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Linguogeographic phenomena in the development of orographic terms in Kazakh language

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Abstract

Relevance. An important role in naming the object is played by people's attitude to the object based on peculiarities of everyday life and traditions. In Kazakh language the names of geographical features were given on the basis of people's world view and were often used for the orientation purposes. It is important to look into the past in order to learn more about the peculiarities of the current concepts of particular people.

Purpose. The purpose of the study is to discuss the names of the terrain and the characteristics of their development in the Kazakh language.

Methodology. The names of the terrain and the characteristics of their development can be considered in three different directions in accordance with the laws of unified nature of the language: first, the relationship between the level of nature study of the population and the principles of naming; second, the problems of using terms related to the names of geographical features in modern science; third, the tendencies of development of orographic terms in Kazakh language.

Results. The main peculiarity of nature study by nomads is that they do not stay in one place, but are constantly on the move. The study concludes that the great changes in the life of humanity require the adaptation of the vocabulary to the modern times. Names describing the image of the Great Steppe should become active members of the language of science in accordance with modern requirements.

Conclusions. General and singular names of geographical features in Kazakh language are developing in this way, taking common terms in the international space and adapting ancient terms to the requirements of the new time.

Keywords: toponyms, naming the object, image of the territory, human-natural relations, vernacular.

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Introduction

The tradition of population to assign toponymic names and problems of linguistic marking of landscape spaces are closely interrelated. Taking into account the nature of the space, the naming is carried out on the basis of attitude of the population to the geographical feature. Based on linguistic experience, it is suggested that first appear words describing nature, which turn into appellatives in the course of time. Objects of the Earth are diverse: water objects – their flow, color, taste, size, relation to other objects; terrain – features of a deep, high, flat or intermediary character; the flora and fauna of the region, color, location of the objects, everything is reflected in their names.

An important role in naming the object is played by people's attitude to the object based on peculiarities of everyday life and traditions. In Kazakh language the names of geographical features were given on the basis of people's world view and were often used for the orientation purposes. It is important to look into the past in order to learn more about the peculiarities of the current concepts of particular people. Modern studies underline an important role of human-natural relations in the inventory of toponymic names [1-3], however along with general linguistic factors, there are often dissimilar principles of naming objects, connected to people's cultural, economic, domestic and other traditions.

The names of the terrain and the characteristics of their development, which will be discussed in the article, can be considered in three different directions in accordance with the laws of unified nature of the language: *first*, the relationship between the level of nature study of the population and the principles of naming; *second*, the problems of using terms related to the names of geographical features in modern science; *third*, the tendencies of development of orographic terms in Kazakh language. Searching for the basis of formation and stages of development of natural feature names in Kazakh language at the intersection of these three directions allows us to comprehensively consider the solution to the problem.

In terms of geographical features, the terrain of the Kazakh steppe is very diverse: hillocks, highlands, hills, mountains, peaks, gorges etc., each of which is depicted in the eyes of people inhabiting this steppe and settled in their minds. The main peculiarity of nature study by nomads is that they do not stay in one place, but are constantly on the move, that is, people constantly migrate within the territory of their state along with their village or an entire tribe, each crust of the terrain does not go unnoticed, and the names given to the objects immediately become common and quickly normalized in the language [4-6]. This peculiarity can be explained by the concept of macro and microtoponym. For example, toponyms such as Saryarka (Great steppe), Altai (Golden mountain), Zhetysu (the region with seven rivers), Atyrau (a valley surrounded by water; an island), etc., are the names given to the large parts of state's territory like South, North, West, East, Central part, depending on characteristics of the geographical features (the Center and North are called Saryarka under one name). From this

point of view, toponyms can also be evaluated as a regulatory tool for the state structure [7-9].

Problems of Using Terms Related to Geographical Features

It is possible to determine the transition paths, orient in routes without getting lost in the wide and flat steppes, and find places with water sources only when geographical features are properly named. Thus, in addition to the previously mentioned macrotoponyms, small objects such as *waterhole, hill, hillside, gully, ravine, mountain, lake, spring, water, water source, meadow, kara (place where wind always blows and snow does not land) mountain, pass, chasm, well*, etc., were named under these names in connection with domestic needs, and many of them became microtoponyms using word-forming methods. The people, taking care of their economy, gave names to all existing lands on the basis of their features. Once the picture and meaning of a geographical feature of a particular region have been defined in the linguistic consciousness, and the name assigned to it have become common, it has acquired the function of a landmark in the vast space and transmitted various information about the steppe nature.

