

Since onomastics arose "at the junction" of sciences, it is distinguished by the extreme complexity of the subject of research. The linguistic component dominates in onomastics not only because each name is a word

that develops according to the laws of language, but also because the information of each name is "extracted" using linguistic means.

However, if onomastics were limited only to the linguistic component, there would be no reason to single it out as a special discipline. The specificity of the subject under study is that, linguistic at its core, it also includes ethnographic, historical, geographical, sociological, literary components that help the linguist identify the specifics of named objects and traditions associated with their naming. In addition, onomastic research uses data from archaeology, the history of material and spiritual culture, biology, theology, philosophy, logic, psychology, etc. All this takes onomastic problems beyond the scope of linguistics alone and gives a certain independence to the complex of its components.

Onomastics, or onymy, as a set of names of different types, is associated with all spheres of human life and activity. Wherever isolation is required for identification or individualization, a person uses proper names as the most convenient way to designate an object. Other ways of individualization (numerical designation, coordinate system, and descriptive phrase) are of limited use. The use of proper names is universal, universal. Proper names are individual designations given to objects that, in addition, have common (generic, specific, subspecific, and sometimes also varietal) names (Marya Ivanovna is a man, a woman, an old woman, a mymra; Julia is a person, a woman, a girl, a beauty).

The main distinguishing features of a proper name: 1) it is given to an individual object, and not to a class of objects having a trait characteristic of all individuals belonging to this class; 2) the object referred to by its proper name is always clearly defined, delimited, outlined; 3) the name is not directly related to the concept and does not have a clear and unambiguous connotation at the language level

These signs make it possible to qualify words as they are or appellatives (not proper names), even in cases where the boundary between proper and common names is blurred and unclear. Proper names do not have a common meaning, just as common nouns do not have an individual meaning. Turning into an individual (dog Wolf, horse Eagle), the common noun loses the ability to generalize and begins to individualize. The preservation of an appellative meaning by the basis of a name is only a special case, obeying a general pattern, according to which the lexical meaning of nominal bases is reduced.

A proper name is characterized by increased objectivity, i.e. a closer connection with the object it names (defined and clearly delineated) than a common name, for which an abstract and indefinite objectivity may be sufficient to understand (for example, the explanation of words in encyclopedias and explanatory dictionaries). A proper name is not thought of outside of connection with the subject. No name comes up just like that. When creating a name, they think about a certain object for which it is intended.

Since proper names only perform their communicative function when they are associated with a denotation and this denotation is known to participants in a speech situation, the characteristic of the denotation becomes extremely important for onomastics. The specificity of onomastics is such that it cannot be limited to linguistic data alone. In the most difficult cases, the attribution of a name to a common or proper name is decided from the analysis of the denotation (an extralinguistic given), and this can only be done by involving the material of the science to which it belongs.

Each era brought with it a reinterpretation of names inherited from previous eras, in accordance with the spirit and social code of the era. At the same time, in all onomastic transformations there is a lot of parallel, similar, universal. The universal nature of the expression plan.

A comparative study of names of different types allows us to identify specific features inherent in all or many names of different languages, and general patterns according to which onomastic systems develop. These onomastic universals are based on the general properties of human thinking – to select and consolidate typical extralinguistic phenomena in proper names, as well as on the fact that in any language certain typical meanings

and relationships are represented, however, expressed in each language in its own special way (linguistic universals).

Due to the complexity of the semantics of proper names, it is advisable when analyzing them to talk not about their semantics as a whole, but about the various types of information contained in them. The language information of the name usually does not depend on the speech situation. It is not fully revealed to the average person who speaks this language, and in its entirety is available only to the researcher. The problem of the meaning of a proper name is a central part of the general theory of a proper name.

Problems such as the structure of the image in fiction and folklore or the socio-historical assessment of individuals are also adjacent to the semantics of proper names. In fiction, the speech, encyclopedic, and linguistic information of the name is stylistically significant. Weaving into the single artistic fabric of the work, they add additional information, sometimes inaccessible to understanding when first reading the work.

The special position of proper names in the language, their close connection with named objects, and through them with the division of the observed world by man – all this has long attracted the attention of philosophers and logicians. From ancient theories through medieval theology to the teachings of modern times, categories such as lexis and logos, nomina propria and nomina appellativa, universals (totals) and individual designations can be traced, while they are transformed depending on the views of researchers and the level of modern science. The names of Aristotle, Hobbes, and Leibniz are associated with the development of those categories and relations by which the phenomena of reality are classified. The modern foundations of classification and logical division go back to Hobbes and Leibniz (and in particular dichotomies) that originated in the writings of medieval scholastics. The works of Hobbes and Leibniz, who formulated the theory of signs, were based on the logician J. S. Mill, whose concept influenced all later linguistic theories of the proper name to one degree or another

Currently, onomastics has fully developed as an independent linguistic discipline. It has a clearly defined range of problems related to its management; methods of onomastic research continue to improve. In addition to collecting, recording and systematizing onomastic materials, the tasks of onomasts include structural and typological studies of names, reconstruction of the older state of onomastic systems, analysis of the mechanisms of their transformation and much more. All this takes onomastics far beyond the "auxiliary" and turns it into an independent linguistic discipline, somewhat isolated from general linguistics due to the increased denotative connection of proper names.

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