

Toponymic System in Akmola Region

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Abstract- This work was devoted to toponymic system, which express culture specific nature and language of generations. This system depends on the area. It is important to know which remote strata of population are represented in the target region, which language and professional groups they belonged to, which religion they practiced as this may have a direct influence on toponymic systems formation. Geographical names are formed based on models characterized by chronological and geographical ordering.

Keywords - Region, Territory, Toponym, Toponymic System.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Kazakhstan is a polyethnic country. Over a long period of time the cultures and languages of different nations have been existed and developing here. It is about our country that we can surely say that the cultures' dialogue, intercultural consensus and tolerance towards other cultures have been established. It is well known that the language and culture of previous inhabitants remain in the culture and language of succeeding generations. Toponyms in any region shall be studied with account of culture specific nature and language is expressed by. As has been said, recently the interest in study of contact works dedicated to language interaction problems has increased. 'Language is the study aimed at the rehabilitation of preceding linguistic and ethnical conditions, the search for methodologies objectifying the results received' [1]. For toponym experts it is important to know which remote strata of population are represented in the target region, to which language and professional groups they belonged to, which religion they practiced as this may have a direct influence on toponymic systems formation. For many onomatology researchers the issue is important of how high the level of geographical names adaptation to living conditions and awareness of the representatives of different national and cultural communities can be in establishing and functioning of these names through interaction of absolutely different languages and cultures, how positive the intercultural interaction can be between the representatives of different nations and how it is expressed in establishing the toponymic system of any given nation [2]. Each area with a certain number of toponyms, its administrative divisions and borders forms its toponymic system. According to A. Superanskaya the toponymic system implies 'a known unity of toponyms of any given area stipulated by the similarity of psychology of speech community inhabiting the area,

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particular thinking, solidarity of social realm, this in particular is confirmed by availability at each area of its toponymic models and some frequently observed topobases'. The toponymic system combines multilingual toponymic material in toponymic array characterized by definite features [3, 55]. Further, the authors analyzing the Crimea toponyms note that as a result of widespread renaming it is hard to talk about the consistency of new names for the Crimea 'the abrupt disturbance of systemacy as a result of change of population and widespread renaming is obvious, and not the gradual change in a single system [3, 57]. The toponymic system implies a collection of toponyms organized in a certain way for a given ethnos for a given time and a given area' [4, 146]. From the researches' viewpoint the systemacy in toponymy is found in ordering of topoobjects nomination principles, ways and means [5]. The toponymic system was first introduced in the V. Toporov's article. Couples of names are given as an example of the toponymic system, which represent a binary opposition (Large-Small, Old-New). This makes it possible to talk about the separate system 'concentrations' 'in relatively neutral toponymic field', and the gap between a range of system-organized toponyms' [6, 11].

The toponymic system depends on the area. Geographical names are formed based on models characterized by chronological and geographical ordering. I. Mullonen notes that the systemacy runs through all the toponymy linguistic levels. The most spectacular of them is the lexical level. With the false diversity of toponyms their range is quite limited. There are many iterative toponyms detected, at that the broader the territorial borders of the applied material the more iterations [7, 115].

II. DEVELOPMENT OF TOPONYMS

Toponyms within a system enter into paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations with each other. The nearest by area toponyms of the same class making a part of microsystems are usually opposed.

The geographical names adaptation process reflects the language interaction of co-existing nations of a certain region. Here we consider the toponymic system in the Akmola Region. Two toponymic systems interaction are characteristic of this region: Kazakh and Russian. From the very establishment the Akmola Region became a place of migration for the Russians coming from different corners of Russia. Each migration wave ended in the local territory assimilation. The Slavic names occurred everywhere. A new toposystem, which included the Slavic names, formed along with the Kazakh toposystem.

As it is known the toponymic systems form gradually, influenced not only by local geographical conditions but an ethnic composition of the territory, migration characteristics and migrants origin places as well.