The image of the territory in which they live was clearly depicted in the minds of people who migrate four times a year: in summer to zhailau (summer pasture), in fall to kuzeu (autumn pasture), in winter to qystau (winter pasture), in spring to kokteu (spring pasture), and the image of this cognitive world was reflected in the language through the names. *Biospheric state* of the territory is reflected in such zootoponyms as: Aigyrzhal (Horse ridge), Koisuat (Sheep waterhole), Koitobe (Sheep hill) Koyantobe (Hare hill), Tulkishoky (Fox hill), Bugylyozek (Deer gorge), Bugylsai (Deer gully), Zhylandytau (Snake mountain), Shortanshoky (Pike hill), etc. (habitats of these animals); phytotoponyms: Tobolgysai (Spiraea gully), Kaiynsai (Birch gully), Terektau (Poplar mountain), Kogalykol (Typha lake), Konyrolen (Brown grass) (places where these plants often grow); *hydrosphere state*: Mynbulak (Thousand springs) (the place with many springs) Aksu (White water) (flowing water), Karasu (Black water) (water that pools in one place), Kokqainar (Green spring) (spring that is green around), Karasaz (Black clay) (dark clay land), Aksaz (White clay) (light clay land), etc.; *atmospheric conditions*: Akboran (White storm) (Stormy land), Zhylysai (Warm gully) (place where water does not freeze in winter), Suyksai (Cold gully) (place where water is cool in summer), Zheldikara (Windy black) (constantly blowing, snow falls, the land is dark) Zheltau (Windy mountain) (a mountain with frequent winds), Borandyasu (Stormy pass) (a pass with a blizzard), etc. The fact that toponyms such as *Shynyrau* (Chasm), *Koskudyk* (Double well), *Zhangizkudyk* (Lonely well), *Altykudyk* (Six wells), etc., were formed in connection with the household using underground water, provides information about the *noospheric state*. The picture of nature and cognitive space contributed to the emergence of such toponyms and names of geographical features in the language.

At the present time, the evolution of vernacular terms, developed within the culture and worldview of the people, including the world of natural science, requires special research. As different spheres of life of the population are classified in connection with the development of science, economy and linguistic-cultural relations, the elements of the vocabulary describing the earth's crust are adapted to different branches and acquire functions in accordance with the requirements of the new times. In particular, questions arising on terminological issues are expected to be answered both geographically and philologically.

In the years of research in Kazakh onomastics, the names of geographical features were studied from different sides, special dictionaries were published, an interpretation of each name was given and an analysis of the etymological nature was made. Among these works are dictionaries and scientific studies of scientists of the previous generation Ye. M. Murzayev [10], A. Abdyrakhmanov [11], T. Zhanuzak [12], E. Koyshybayev [13], G. Konkashbayev [14] and others. Despite the fact that these and other works have already been published, the issues of demand and the creation of new names arising from the emergence of new concepts and the new qualitative level of linguistic activity set before us new tasks. These tasks include the *unification of existing terms* used as an aggregate name for vernacular terms of geographical features, and the *classification of vernacular terms into branches*, as well as a special analysis of their activities from the perspective of interdisciplinary research.

The unification of terms is one of the topical problems of the modern Kazakh language, as there are contradictions of opinions among scholars: “the use of the original international terms” and “the use of translation”. Alternative terms also arise during translating because of the lack of mutual agreement among the authors. For this reason, the geographical features referred to in the article are named differently. The very notion of “names of geographical features” was once labelled “vernacular terms” and now “geographical terms”. The former was so called in the folk language since ancient times, while the concept of geographical term arose in the process of the formation of the science.

In Kazakh language, the traditional vernacular terms, directly involved in the formation of toponyms, have different names among onomastic scholars. In this regard, U. Yerzhanova [15] noted that “geographical terms play an active role in toponymy, and can stand on different positions”. Due to this versatile activity in formation of toponym, these terms have different names in toponymy. “They are also called *national geographical terms, determinatives, indicating terms, toponymic forms, or components of a complex word*”. A similar opinion was expressed by B. Biyarov [16], arguing that the concept of “geographical term” continues to be used in Kazakh language similar to such concepts as *common name, appellative, nomen, nomenclature, toponymic term*. And K. Saparov [17] refers such words as “swamp, steppe, plateau, plain, puddle, shelf, sand, isthmus, clay, mud” and others to “orographic terms” describing the surface covers.

