TILNING LEKSIK-SEMANTIK TIZIMI, QIYOSIY TIPOLOGIK IZLANISHLAR VA ADABIYOTSHUNOSLIK MUAMMOLARI

MATERIALLAR TO'PLAMI
XV

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BUXORO DAVLAT UNIVERSITETI

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BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TYPES OF TOPONYMS

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Abstract. Place names, or toponyms, are vital in understanding human interaction with geography, serving as repositories of history, culture, and identity. This thesis provides a comprehensive analysis of the different types of toponyms, exploring their origins, significance, and the stories they encapsulate. The study categorizes toponyms into descriptive, associative, incident-related, commemorative, possessive, folk etymology, manufactured, shifted, indigenous, religious, and mistaken toponyms, supported by diverse examples. By delving into the linguistic and cultural layers of these names, this research highlights the indispensable role of toponyms in preserving cultural heritage and interpreting historical landscapes.

Introduction. Toponyms are more than geographic markers; they are windows into the historical, cultural, and environmental evolution of a region. From ancient times to the present, humans have named places

to reflect their surroundings, commemorate significant events, or assert ownership. This paper aims to dissect the various types of toponyms, providing examples and analyses to illustrate their diverse origins and purposes. Understanding toponyms is crucial in geography, linguistics, anthropology, and cultural studies, as they often act as keys to uncovering lost histories and forgotten identities.

Main body. Categorization and analysis of Toponyms

Descriptive toponyms derive their names from the physical characteristics of a place. These names often provide insight into the geographic, climatic, or ecological features of the area. Example: Rocky Mountains describes the rugged terrain, while Long Island reflects the geographic shape of the location. Their importance is that Descriptive toponyms are functional, aiding early explorers and settlers in identifying and navigating unfamiliar territories.

Associative toponyms

These names are linked to a specific activity, function, or landmark associated with the place. Example: Salt Lake City is named for its proximity to the Great Salt Lake. Their significance is that Associative names highlight the socioeconomic or environmental importance of the location, often reflecting human-environment interaction.

Toponyms serve as linguistic artifacts, embedding layers of history and culture into the geography of a region. They facilitate understanding of human migration, colonization, and adaptation to the environment. For instance, descriptive and associative names often guide resource identification, while indigenous names connect modern societies to ancestral legacies. However, political and cultural shifts can lead to the erasure or modification of toponyms, as seen in post-colonial renaming efforts like Mumbai (formerly Bombay) and Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia). Despite their significance, toponyms face challenges in preservation and interpretation:

- Linguistic Evolution: Changes in language can obscure original meanings.
- Political Influences: Renaming for ideological reasons can erase historical identities.
- Urbanization: Rapid development often leads to the loss of traditional names.

A multidisciplinary approach that includes linguistics, history, and anthropology is essential for safeguarding toponymic heritage.

Conclusion. Toponyms encapsulate the intersection of geography, history, and culture, making them invaluable in understanding human-environment relationships. By studying their origins and types, we uncover narratives that transcend time, preserving collective memory and identity. As global dynamics evolve, efforts to document and protect toponyms are vital for maintaining cultural and historical continuity.

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