

ETYMOLOGY OF ORONYMS IN THE BUKHARA REGION

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Abstract. This article examines the relationship of the oronyms of the Bukhara Region to lexical strata from the perspectives of native and borrowed vocabulary, historical-etymological layers, and interstratal integration. Scholarly views that the toponymic system of Bukhara consists of Uzbek (Turkic), Persian-Tajik, Arabic, and Sogdian elements are interpreted in relation to oronymic material. Using such units as Ko'kcha tog'i, Qoratog', Quljuq tog', and Abumuslim tepaligi, the stratigraphic affiliation of the nominative base and the orographic indicator within an oronym is differentiated.

The toponymic system is one of the linguistic layers that preserves the history of a people's language, relations among the ethnic groups that inhabited the region, language contacts, and the influence of the natural and geographical environment on naming processes. Within this system, oronyms denote the proper names of mountains, mountain ranges, hills, ridges, cliffs, passes, and other orographic features. Unlike other types of toponyms, oronyms directly name relief features; consequently, the stability of geographical terms and the interaction of historical strata are particularly evident in their structure [1; 2].

The toponymy of the Bukhara Region developed under conditions of centuries-long language contact. B. E. Kilichev notes that, in terms of linguistic strata, the region's toponyms consist of Uzbek, Arabic, Persian-Tajik, and Sogdian lexical units or elements [3]. This conclusion applies to the entire toponymic system and demonstrates that the oronymic layer cannot be studied apart from historical language relations. However, the relationship between strata in oronyms cannot be reduced to the simple question, 'To which language does the name belong?' One component of a compound oronym may belong to the native stratum, whereas the other may belong to a borrowed or historical stratum.

The purpose of this article is to identify the relationships among lexical strata in the oronyms of the Bukhara Region, distinguish the structural-semantic functions of native and borrowed components, and explain the onomastic status of names formed through interstratal combination and transonymization. In this study, the term 'relationship between strata' refers to the combination and adaptation of the lexical bases within an oronym according to their origin, resulting in a new nominative whole.

The structural core of the oronymy of the Bukhara Region is formed by Turkic-Uzbek orographic terms. Lexemes such as tog' 'mountain', tepa 'hill', qir 'ridge', qoya 'cliff', and adir 'foothill' are actively used in the region's toponymy as indicators specifying the type of orographic feature. B. E. Kilichev records such toponyms as Adirlik, Bayot-Tayqir, Boshtepa, and Jelliqoya, which were formed on the basis of oronymic units characteristic of the Uzbek language [3]. These names demonstrate that oronymic terms belong to the native stratum and remain productive in name formation.

The predominance of the native stratum is especially evident in orographic indicators. Even when the first element of a name is historical or borrowed, the second component is often expressed by an Uzbek geographical term such as tog', tepa, or qir. This shows that Turkic orographic terms function as the structural framework of Bukhara oronymy.

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Abumuslim tepaligi is a characteristic example. S. Qorayev associates this hill in the Bukhara Region with Abumuslim, an eighth-century historical figure [6]. Structurally, Abumuslim is a personal name belonging to the Arabic anthroponymic stratum, whereas tepalik is an Uzbek orographic term. Thus, two historical-lexical strata merge within a single oronymic name. This model may be defined as 'a borrowed anthroponymic base + an orographic term from the native stratum.'

The analysis shows that the relationships among lexical strata in the oronyms of the Bukhara Region constitute a small-scale model of the region's general toponymic history. Although Turkic, Persian-Tajik, Arabic, and ancient Sogdian strata historically interacted in the Bukhara oasis and the adjacent desert areas, Turkic vocabulary has retained a stable position within the system of indicators used to classify orographic features.

Another feature of interstratal relations is that borrowed components adapt to the morphological and syntactic patterns of the Uzbek language and combine with a Turkic indicator to form an integral name. In such hybrid units, language contact manifests itself not merely as lexical borrowing but as nominative integration.

The identification of the ancient stratum in Bukhara oronymy also requires particular caution. Although the presence of Sogdian elements in the general toponymy has been confirmed, determining the etymology of a specific oronym without its older written forms is difficult. Therefore, the future creation of a specialized 'Etymological Corpus of Bukhara Oronyms' based on historical maps, archival documents, and field materials would allow the relationships among strata to be studied more deeply from quantitative and historical perspectives.

The findings may be used in research on Uzbek onomastics, historical lexicology, toponymy, and linguistic geography; in compiling an electronic database and an etymological dictionary of the toponyms of the Bukhara Region; and in standardizing the names of geographical features.

In conclusion, the Turkic-Uzbek stratum occupies a foundational position in the oronyms of the Bukhara Region, particularly at the level of such orographic indicators as tog', tepa, qir, and qoya. In single-stratum oronyms, the nominative base and the orographic indicator belong to the same Turkic stratum; Ko'kcha tog'i and Qoratog' are transparent examples of this model.

Foydalanilgan adabiyotlar

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