Due to the diverse use of terms by scientists, the authors see two problems: first, the demand for

coherence, and second, the need for coherence remains relevant not only in the Kazakh language, but also internationally, which is especially important for the language of science. Each of these terms, used as an aggregate name for geographical features, has different meanings individually, so the motives for referring to the term are also different. For instance, the name “*indicating term, components of a complex word*” has no geographical meaning, there is only a linguistic description of the word structure. Similarly, while “national geographic terms” are limited only to the scope of a particular language, “determinatives” also include non-geographical terms, and therefore, generality prevails over concreteness in their meaning.

Term coining in language is a phenomenon that in many ways accompanies deepening of scientific research and the establishment of scientific concepts, so in such controversial situations the completion of this process requires a certain amount of time [18; 19]. Considering this issue, the authors would prefer to focus on one of these terms according to the topic in question rather than assessing the quality of these terms, which in turn would help to clarify toponymic concepts.

Specific examples of geographical features and the principles of naming them in Kazakh language require that their laws be followed in defining the meaning of terms. The concept of “names of geographical features” has a universal and generalising meaning because all the terms mentioned earlier can be referred to by this name, just as it summarizes all the terms in its scope. The concept of “terrain”, which is mentioned in the article, is more closely related to the “orographic term” among the previously mentioned ones. N. Podolskaya [20] in her onomastic dictionary bases on the opinion of Ye. Murzayev [10], who notes that the term “Oronym” refers to the proper name of any geographical feature, i.e., an orographic object. The root of the *oronym* comes from the Greek “oros” – the names of mountains, hills, peaks, hence the name of the terrain mentioned in the article corresponds to the “orographic term”. In modern science, it is also said that “orography” is a branch of geomorphology and physical geography that deals with the description of the terrain” [8; 21].

In addition to the common problems in the international space, each language has its own specific features in terminology coining and conceptualization. In Kazakh language, vocabulary grouped under the concept of “orographic terms”, is divided into two groups: “names of terrain” and “names of the earth crust”, depending on the geographical features of the territory of the state and the peculiarities of people’s knowledge about it. The name “terrain” defines the relief of the earth surface like hollow, flat, high, for example: *gully, washout, range, cliff, peak, gorge, valley, pit, slope, range, hill* etc. And the name “earth crust” refers to the outer layer of the earth. These names include such geographical terms as *tastak* (land with lots of stones), *saz* (clay land), *kum* (sandy valley), *takyr* (land with little vegetation), *zhosa* (red-yellow soil, coloured by water), *topyrak* (surface of the earth, soil), *balkash* (boggy, watery, soddy ground), *kopa* (wet, swampy land with thick reeds), etc. and there are toponyms *Aktopyrak (White sand), Sarytopyrak (Yellow sand)*, which are derived from these terms. Traditional toponym coining examples like *Saryozek*

(Yellow gorge), *Kyzylzhar* (Red steep), have components *ozek* (gorge), *zhar* (steep) which represent the terrain of a geographical feature, the words *sary* (yellow) and *kyzyl* (red) indicate the color of the soil, that give an information about the surface of the earth.

Tendencies of Development of Orographic Terms in Kazakh Language

Due to the development of linguistic culture, science and education, and renewal of economic relations most geographical terms in native Kazakh society have three different functions: *scientific terms*, *literary vocabulary*, and *onyms*. Now the authors shall look at each of them in detail. The geographical and philological understanding of a term have interrelations and peculiarities. For example, in geography words like *range*, *ridge*, *hillock*, *passage*, *peak*, *chasm*, *hummock* are orographic terms, as well as the names of geographical features, which later became toponyms, and in the language of literature they are used figuratively as an artistic means. This situation refers to three different directions in the process of language development: the first – as an element of fiction language; the second – as an orographic term; the third – as a toponym.

