



Linguoculturological Features of English Toponyms

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ABSTRACT

The article deals with the issues of toponymic research in the linguoculturological aspect. Special attention is paid to the origin, etymology and history of place names in Great Britain. The structural and semantic analysis of toponyms is given, the historical features of the development of the English language that influenced geographical proper names are revealed, their classification is given in accordance with etymology.

Keywords:

toponym, toponymy, linguacultural, language, layer, element, component, etymology, aspect, analysis.

Introduction

The relevance of the study of toponyms is due to the broad interest in the problem of the interaction of language and culture. When studying geographical names, it is impossible not to encounter the culture of peoples who are native speakers of this language. The language develops and is replenished thanks to the environment that surrounds it. The interrelation of culture in language and language in culture is the key that opens up difficulties in language acquisition. Linguists claim that language not only develops and forms in culture, but also names and expresses all its concepts. The result of these studies was the emergence of a new science – linguoculturology. Linguoculturology – as a modern and independent science was developed in the 90s of the XX century, the object of study of which is the cultural semantics of linguistic units in the relationship of language and culture. This is confirmed in the works of the American linguist E. Sepir "Language is a guide in "social reality"", which "is becoming increasingly important as a

guiding principle in the scientific study of culture "[6, p.223]. Linguoculturology is a science that studies glimpses of the culture of the people reflected in the language. This science arose at the junction of two disciplines: linguistics and cultural studies, combining them into one whole, into a new scientific direction.

It is linguoculturology that has a close connection with toponymy. Toponymy (from other-Greek. topos "place" + nimia — "name,") is a section of onomastics that studies geographical names, their origin, semantics, development and their pronunciation. When researching and interpreting toponyms, we study the culture of peoples, their language and geographical features of their locality. The toponyms that called the early settlements of Great Britain reflected the geographical objects on which they were formed. Over time, the languages in which they were created became obsolete or fell out of use, and many toponyms died out or lost their original meanings [4, p. 154].

Materials And Methods

The history of the English language is very rich in various tribes and peoples who inhabited the British Isles. And each nation has left its own imprint in English culture, which is reflected in language, culture, history, architecture and much more.

The vocabulary of the English language is enriched by borrowings that had a significant impact on the vocabulary of the language, which even displaced the original words. Linguists have given the ratio of the number of words: 70% are borrowed words and 30% are native words in English. So in English you can find the influence of Latin, Norman, French and German.

The influence of other languages can also be found in the geographical names of Great Britain. You can find both foreign-language words - toponyms and morphemes describing the places where these settlements were located. Analyzing the toponyms of modern English, you can identify their semantics: the toponym London means "the town that belonged to London", Cambridge - by translation, you can understand the meaning of two words "bridge over the river Cam", Liverpool - "muddy pond". Many toponyms continue to live, retaining their meaning and elements of the Old English languages, but you can find very ancient names, the exact semantics of which no one knows.

According to the history of the conquest, it is not difficult to determine the relative chronology of the origin of toponyms, but it is impossible to establish the exact date of the formation of some toponyms. The language was replenished with each wave of conquerors and immigrants, who brought their own language and dialect with them. The captured territories were given new names, thanks to which it is possible to trace the settlers who inhabited this territory. It is possible to distinguish several groups according to the origin of toponyms, taking into account the ancient dialects spoken in the British Isles.

1. The first group is place names of Celtic origin, which can be divided into several subgroups according to a variety of dialects:

1. Place names of Brittonic origin, Leeds - "river district"; Glasgow (Glasgow);

2) toponyms of Welsh origin, for example, Cardiff (Cardiff) - "fort on the river Taf"; The main part of toponyms including elements such as l lan- (church), a ber- (mouth of the river), p en- (cape or hill), etc. Welsh place names are more associated with the natural features of the area than with people related to it. Therefore, they are mainly characterized by elements designating and describing rivers, hills, valleys, etc. The obvious exception are toponyms with the prefix l lan (church). Often in the composition of such toponyms there is a proper name indicating the Saint to whom the church is related. So the city of Llanfair has the meaning of "St. Mary's Church", because the name Mary is from the English Mary, and from the Welsh Maig was transformed into the element -fair.

