

Sociolinguistic Characteristics of Toponymy of Samarkand Region

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Annotation: In this article, the lexical-semantic, nominative-motivational features of the toponymy of the Samarkand region, the historical formation, and the roots of formation are sociolinguistically researched. Also, the article talks about the ethnogenesis of some toponyms in the region and the social, political, and historical processes that influenced it. Toponyms from the Sugdian, Turkic, Arabic, Persian, Mongolian, and Russian languages are analyzed.

Keywords: toponym, place name, denomination, oikonym, genonym, anthroponym, proper names, ethnic oikonoms.

Each name in the language is based on some laws and principles. Every corner of the planet Earth, where we live, differs from others with its own characteristics. That is, if the geographic location, climate, and nature of the region are one aspect, the customs, history, culture, language, religion, and even the profession of the people living in this region can be the basis for the naming of the toponym. Today's society, history, economic, political and cultural relations between countries cannot be imagined without toponyms. The development of science, culture, relations between peoples and countries is the reason for the increasing use of geographical names in our language. Any region has its own appearance, history and destiny. The fame of toponyms is determined by their place in cultural, economic and political life.

The toponymy of Samarkand region, which we are analyzing, has also traveled a long historical path. Some place names that are now part of Samarkand region were in the past considered the territory of another administrative unit. That is, the territory of the region and the districts included in it changed due to the socio-political system in different historical periods. Samarkand, located in the center of ancient Sughd, occupied an important place in world civilization. The region is located in the central part of the territory of our republic, in the basin of the middle course of the Zarafshan River. Its borders adjoin Navoi region in the west and northwest, Jizzakh and Kashkadarya regions in the north and northeast, and Tajikistan in the southeast. Its population is more than 4 million 77 thousand people, its territory is 16.88 thousand km². Samarkand region ranks first in the number of rural districts in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and regions [14]. As a result of independent research, 14 districts (Bulung'ur, Jomboy, Ishtikhan, Kattakorgan, Narpay, Nurabad, Akdarya, Payariq, Pstdargom, Pakhtachi, Samarkand, Toyloq, Urgut, Koshrabot) and 11 cities were found in the region. (Samarkand, Kattakorgan, Bulung'ur, Jomboy, Ishtikhan, Aktash, Payariq, Chelak, Juma, Nurabad, Urgut), 87 towns, 1869 village names were collected. Some of these icons were called by this name in the distant past, while some of them were polished and changed in the course of the development of society. Most of the toponyms of the region consist of Persian-Tajik and Sogdian words. Different names of the same object represent three important stages, i.e., social system, politics and language relations, and reflect aspects related to the unique naming tradition of those times [7, 82]. As an example, we will comment on the fact that the

toponym Zarafshan was called differently in different periods. Zarafshan hydronym is a river flowing through Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. In "Avesta" it is called "Daitya" (Good water). In the IV-III centuries BC, the Greeks mentioned him as "Polytimes" (honorable, great, zealous). Even during the conquest of Alexander the Great, the river was considered the main source of water for the oasis. After the Arab conquest in the 8th century, it was called "Wadi us-Sug'd" and "Nahr ul-Bukhara". The Arabs named the territories they conquered in Arabic pronunciation and names. For this reason, the river that irrigates the lands inhabited by the Sughds was named "Vadi us-Sughd". In the historical-geographic work "Hudud ul-Olam" written by an unknown author in the Persian-Tajik language in 982-983, it is mentioned as "Bukhara River" [8, 25]. Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur mentioned in "Boburnoma" that the river is "Kohak". Abu Tahir Khoja's work "Samaria" dedicated to the history of Samarkand also mentions that it is called "Kohak and Haromkom River" [1,19]. In the work "Bahr ul-asrar" by Mahmud bin Vali, a great encyclopedist from Balkh who lived in the 17th century, it is said that one of the ancient names of Zarafshan was "Nahri Boy". Since the 18th century, the name of the river has been spelled Zarafshan by historians. The toponym Zarafshan is derived from the Persian word, which means "scatter of dice", "scatter of gold". That is, the Zarafshan river has provided water to the surrounding areas for so many centuries, served for the prosperity of agriculture, and allegedly scattered gold. We can see from the Zarafshan toponym that toponyms can change due to various socio-political, historical, and natural events.