Penetration of the Russians to the Ishim steppes started in the 15th century. In 1752 General Kindermann constructed

redoubts from the Omsk fort to the Orenburg fort. The redoubt places along the bitter and salty lakes were unsuccessful. That is why the line was named as the Bitter line, which was of great importance in colonization of the Ishim steppes. In 1830 Akmola (Akmolinsk) was established, and in 1832 - the Akmola District. The centre of the district was the Akmola fortress (established in 1830) called the Akmola Cossack Stanitsa since 1845 and in 1862 it became a city. Initially the fortress was supposed to be built on the Nura River in the Akmola hole, at the distance of 30 versts from the modern city. The place turned out to be inconvenient; overflowing Nura and Ishim flooded an enormous area. The construction was transferred to Ishim, Kara-Utkul hole, and the initial name remained as the fort's one. In 1869 the city became a centre of Akmola County as part of Akmola Region established according to 'Temporary Provision' (approved on 21 October) on governance in steppe region of the Orenburg and West-Siberian Governorates General. Along with the mentioned Akmola County, the Akmola Region included such towns as Omsk, Petropavlovsk, Kokshetau and Sarysu (Atbassar in 1878). The administrative center of the region was Omsk [8].

In the description of 'Akmola Region' of 1916 it is said that *'the Akmola County located on the south-eastern part of the region and is the vastest of all counties. From the administrative point of view the Akmola County is divided into 5 areas.*

In the third area the north-eastern part is represented by elevated hilly steppes split by ridges and mounds, and the south-western part is represented by the steppes. Such rivers as Ishim, Koluton, Damsa, Talgora, Boksuk and Archaly flow here.

The fourth area takes up the north-eastern part of the county to the Ishim River. The central ridge is represented by the Yeremensk Mountains [9]. The Kazakh geographical names listed herein are transmitted in a transformed way. Boksuk is used instead of Baksuk, Archaly instead of Arshaly, Yeremen instead of Yerementau. Local names are transmitted in a distorted way with phonetic, morphological and word-formative features specific for the Russian language.

In 'Akmola and Yerementau Gradusolists Description' G. Vodorezov notes that *'We cannot but mark the power of observation of the Kazakh people. The Kazakhs roaming from place to place in such a monotonous sandy relief and apparent monotonous mounds made an accurate observation of their morphological features and depending on forms and heights, gave them special names 'tau', 'tobe', 'adyr', etc.* [10]. The Russian settlers had to reclaim new lands and new geographical names along with that.

In ancient times the main economic activity in Kazakhstan, particularly in Akmola Region, was nomad cattle breeding. In the region toponymy the Kazakh nomadism has a dominant position. E.g., Koysuat town 'the sheep water place', Kudykagash village 'wooden well', Sandyktau town 'Trunk Mountain'. Farming agriculture development is proven by such toponym as *yegin* 'pasture'. E.g. Yegindykol 'the lake near the pasture'. Under the settled culture conditions the Slavic toponyms usually reflected the names of certain people: Nikolayevka, Semenovka, and Maximovka. This is not surprising as the villages were established by certain people with certain names and

surnames. People were coming to these places to live for a long time and therefore tried to preserve their culture, religion and holidays. This is evidenced by church names, such as Belotserkovka ('White Church') village, Bogoslovka ('the Word of God') village, Popovka ('Priest') village. Some resettlement villages were named in honor of the Russian writers, e.g., Pushkin village. But this did not remain on the modern map, but is mentioned in pre-revolutionary sources only. It should be noted that local geographical names remained in hydronyms and oronyms. As for oikonyms the major part was renamed or existed in parallel with the Russian names. Thus, for a long period of time two interacting toponymic systems, i.e. Kazakh and Russian existed in the territory.

The issues of languages interaction study based on toponymic material were investigated by A. Dulzon, B. Serebrennikov, A. Matveyev, V. Nikonov, A. Superanskaya, N. Labunets, among Kazakhstan linguists are V. Popova, O. Sultanyayev, G. Madiyeva, K. Rysbergnova, and M. Diarova. Languages interaction in toponymy is studied in diachronic and synchronic terms. At diachronic study of the toponymic material of a certain territory the substrate events are considered as a result of language assimilation. From synchronic point of view the toponymic systems functioning under bilingualism is considered. One of the crucial objectives in solving the languages interaction issue at a toponymic level is the study of the Russian adaptation [9].