3) place names of Pictish origin (Their number is very small, and they are an indicator of the distribution of Pictish settlements that lived in the north of Scotland.) For example, Pitcastle - "the share belonging to the castle";

4) place names of Gaelic origin, which consist of Irish and Scottish names, for example, Douglas (Douglas) - "black creek".

2. The second group is toponyms of Latin origin. Latin names are rare, but sometimes found: , for example, chester/ caster, meaning "camp, fort". For example, take the city of Doncaster (Doncaster) - "Roman fort on the river".

3. The third group - toponyms of Anglo-Saxon origin. The invasion of the Anglo-Saxons on the British Isles greatly influenced the culture of England, which can still be seen in the names of large cities: Liverpool - "pond with muddy water", Oxford - "cattle ford".

Anglo-Saxon toponymy is dominated by names formed from ethnic groups and proper names (35%) indicating ownership: Sunningwell (the name of the tribe with the patronymic suffix -inga, wella) - "stream of the Sangashg tribe"; Abingdon - "Ebba hill".

In the names of this period, one can trace the transition from mythological and pagan views to the Christianization of the country

(1% of the names): Drakenhord field - "dragon's treasure"; Elvendon - "a hill inhabited by elves"; Poppets Hill - "a pit inhabited by goblins"; Grimsbuty - "fortress of a supernatural deity", Berinsfield village - the name comes from the name of Bishop St. Birinius.

The names of trees, numerous woodlands of the county of the Anglo—Saxon period are reflected in the toponymy: Woodstock — "settlement near the forest"; Grendon Underwood — "green hill near the forest"; Ashlee Wood - "ash forest"; Oakley - "oak forest"; In ix — "boxwood forest"; Woodperry - "pear forest". However, toponyms formed from the rich wild fauna are few: Foscot "land of foxes"; Goosey "goose island".

The Anglo—Saxon geographical names record the active activity of people and their social development: the use of natural resources, farming (Chawley — "pasture for calves"; Tackley — "a place where young sheep are kept"), agriculture (Wheatley — "a plot of land cleared for wheat cultivation"; Rycote - "a village where it grows rye"), protection of the territory (Warborough - "observation post").

4. The fourth group is toponyms of Scandinavian origin, including names of Norman and Danish origin. These names reflect a broad Scandinavian contribution to the history of the settlement of the islands. To illustrate this group, you can take G.Darby (Darby) – "village of animals".

5. The fifth group of place names of Norman-French origin, Ridgmont (Ridgmont) – "crest of the mountain". It should be noted that these names are few.

Results

Modern English toponyms were formed, in addition to English proper, from various linguistic sources. Celts, Romans, Vikings, Normans not only contributed to the development of culture and language, but also greatly influenced the toponymy of the British Isles. As a result of prolonged and numerous conquests and settlements, various topopimic layers are layered, hybrid names appear, which are composed of elements of several languages belonging to different historical epochs. As a

rule, these names are assimilated and adapted to meet the norms of the English language.

Discussion

Linguistic and cultural analysis of toponyms allows us to consider them as a repository of knowledge about the language and culture of the country. Geographical names are a reflection of the history of the nation, they record various periods of development and prosperity of the language and culture of society. The study of geographical names is one of the urgent problems of modern linguistics, because, appearing in different historical periods, toponyms develop depending on the peculiarities of the development of society, reflecting its various layers of life and vital activity. Toponyms contain significant cultural information, the national culture of the ethnos. A geographical name may appear as a result of any political or economic changes in society, and then store cultural and historical information about its epoch for a long time, passing it on to subsequent generations. Toponyms contain information about the life and beliefs of people, their historical contacts, information about the language, culture and history of the people is "encoded" in them. The ethnolinguistic approach presented in the works of A. S. Gerd, N. I. has become widespread. Tolstoy, E. L. Berezovich, and the linguoculturological approach, reflected primarily in the works of the founders of the linguistic theory of the word, E. M. Vereshchagin, V. G. Kostomarov and V. D. Bondaletov [7, p.320].

Conclusion.

The study of toponyms from the point of view of linguoculturology as an element of the toposystem allows us to determine its place both in the language system and in the conceptual picture of the world of a certain linguistic and cultural community. Toponyms play an important role in the formation of national and, consequently, linguistic consciousness. They correlate with the system of culturally marked values and ideas and serve as a kind of markers of an individual's

belonging to the corresponding linguistic culture.

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