

The Use of Hydropoetonyms in Literary Onomastics

Bozorova Rufina Sharopovna

Bukhara State University, Senior Lecturer, Department of German Philology

rufinabozorova3@gmail.com

Abstract: This article explores the concept of the poetonym, its role in literary works, and its connection to onomastics. Poetonyms enrich the semantic field of literary texts and reflect the stylistic and poetic characteristics of the author. The study also discusses the classification of poetic onomastics and its manifestation in poetry, prose, and drama. Based on the perspectives of V.M. Mikhailov, S.I. Zinin, and N.V. Podolskaya, the article analyzes the functional features of poetonyms in literary texts.

Keywords: poetonym, onomastics, literary text, poetic onomastics, proper noun, semantics, stylistics, literary art, literary names, poetic expression.



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Introduction

The study of names in literary texts, known as literary onomastics, plays a crucial role in understanding an author's artistic and stylistic choices. Poetonyms, or proper names used in literary works, contribute to the semantic depth and expressive power of a text. These names, whether real or fictional, serve as an essential artistic tool, reflecting historical, cultural, and social contexts. This article explores the concept of poetonyms, their classification, and their significance in poetry, prose, and drama. By analyzing the works of scholars such as V.M. Mikhailov, S.I. Zinin, and N.V. Podolskaya, the study highlights the functional features of poetonyms and their role in shaping literary meaning.

Poetonym is a Greek-derived term meaning "reading," "poetic art," and "name." It refers to any proper noun used in a literary work. The semantic scope of a poetonym is revealed only within its context, as it exists within the "closed world" of the artistic text.

The term poetonym was first introduced in 1956 by V.M. Mikhailov, who used it to define the poetic expression of names in literary works. Later, S.I. Zinin paid special attention to this term and conducted several studies on the subject.

Proper names have long been a subject of interest for scholars. Since the emergence of linguistics in antiquity, the nature of proper names has fascinated researchers, and this lexical group continues to be a key focus within the field of onomastics. Artistic (poetic) onomastics is a relatively young scientific discipline, studied from various perspectives by different scholars.

Onomastics is closely linked to all social sciences, including philosophy, literary studies, theology, history, and ethnography. It should be noted that a nation's onomastic world often intersects with that of other linguistic communities, enriching itself through the exchange of proper names across languages [1].

V.N. Mikhailov emphasizes that onomastic categories have distinctive characteristics compared to other linguistic units in literary texts. They play a crucial role in shaping the figurative system of a literary work. The complexity and appeal of this system are evident in literary texts, as names form an integral part of the narrative. Proper names in artistic works can reflect local color, historical periods, and social characteristics. German scholars support this view, stating that "a correctly understood literary onomastics serves as a key to uncovering previously unexplored artistic dimensions, allowing insight into the writer's workshop and the charm of their works." [2].

In modern linguistics, one of the primary approaches to analyzing literary texts is poetic onomastics, which involves the study of poetonyms. This field is closely related to literary criticism, stylistics, poetry, semiotics, linguistics, and other disciplines.

Poetonyms hold a significant place within the semantic field of a literary work, contributing to the full disclosure of its meaning. The semantic aspect of proper names enriches the characterization of literary figures. A poetonym is a literary creation employed by a poet or writer, often reflecting their artistic individuality or the poetic nature of their work. In this sense, poetonyms, or literary names, represent a distinct category of words that provide valuable material for analyzing the stylistic mastery of various authors.

Poetonyms can be categorized into different types: names of people (anthropopoetonyms), geographic locations (topopoetonyms), celestial bodies (cosmopoetonyms), and names of animals (zoopoetonyms), which are commonly found in folklore and fables.

Proper names in literary works serve as inseparable elements of the poetic form, contributing to artistic imagery. They carry semantic weight and may possess hidden associative backgrounds and unique expressive features. Elements of artistic onomastics reflect national mentality, historical periods, and social characteristics.

Some studies classify "poetic onomastics" based on literary types and genres, dividing it into:

1. Poetic onomastics of poetry – covering lyrics, poems, and ballads.
2. Onomastics of artistic prose – appearing in stories, novellas, and novels.
3. Dramatic onomastics – associated with comedy, drama, and tragedy [2].

In the second edition of N.V. Podolskaya's "Dictionary of Russian Onomastic Terminology," poetic onomastics is described as "a branch of onomastics that studies any artistic names (poetonyms) in literary works, including their creation principles, style, role in texts, reader perception, and the author's worldview and aesthetic perspective."

However, there are differing views on the term "poetic onomastics." O.N. Fonyakova argues that the term should be applied exclusively to poetic discourse, thereby narrowing its scope. Uzbek linguist D. Andaniyazova has examined the linguistic and poetic study of onomastic units in literary texts. She notes that these units were initially analyzed under the terms "onomapoetics" and "poetic onomastics." She also highlights inconsistencies in terminology, as the field has been referred to as "literary onomastics," "stylistic onomastics," and "poetic onomastics."