Tendencies of development of orographic terms as an element of fiction language. In fiction, geographical feature names are often figurative. This freedom allows new thoughts to be conveyed. The freedom can also be seen through the substitution of one word with another. According to the linguistic interpretation, most orographic terms are synonymous, i.e., in the explanatory dictionary, one type is placed next to the other in order to clarify the meaning of one. For example, “*ridge* is a mountain *range* of various heights (large, small, low). His ears were listening to his granny, though his eyes were looking at a distant blue mountain, a thick *zhota* (hummock) of Shyngys (M. Auyezov, Selected)”, – it is also said that “*Zhal* (ridge) is a linear, sloping *kyrat* (range), a type of geographical feature, mountain massif, *zhon-zhota* (hilly area), *adyr* (rock) [22; 23]. In this interpretation, there is no clear semantic difference between the words *zhota* (hummock), *kyr* (hill), *kyrat* (range), *zhal* (ridge), *zhon-zhota* (hilly area), *adyr* (rock). In order to clarify the meaning of the term “*zhota*”, the words “*kyr*, *kyrat*” are used, and in the interpretation of the word “*zhal*”, the words “*kyrat*, *zhon-zhota*, *adyr*” are used as synonyms.

The distinction between the semantic norm in the language of science and the norm in works of fiction is a phenomenon that coincides with the development of language. The geographical feature names are used as an artistic means in spoken language and in fiction. *Bel* (passage) – is an open, wide *asu* (mountain pass) that can be found in *zhon* (hillside), *kyr* (hill), *zhal* (ridge), *adyr* (rock) The meaning of these words is also transmitted as “intermediary, middle”. This phrase has acquired a new meaning in the course of time “*Belge shyqty* (to reach the passage), that is, to reach the average, grow wiser” which became a new artistic means. When using the term “*asu*” (pass) (a low-lying place, convenient for passing a mountain range) such expressions as the *pass of dreams*, *the pass of life*, *overcoming the pass* are often used as an artistic means for “transitions of life, periods of life”; the

term *beles* (passage) (*long, hummocky passover, passage, hillside*) is used figuratively in such expressions as *life passages*, *historical passages*, *educational passages*, etc. associated with *growth, development, life stages*.

In the language of prose and poetry, orographic terms are used interchangeably, contributing to the development of language culture, and new names are formed through the figurative meaning. “*Zhailau*” as a term is a summer settlement, a remote summer pasture for livestock. And *ken zhailau* (wide summer pasture), *zhany zhailau* (summer pasture soul) or *konili zhailau* (summer pasture mood) (cheerful) are figurative phrases. “In the distance, in the *zhailau* of Abay, the horse of poetry is grazing” (M. Makatayev) [22], – the world of the great poet Abay – is described like *zhailau* (summer pasture). The concept of *zhailau* contributed to the emergence of new names: *Zhailau* – the name of butter (a natural product that provides health benefits), *Zhailau* – the name of a park and restaurant (a great place to relax and cheer up). When used as a means of artistic expression, the relationship between object and name becomes conditional, and a new way of words developing appears, so freedom is also important here. Words used as a means of artistic expression develop, and therefore able to acquire new meaning or a new quality.

Tendencies of scientific development of orographic terms. Geographical names serve as guidance in a giant space. The routes of passengers, caravans and streets are guided by geographical features. People who know the names of places in this area are given orientation in the form of a proper name, and those who do not know the area are guided by common nouns. For example, if a person who is not familiar with this area is looking for the village of Aktobe, he is given the following instruction: “if you go straight from here at midday, there is a horizontal *bel* (passage) in front of you, there is a *sai* (gully) on the other side of the *otkel* (pass), first go along the left side of the flowing river through the passage, and then go to the *don* (hill) on the right, *Aktobe* (village) is on the other side”. In the words of the guide, the terms *bel*, *sai*, *pass*, *don*, *otkel* and the toponym *Aktobe* give geographical information as guidance. Proper names and common nouns of geographic objects, closely related to everyday life, occupy their place in the vocabulary due the frequency of use and importance of the message. Their linguistic and geographical features are determined through this message.

Use of term preserves the connection between name and the object, making concepts more specified. In order to maintain the stability of terms, the objects in each group should have an independent meaning, not be synonymous, and be grouped by their own characteristics. Such words as crest and peak, cliff and rock, ridge and rim, hill and height, etc. are not used interchangeably as in the language of fiction, on the contrary, the types and signs of objects named by each of them become clear. For example, in the folk language, the geographical feature called “*Sharyn*” is referred to “*gully*”, however according to geographical conditions, it corresponds to the *gorge*.