The name given to one object is changed to different names at certain stages based on the specific social needs of the time. That is why, if we pay attention to the naming of many mountains, lakes, rivers, or cities and villages whose creation goes back to long periods, we can see that they were called by several names in different historical periods and stages. In other words, the stagnation or, on the contrary, the occurrence of toponyms, the occurrence of various changes in meaning, takes place within the framework of the language laws in practice in the society [13, 81]. Due to the fact that different nations and peoples lived in the territory of our country, we can see the reflection of Turkish, Persian, Arabic, and Sogdian phonetics in our toponymy. Below, we will briefly touch upon the political, historical, and ethnic processes that influenced the changes in the toponymy of the region.

The conquest of Alexander the Great did not significantly affect the toponymy of the region. The fact that the toponym of Samarkand was called Marokanda in the works of Greek historians was the result of the fact that the Greeks started with the sound m without pronouncing the s sound, and recorded it in the same way in their historical records. In Morocco, this is a distorted pronunciation of the Samarkand toponym. If you look at the historical names of the toponymy of the region, you will find almost no Greek names.

The Arab invasion had a strong influence on the toponymy of the Zarafshan oasis. The reason for this is that the Arabs lived in the territory of our country for a long time and absorbed their language, religion, literature and culture into the minds of the people. Names of saints, sheikhs, and various religious ceremonies also left a significant mark in place names. Also, Arabic terms such as bob (Babylon), nahr, tal (hill), mosque (Machit), madrasah are reflected in geographical names [8, 48]. There are many toponyms derived from these terms in the region. For example, regional names derived from the word machit: Machit (Tailaq district), Okmachit, Ghishtmachit (Urgut district), Machitovul (Oqdarya district), Ko'shmachit (Samarkand district). The building where the Arab military units are located is called rabat. Later, rabots became toponyms. And having lost the meaning of a military unit building, it has come to mean toponyms with a broad meaning, such as a caravanserai where merchants rest, a guest house, a place for people from other countries to stay temporarily, a fortress, a palace [9, 26]. These rabots had the greatest influence on the toponymy of

the Zarafshan oasis of the Arabs. For example, Rabat (Bulung'ur district), Tangrirawot (Aqdarya district), Boghiravot (Tailok district), Qamishravot (Urgut district), Yangirabot (Ishtikhan district), Koshrabot, Balandravot (Kattaqorg 'on t.). In addition, the influence of Arabs is also significant in the emergence of toponyms such as Sofi (Urgut district), Mirkent (Pakhtachi district), Juma (Jomboy district). As a result of the Mongol invasion, there were changes in the toponymy of the region. More precisely, it has become more complicated. Bulung'ur, Darkhan, Norin, Norinko'l, Norinkapa are Mongolian names. Mongolian terms such as Dovan, Kotal, Tokay, Shiber, Kapchigai have taken a firm place in the lexicon and toponymy of the languages of the Turkic peoples of Central Asia [8, 48]. In addition, the names of the villages of Kungirov (Mongolian khun keret-black crows-those who take the black crow as their totem) and Sevaz [9, 53] are genoms of Mongolian clans and tribes (in Greek, clan, family name) and became the ethnic oikonim inhabited by Mongolian tribes. According to Nafasov, toponymist, the name of Jomboy district, one of the largest districts of the province, is derived from a Mongolian word. Jom, a station on trade routes, a place where horses are fed, a residence where the people of the service of delivering messages from station to station live + boli (name of clan, tribe) [9, 26]. However, some scientists put forward the opinion that the name of the district has nothing to do with the word "jom" or "station, fortress", and that the toponym Jomboy was also found in the former Guryev region of Kazakhstan and was created based on an ethnic name [2, 62]. In our opinion, the existence of villages named Jom in Nurabad and Kattakorgan districts means that the name of the district is related to the Mongols. During the time of the Mongols, the territory of the region was part of the Chigatoi tribe (the Mongol ruler Genghis Khan distributed the conquered lands to his sons. The territory of the region was given to Chigatoi, and the country was also called "Chigatoi tribe").