Some researchers, including V.M. Kalinkin, M.V. Karpenko, and V.A. Nikonov, have used terms like "literary onym," "literary-artistic onym," and "proper names in the language of writers." "Poetic onomastics" has also been called "literary onomastics," "onomastic poetics," and "stylistic onomastics" [3].

A specific subgroup of poetonyms includes author-created poetonyms, which embody the author's ideas and artistic concepts, often serving as carriers of the central artistic message. Poetonyms can also appear in oral artistic traditions, including folklore.

There are two main perspectives on defining "poetonyms": a "narrow" literary perspective and a "broad" onomastic one. From a literary standpoint, poetonyms include "names possessing a unique poetic meaning, such as mythological and exotic names." In contrast, onomastics defines poetonyms as "names with nominative, descriptive, stylistic, and ideological functions in artistic literature".

According to V.M. Kalinkin, poetonyms are "proper names in literary texts characterized by the dynamic nature of their meaning and their unstable affiliation with onomastic or appellative vocabulary." A.A. Fomin sees poetonyms as "proper names that serve a poetic function in literary texts," while E.N. Loskutova equates them to "the names of literary characters".

Different scholars analyze poetonyms within the context of literary genres. T.V. Nemirovskaya, for instance, associates them exclusively with poetic works, while N.V. Podolskaya categorizes them as literary onomastic terms. Most scholars, including V.M. Kalinkin, A.A. Fomin, and A.V. Superanskaya, consider poetonyms to be a universal feature of artistic texts, studied primarily from a literary perspective.

Based on international scholarly perspectives, it can be concluded that the term poetonym fully captures the unique characteristics of proper names in literary texts, enabling authors to achieve their artistic and ideological goals.

Uzbek scholar D. Andaniyazova argues that not every name in a literary text qualifies as a poetonym; rather, only those serving the artistic purpose of the work should be classified as such. She proposes that specialized terms such as "anthropopoetonym" for poetic character names, "zoopoetonym" for animal names, and "topopoetonym" for place names be used to refine the terminology. Similarly, researcher Feruz Rajabov suggests distinguishing "poetic anthroponyms," "poetic toponyms," and "poetic zoonyms" rather than simply referring to them as anthroponyms, toponyms, and zoonyms [4].

Given these perspectives, poetonyms should be considered a core subject of poetic onomastics. A poetonym is a real or fictional name used by an author in a literary work, carrying unique expressive functions and special meanings beyond conventional proper names. At the same time, poetonyms serve as an essential artistic tool in literary composition.

Onomastics refers to the study of proper names in a given language, whereas poetonymology is the branch specifically concerned with poetonyms. Hydropoetonyms, a subset of poetonyms, belong to this category.

Methodology

This study employs a qualitative research approach, focusing on literary analysis and onomastic examination. The research is based on a review of theoretical frameworks proposed by leading scholars such as V.M. Mikhailov, S.I. Zinin, and N.V. Podolskaya, who have contributed to the field of poetic onomastics. To analyze the role and classification of poetonyms, the study adopts a comparative and descriptive method, examining poetonyms across different literary genres, including poetry, prose, and drama. The research also integrates elements of semantic and stylistic analysis to explore how poetonyms function within the broader context of literary texts. Additionally, historical and cross-linguistic perspectives are considered to understand the evolution of poetic onomastics and its variations in different cultural and linguistic traditions. The study further categorizes poetonyms into subtypes such as anthropopoetonyms, topopoetonyms, cosmopoetonyms, and zoopoetonyms to provide a detailed classification of literary names. By combining these analytical approaches, this research aims to provide a comprehensive

understanding of poetonyms, highlighting their artistic, stylistic, and functional significance in literature.

Results and Discussion

The study confirms that poetonyms are not just proper names but essential elements of literary texts, enriching their semantic and stylistic depth. Poetonyms serve as markers of historical, cultural, and artistic identity, contributing to character development, symbolism, and thematic expression. The classification of poetonyms into anthropopoetonyms, toponymonyms, cosmopoetonyms, and zoopoetonyms highlights their diverse functions in poetry, prose, and drama. The analysis supports scholars' views that poetonyms enhance narrative structure and artistic imagery. The study also reveals inconsistencies in terminology, with terms like "literary onomastics" and "poetic onomastics" being used interchangeably. This indicates the need for clearer categorization in future research. Overall, poetonyms play a crucial role in literary onomastics, shaping meaning and enhancing the reader's interpretation of texts.

Conclusion

This study highlights the significance of poetonyms in literary onomastics, demonstrating their role in enriching the semantic, stylistic, and artistic aspects of a text. Poetonyms contribute to character development, thematic depth, and cultural identity across various literary genres. Their classification into different types further clarifies their functions in poetry, prose, and drama. Despite terminological inconsistencies, the study reaffirms that poetonyms are essential tools in literary expression, shaping meaning and enhancing artistic impact. Future research should explore their cross-cultural variations and deeper linguistic functions in literary texts.

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