The process of the transformation of vernacular terms into elements of scientific language is evident in the patterns of development of modern language. For example, *Qazygurt* is an ancient oronym in Kazakh language. There are different opinions about its

etymology, one of which is related to the legend that “the ship of prophet Noah stopped by that *mountain*”. However, it can be seen that this oronym does not meet the requirements and conditions imposed on the term “mountain” from the point of view of modern geographical science. In the general concept of the population, such geographical features are perceived as mountains, but by geographical criteria they can be hummocks, hills, etc. For example, in scientific sources it is indicated that “Mount Kazygurt is a low *ridge* in the south-west part of the Talas Alatau”, and “Mount Ayuly is a natural monument, *peak* in Arshaly District of Akmola Region” [7; 24]. In order to show that geographical feature is “water” and “gully” in the folk names of *Altynozen* (Golden River), *Burgansai* (Twisted gully), *Asusai* (Gully in passage) are used words *ozen* (river) and *sai* (gully), but according to modern geographical conditions, these three toponyms are listed in dictionaries as a *gorge*. From these examples it can be seen that as scientific research progresses, the difference between the traditional understanding of terrain types and modern geographical measurements are revealed, concepts are identified and terms are used in a new way.

These words become figurative and move away from their origin as they develop in fiction language. However, as they become active in the terminological system of geographical science, their true meaning is revealed and the ability to characterize natural objects is refined. Therefore, becoming an element of the science language is a very important issue. As the authors have already noted, the deeper the urbanization process, the more difficult it is to recognize the character of the Great Steppe through the eyes of nomads. At the same time, the images and names of geographical features in the ancient knowledge of the people will be preserved in the language of science through geographical terms. Kazakh people divided geographical features into different groups based on similar peculiarities, grouped them under common nouns, and gave each of them proper names according to individual characteristics. In modern scientific language, groups called by collective names are *orographic terms* and those called by single names are referred to the *toponyms*. When systematizing *orographic terms* based on the features of the terrain, they can be divided into three groups: 1. Height names; 2. Pit and hollow names; 3. Intermediary object names.

The *names of the heights* include *adyr* (rock), *aral* (hill), *asu* (pass), *bel*, *beles* (passage), *bet* (surface), *betkei* (slope), *zhal* (ridge), *zhartas* (cliff), *zhota* (hummock), *kyr* (ridge), *moynak* (isthmus), *dala kyraty* (steppe range), *kyrattyn basy* (top of the range), *kuz* (peak), *kuzar* (summit), *muzdik* (glacier), *muzart* (top of glacier), *tau* (mountain), *tau zhynysy* (rock), *tau toraby* (plexus of mountains), *tauly ustirt* (tableland), *tepsen* (even land), *tobe* (hill), *tobeshik* (hillock), *ustirt* (plateau), *shoky* (hill), *shyn* (peak), etc. All of these names refer to objects above the surface of the earth. Semantic analysis can also determine the degree of their height. For example, the names *kuz* (peak), *kuzart* (summit), *muzdyk* (glacier), *muzart* (ice cake), *shyn* (summit), *tau* (mountain) mean that the objects are very high, *asu* (pass), *bel*, *beles* (passage), *kyr* (range), *kyrat* (ridge), *shoky* (hill), *zhota* (hummock), *adyr* (rock) *zhartas* (cliff) mean the average height, and *tobeshik* (knoll), *tompeshik*

(hillock), *zharlauyt* (plateau) mean the low height of the object. The semantic features of each of these become more prominent as they enter scholarly circulation and become more active.

