Some Types of Toponyms

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A B S T R A C T

The article illustrates several types of toponyms as well as the features of toponym words. Moreover, it displays the origin of the toponym words and the meaning of them.

A R T I C L E I N F O

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INTRODUCTION

Every human being tries to know their origin and the origin of their homeland so that to know about the culture and traditions of elder generations. As a result, toponymy is a subject that is interesting for everyone. Learning the names and their origin has been improving for a long moment.

A *toponym* is the name of a place. Boston, Australia, and Montreal are all *toponyms*.Words beginning with *topo* usually have to do with places, like a topological map. Words ending in *nym* are types of names, like an eponym is a name for a thing that came from a person's name. A toponym, therefore, is a name for a place. Wherever you live, its name is a toponym: United States, North America, Atlanta, and California are all toponyms. Even names of made-up places like Narnia and Atlantis are toponyms.

Toponymy refers to place names; it is a discipline devoted to the study of proper names. It is part of onomastics, which is part of linguistics. Toponymy also refers to an activity that of naming, that is, the activity of assigning a name to a place. It is both a study and a practice. Experts should ensure that naming does not pose problems in terms of spatial orientation and location, which is also the primary function of toponymy, which is to locate a place in space. There are proposals that may be linked to political issues. It is interested in the proposals and attributions of a number of place names.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Toponymy can uncover important historical information about a place, such as the period of time the original language of the inhabitants lasted, settlement history, and population dispersal. Place-name study can also provide insight to religious changes in an area.

The names of different regions are derived from the culture of the people living there or another area. These names have a unique feature of being conservative since they remain relevant years after different people invade the region. Toponyms in different nations like Canada, Mexico, and the United States have native terms in their names, such as Saskatchewan and Ottawa in Canada, and Acapulco and Oaxaca in Mexico. Other places are named after the nature of the politics in the region, such as the Byzantine Empire in Rome. The toponym Byzantine Empire, also known as Eastern Roman-Empire, is derived from

the term Byzantium which means a highly complex area, and it might have been named Byzantine because of the complicated nature of the politics and administration in the region.

Descriptive toponyms are descriptions of the place whether it is the terrain or the plants farmed in the region by the first settlers in the land. The name the 'Rocky Mountains' describes the topography of the place. Chicago originated from a French interpretation of the term *"Shikaakwa"* which means smelly onion. Associative toponyms relate to a unique landmark in the region, for example, Mill River refers to a mill that was in the streams in the area and also Springfield in Massachusetts. Incident names are places named after an incident that took place in that region like Bloody Ridge and Battle Creek. Possessive names are places named after the geographical terrain of the area like Castro Valley. Some places are named after a well-known person who did something memorable for the area. The term toponymy is thought to have appeared in the English language in 1876, and from that time it has come to be used in place of "place-name" especially among the geographers or in professional discourse. The first toponymists are thought to have been poets and storytellers, who gave the name of places in their tales. At times the toponym served as the foundation of their etiological legends. The process of folk etymology always took over when the name of a place had a false meaning when the name was obtained based on its structure or sound.

Toponymists create the geographical names of places in discussion and cooperation with experts on place names from the United Nations. They apply toponymy science when establishing a geographic name of an area. The geographers rely on local histories, maps, and interviews of the residence when creating a place-name. The meaning, origin, language, and pronunciation of specific name among other crucial facts are always recorded during this process.

Moreover, toponymic processes are the unique process which can cause authorities to change the name and meaning of a place-name. Some of the processes that can create a change in toponym include conflation, abbreviation, and convergence, among other processes. Abbreviation breaks the name down into a simple to pronounce form, while conflation is a process whereby two elements of a toponym are confused. Convergence process occurs when the toponym flows towards a well-known phoneme in the geographical name. Parent language replacement is the most dramatic toponymic process. If the country adopts a new language which is commonly used by the locals, the meaning of place name might also change. In serious scenarios, the name can also be changed. The name might also be recycled and even altered. The parent language may also evolve, but this will not alter the region name alone. Parent language evolution can permit the other Toponymic processes to take place.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Toponyms or place names represent language units denoting elements of topographic environment. The relevance of the study is caused by the need to develop the theory of toponymy and to systematize all the existing toponymic classifications. Place names have a complicated that is multidimensional nature, which should be taken into account while classifying them. Methodological foundation of this work is based on the theoretical theses elaborated in the works of linguists in the sphere of onomasticswhich connected to the toponymy. As mentioned above, A *toponym* is a **place name** or a word coined in association with the name of a place. Adjectives: *toponymic* and *toponymous*. The study of such place-names is known as *toponymics* or *toponymy*—a branch of onomastics.

Types of toponym include:

agronym - it is the name of a field or pasture,

dromonym – is the name of a transportation route,

drymonym – is the name of a forest or grove,

econym – is the name of a village or town,

limnonym - the name of a lake or pond,

necronym - the name of a cemetery or burial ground.

Toponyms can be classified according to the following principles: 1) parametric characteristics of an object, 2) ontological characteristics of an object, 3) type of toponymic basis, 4) etymological characteristics of place names, 5) motivational characteristics of place names, 6) chronological characteristics of place names, 7) structural characteristics of toponyms, 8) toponymic polysemy, 9) degree of toponymic nomination, 10) variety of toponymic nomination, 11) localization of an object. It is obvious that it is impossible to create a unified classification of place names, which would reflect the entire multidimensional nature of the toponymic vocabulary. Classifying toponymic nominations, one must consider the multifaceted (intra- and extra-linguistic) principles of allocation of toponymic units.

CONCLUSION

All in all, toponymy is the science that has as its subject the study of geographical names or toponyms. As all other names, toponyms belong to languages. Names in general are only rarely randomly chosen, and this is especially true in the case of geographical names. Whether they carry a physical meaning like Mont Blanc ('White Mountain'), or they were coined to honour someone (Washington, District of Columbia), to commemorate some historic event or to make clear to whom the named object belonged (Paris, from Latin 'LutetiaParisiorum' = 'Lutetia of the [Gallic tribe named the] Parisians'), in all cases they once used the vocabulary and followed the grammatical and orthographic rules of a certain language. Languages are the subjects of the science called linguistics. Therefore, anyone handling geographical names needs to have some basic linguistic knowledge, both in general terms and specifically pertaining to the language situation of the area of survey.

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