Let us consider the examples of Russian and Kazakh toponyms based in Akmola Region. The toponym adaptation to phonetic features of the language is called 'phonetic adaptation'. When reproducing Kazakh names in Akmola Region using Russian letters the specific vowel sounds 'ə', 'ʏ', 'i', 'y', 'ø' were replaced with 'y', 'o', 'ы', 'а'; and specific consonant sounds 'ң', 'ғ', 'к', 'h' replaced with 'к', 'г', 'н', 'х'. E.g., 'Өрнек' – 'Орнек' (Ornek), 'Төңкеріс' – 'Танкерис' (Tonkeris - Tankeris), 'Өленті' – 'Уленты' (Olenty-Ulentu), 'Қотырқол' – 'Кутырколь' (Kotyrgol - Kutyrkol), 'Қарақоға' – 'Каракуга' (Karakoga - Karakuga), 'Қайнар' – 'Кайнар' (Kainar), etc.

The morphologic adaptation of toponyms in the Russian language is stipulated by their two main features: ending nature and frequency of the use in Russian speech. E.g., в Атбасаре (in Atbassar), в Шортандах (in Shortandy), из Аккуля (from Akkul). The Russian names are adapted in the Kazakh language using different affixes in strict compliance with vowel harmony law. E.g. 'Новоишимка+да' (Novoishimka+da), 'Максимовка+ға' (Maximovka+ga), 'Николаевка+дан' (Nikolayevka+dan), 'Новосельский+де' (Novoselskiy+de). 'Чашке' (Chashke) toponym remained in this adapted form. 'Поехать в Чашке' (go to Chashke), 'приехать из совхоза Чашке' (come from Chashke village).

When transferring from one language to another the toponyms are adapted to structural and forming models characteristic of the Kazakh and Russian toponyms. The examples can be represented by formation of adjective names from Kazakh stems. E.g., 'Чаглинка' (Chaglinka) - village, 'Чаглинский Мост' (the Chaglinskiy Bridge), 'Чаглинское водохранилище' (the Chaglinskoye Water Reservoir); 'Вячеславка' (Vyacheslavka) - village, 'Вячеславское водохранилище' (the Vyacheslavskoye Water Reservoir); 'Урумкай' (Urumkai) - village,

‘Урумкайская мельница’ (Urunkaiskaya mill); ‘Каменка’ (Kamenka) - village, ‘Каменная гора’ (Kamennaya Gora), ‘Каменная Сопка’ (Kamennaya Sopka), ‘Каменный лог’ (Kamennyi Log). One of the ways to form the Russian toponymy of the region is hybridization of Kazakh names, i.e. addition of different definitions: ‘үлкен’, ‘ұлы’ – ‘большой’ (big), ‘великий’ (great), ‘ұзын’ – ‘длинный’ (long), ‘кіші’, ‘кішкене’, ‘бала’ – ‘малый’ (small), ‘короткий’ (short), ‘низкий’ (low), ‘жақсы’ – ‘хороший’ (good), ‘жаман’ – ‘плохой’ (bad), ‘қара’ – ‘черный’ (black), ‘сары’ – ‘желтый’ (yellow), ‘жаңа’ – ‘новый’ (new), ‘ескі’ – ‘старый’ (old), etc. ‘Жақсы Жалғызтау’ – ‘Жаман Жалғызтау’, ‘Қіші Каракөл’ – ‘Үлкен Каракөл’, ‘Ұлы Талдық’ – ‘Бала Талдық’, ‘Новый Колутон’ – ‘Старый Колутон’. Calking is one of means to transfer Kazakh names to the Russian toponymy. E.g., ‘Кургаккына’ – ‘Сухие Кны’, ‘Шиели’ – ‘Вишневое’, ‘Сфинкс’ – ‘Жумбактас’. Both hybrid and calk names arising out of word-forming adaptation are used in the Kazakh and Russian toponymy of the region.