Samarkand was the capital during the Timurid period. Craftsmanship, architecture, and trade are developed. This also affected the toponyms. The types of crafts are still preserved in the names of the residents. For example, Kamangaron (bow-and-arrow makers), Sozangaron (needle makers) in Urgut district, Kosagaron (bowl makers) in Narpay district.

The toponyms that had the greatest influence on the toponymy of the region and were quickly forgotten correspond to the period of the Russian occupation. Because the Russians tried to Russify the names of the places that have been polished for centuries. The Russians wanted to change and subjugate the inhabitants of the territories they occupied by changing their language, religion, culture, values, and even their way of life. The Governor General of Turkestan was established in the occupied territory of Central Asia. Samarkand region was also part of the province. Russians changed the administrative units to oblast (province), uyezd (district), district (front), volost (department) and elderships. Toponyms were also updated due to ideological requirements. The occupied territories were named after Russian generals, officers, heroes, statesmen and people who served them. This caused an increase in anthropotonyms (the city of Payarik was called Fedorovsky, Fedorovka, Soldatitsky, Narimonov during the Russian era). A comparative study of the names included in the 1990 and 2002 copies of Samarkand city maps shows that there is a big difference between them. In particular, in 1990, out of 359 street names in the city, 213 were related to Russian words, names, and surnames, which made up 76.5% of the total names [2, 54]. Residents had difficulties in pronouncing these toponyms. Because the Russian language does not belong to the Turkic language family, it has led to the pronunciation of toponyms by ordinary people. For example, Kerif (Kirov), Sverlop (Sverdlov) in the Pakhtachi district of the region. Ukrainian speleologists named the cave found in Kirqtoq near Samarkand as Kiev cave.

In the years of independence, the names of a number of streets in the city of Samarkand (for example, Babushkin-Boborahim Mashrab, Pilota-Boysunqur Mirzo, Chimpion-Payrav Sulaymoni, Titov-Rudakiy, Natsionalnaya-Nasir Khysrav) were changed, Maksim Gorky collective farm in

Urgut district " Akramabad", collective farm named after Ilyich was named "Yangiariq"[2, 54]. Changing such names, which do not correspond to any toponymic rules, will help place names to fulfill the function of addresses.

During the years of independence, beautification and landscaping works were carried out in all regions, including Yangiabad, Yangihayot (Aqdarya district), Gulistan (Kattakurgan district), Abad Turmush (Samarkand district), Gulabad, Nurabad (Nurabad district), Toponyms suitable for these regions were chosen, such as Gozalkent (Pastdargom district). As we have seen, changes in toponyms, socio-political innovations are mostly the result of revolutions.

Industry, trade, science and technology, art, culture, sports, and literature play a big role in the naming of toponyms. These sociolinguistic factors are also important in the emergence and spread of toponyms. For example, as a result of the development of industry, such village names as Kimyogarlari (Samarkand district), Construction, New Construction, Yangisanoat (Pastdarg'om district), Bunyodkor (Urgut district) were born.

Due to trade relations, the merchants who moved from Samarkand to the Koqan Khanate in the 18th century were the reason why the village in Bagdad district of Fergana region was named Samarkand. Therefore, merchants are not only carriers of goods, but also cause the spread of toponyms.

In short, we can know through toponyms that language and society have been living in a mutually dependent manner in all eras and influenced each other. Any innovation that happens in the society is definitely reflected in the language. But when choosing place names, it would be more appropriate to try to find toponyms suitable for the region, easy to remember, specific to our mentality, rather than ideological goals. After all, language serves society, and society serves language.

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