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SEMANTIC CLUES IN DIVERSITY OF TURKISH PERSONAL NAMES

The richness of anthroponym offers valuable information about history, psychology, religion and literature as well as customs of the society. Additionally, this wide classification mirrors both semantic and linguistic units, which raise curiosity of researchers.

Key words: Turkish Identification, Onomastics, Antroponomy, Semantics, Turkish language, Turkish Personal Names

СЕМАНТИЧЕСКИЕ КЛАСТЕРЫ В РАЗНООБРАЗИИ ТУРЕЦКИХ ЛИЧНЫХ ИМЕН

Богатство антропонима включает ценную информацию об истории, психологии, религии и литературе, а также обычаях общества. Кроме того, эта широкая классификация отражает как семантические, так и лингвистические единицы, что представляет интерес для исследователей.

Ключевые слова: турецкая идентификация, ономастика, антропономия, семантика, турецкий язык, турецкие личные имена.

The concept of identity is defined as awareness of people that belong to some groups determining their place in the social and cultural space in the World. Its critical perspective gives the others to understand identity formation within the contexts of history, politics, and discourse. The identification is performed with the help of onomastics, a clue symbol of identity, and it is the focus of several intercultural studies and considered as incompletely explored, yet. It was articulated that modern linguistics, sociolinguistics or pragmatics and discourse analysis have taken less interest in proper names [1] and additionally, social relations, grammaticality, cohesiveness and coherence of them are insufficient [2]. Scholars [3] also underline importance of the pragmatic theory of properhood and its remaining unsolicited in theoretical onomastics regarding mention the syntactic features of proper names. When investigated proper names and surnames of

Turkish people, a wide classification is observed in terms of representing both conceptions (semantic) and language structures (morphology). Conceptual richness includes patriotism, religion, nationality, anatomic parts, atmospheric and natural phenomena, seasons and months, metal and mine names, animals, fruits, flowers and plants, colours, occupations, common names in everyday life, names of addressing in society, abstract names, regions, sounds and greetings [4, p. 665]. If language structures are on focus, there is a range of grammatical patterns including functional words-verbs (present / past tense), adjectives, negativity, gerunds, participles, nouns (simple/compound/derivation), numbers, as well as religion, location, emotion, art, and occupational names. Some examples of classifications based on personal name and surname are observed as names according to their rank in the family like the first and the oldest child, *İlker* ‘the first soldier’ or *Soner* ‘the last soldier’; or inspiration by flowers as *Gül* ‘rose’, fruits *Kiraz* ‘cherry’ vegetables. Turkish names are taken from family elders either alive or passed away, similar names are given to twins (*Demet* ‘bunch’-*Buket* ‘bouquet’) for girls and (*Bülent*-*Levent*) for boys. Then, names are given as compatible factors with sister names (*Nuriye*-*Huriye*) for girls and (*Tevfik*-*Fikret*) for boys. Names are given when mother or other family member is affected by a dream during the pregnancy (*Serap* ‘mirage’). It is also common to give religious names to reveal the family’s respect to Islam; additionally, occurrences such as war, disease, death, floods, good harvests and even inaugurations of kings are reflected by names. As mentioned, Turkish naming diversity could be termed as super diversity since the ones given above are one part of naming in Turkish culture. The aim of this presentation is to attempt to sort out linguistic semantics in Turkish proper names regarding semantic diversity in conceptual and linguistic features. Semantics as an attempt to explicate the knowledge of a language allows individuals to detect hidden richness on facts, feelings, intentions and depth of the culture of other speakers and to understand the inspiration given in the culture itself. All the hints in the names raise curiosity about learning morphological items as well as indication of family background. The study was conveyed using the corpora of Turkish Statistics Institution (TUIK) proper names. The findings reveal that these names reflect a super-diversity ranging from historical, religious to ideological, literary aspects. Turkish as an agglutinative language offers critical language awareness of names and surnames going beyond their isolated word formations.

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