Over the last years the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan adopted laws and regulations promoting development of the national language and toponymic science. Normalization of the toponymic system in Akmola Region in the modern period is a crucial task. At present an active national and cultural traditions renaissance process is in progress, this is reflected in formation of toponymic ideology of the region people. Kazakhstan toponymy is a component of a rich cultural heritage of people, their language and history, which is handed down from generation to generation reflecting wisdom, psychology of the nation, its lifestyle and natural resources. Nowadays the standardization and normalization of toponymic geographical names in our young country are crucial taking into account the immensely increasing contacts with the world community, its entrance into international life, cooperation in different areas of public life as the toponymic names of administrative and territorial units, populated settlements and physical and geographical objects in the Republic of Kazakhstan are actively functioning in many countries around the world.

The National Onomastic Commission under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Kazakhstan is conducting together with leading linguists a huge work on renaming and restoration of historic names. Over the recent years many distorted names of populated settlements have been gradually improving. Names and renaming of many geographical objects as well as their transliteration changes have been fixed by legislation.

Kazakh toponyms, which were earlier used based on toponym-forming model of the Russian language through adding gender endings and such affixes as ‘-ка’, ‘-ск’, ‘-ский’, etc., when using and writing in Kazakh are nowadays transferred according to toponym-forming model of the Kazakh language: ‘Абай ауылы’ – ‘ауыл Абай’ (Abai village), ‘Балықты өзені’ – ‘озеро Балықты’ (the Balykty Lake) (previously - Balyktinskoye). Kazakh proper nouns ending with ‘-ды/-ді’, ‘-лы/лі’, ‘-ты/ті’, ‘-шы/ші’ are supplemented with affixes ‘-нский’, ‘-нская’, ‘-нское’: ‘Шортанды ауданы’ – ‘Шортандынский район’

(Shortandy region), ‘Егіндікөл ауданы’ – ‘Егіндыкольский район’ (Yegyndykolskiy rayon). Kazakh geographic names ending with ‘-лы/ли’, ‘-ты/ти’, ‘-ды/ди’ showing the availability or surplus of something, but not the plurality of the object itself are not indeclinable: ‘в Силеті’, ‘в Сабынды’, ‘в Карғалы’ (‘в Сабындах’, ‘в Силетах’, etc. are not allowed).

Russian names of geographic objects in the Kazakh language are completely transliterated in compliance with names writing rules in Russian: ‘г. Степногорск’, ‘Степногорск қаласы’ (Stepnogorsk town). New names of populated settlements are being actively included in vocabulary and adapted in the language, but with the modern pronunciation rules taken into account.

Analyzing newspaper publications we may see that toponyms are used according to the established rules. E.g., in *Akmolinskaya Gazeta* newspaper we read: *History of Akmola (Malinovka) is related to I. Sharf, whose meaning of life was the establishment of a wonderful oasis in the steppe, Malinovka village*. First, in this context both new and old (returned) names are used, as the old name is still a more familiar ‘buzz word’. In order for toponyms to be used more actively more time is required. Many renamed names take place in official documents only and in speech the old names are used. Second, new Kazakh name is used in the form adapted by the Russian language. In the newspaper context given below the Russian name of the village remained and is used according to the topofforming type of the Russian language: *In Orlovka village of the Yessil region based on a secondary school a children’s minicentre was established* (Info-Tses No. 26 dated 02 July 2010). In sentence *Korgalzhyn remains an unknown place even for local people despite the fact that it is located only two hours from Astana* the toponym is used in a new revised form according to topofforming type of the Kazakh language.

These examples prove that the Kazakh and Russian toponyms continue to interact under the modern conditions as well.

III. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

1. There are two toponymic systems in the territory of Akmola Region: Kazakh (Turk) and Russian (Slavik).
2. Kazakh toponymic system formed as a result of interaction with toponyms of the Russian language.
3. The result of the language interaction is the proper names showing the features of the geographic position, culture and way of life, specific lifestyle, relations of human with world and natural conditions.
4. One of crucial languages interaction forms is the interadaptation of toponyms at all languages levels.

It should be noted that toponyms in their deep and thorough study are able to give comprehensive information of the region history. Migration of people, their cultural and language development and interaction.

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