Pit and hollow names. Part of the names of geographical features in the Kazakh language are names of pits. The word “oy” in “oyys, oypan zher” means shallow pit, then “shunkyr” can mean different levels of depth. The possibility of generalization and specification creates word groups (*to a certain extent*) within the concepts of *oy* (hollow), *sai* (gully), *shunkyr* (vug), *terendik* (depth), and *uzindik* (length). Each region of the Kazakh steppe has its own lowlands, shaped by the traditional knowledge of the land. They are called by orographic terms: *arna* (riverbed), *anged* (hollow), *apan* (pit), *kurgak arna* (dry riverbed), *aryk*, *angar* (watercourse), *bogen* (reservoir), *zhyra* (pothole), *kanal* (channel), *kudyk* (well), *oy* (hollow), *oypat* (lowland), *oyys* (hollow), *ozek* (gorge), *say* (gully), *tarmak* (branch), *togan* (ditch), *ungir* (cave), *shatqal* (shat), *shunkyr* (vug), *shungyma* (cavity), *shynyrau* (chasm), *ungir* (cave) etc. Among these names, there are also homonymous uses. For example, “shynyrau” (chasm) refers to a well or a deep hole, sometimes refers to a view when looking down from a high peak – “shynyrau kuz” (chasm peak). A second explanation should be given to the objects of water, i.e., *aryk*, *arna* (riverbed), *ozek* (gorge), *sai* (gully), *tarmak* (branch), *togan* (ditch), *kanal* (channel), *kudyk* (well) are closely related to hydronyms, but refer to the names of the geographical (water) features. These names are also known for their popularity in the field of agriculture. Such names as *aryk*, *boget* (ditch), *bogen* (dam), *kudyk* (well) and *togan* (pond), which exist today, appeared along with the domestic introduction of the irrigation system, and are among the objects created by human hands.

Intermediary object names include the following types of geographical features: *alkap* (field), *zhailau* (summer pasture), *zhagalau* (quay), *zhazyk* (plain), *zhazytyk* (plane), *kum* (sand), *kumdy alkap* (sandy field), *shyganak* (gulf), *tubek* (peninsula), *bugaz* (strait), etc. The meaning of each of these names does not imply either height or plain; they have intermediary information about geographical features. These names refer to the specificity of the region, such as the area, size, surface, shape, etc.

Tendencies of Toponymic Development of Orographic Terms

The relationship between object and name is a law of the nature of language. There is a phenomenon in the language when a certain descriptive word is gradually transformed into the name of that object. The origins of many toponyms in Kazakh language are orographic terms. In this the authors assume a process of development of names from general names to singular names. The name of the object was originally named after its feature, and later it became the proper name. Based on the opinion of N. Humboldt [13], “the original toponyms of these regions were made of common names, such as mountain, stone, water, spring, zhar, spring, lake, hill”. Ye. Koishybayev [13] continued this idea: “This allowed us to distinguish and systematize the stages of development of Kazakh onomastics. Current names like Bulak (Spring),

Bel (Passage), Kara (Black), Ozek (Gorge), Ozen (River), Or (Brown), Orpa (Shallow well) etc. seems to give the vision of those times. These forms have become more complex with the invention of toponyms, and the determinants like white, black, blue, yellow, red, green, pitted, tall (...), that gave them a new functional meaning”.

The onimization of orographic terms is a common phenomenon for other languages, as well as for the Turkic peoples. For example, in the Arkhangelsk region, scientists studying geographical names in the Khanty language also talk about the participation of determinants (in authors' opinion, the orographic term) in toponymy [9; 25; 26]. In the comments of these scientists, we are talking about the process of turning common nouns into proper names. B. Biyarov [16] detailed this in his work: “The transition of geographical terms to toponyms is a historical phenomenon..., although unproductive, it is one way of inventing toponyms. The only condition here is that in order to get the name Bulak (Spring), it must be the only spring nearby...”.

Among the tendencies of toponymic development of geographical feature names, two linguistic approaches can be allocated. These are: *lexical-semantic and analytical* approaches. Names of landforms in Kazakh language tend to be toponymised, so linguistic phenomena and activity of their characteristics have an impact on their development. The process of onimization of orographic terms is carried out through the lexical and semantic approach as follows. Common nouns are given in order to describe the peculiarities of a geographical feature. As the authors have already noted, if in certain region there is only one geographical feature, such as *a hummock, a gully, a ridge, a hill*, etc., it is lexically and semantically transformed into a proper name, that is, constantly naming only this object with a descriptive name, it fixes in the language with the meaning of singularity. For example, Aral (Island), Bugaz (Strait), Don (Dune), Zhota (Hummock), Kyrat (Ridge), Or (Brown), Sai (Gully), Tau (Mountain), Tobe (Hill), etc. And if there are two or more, then by adding a defining word or giving a different name, the name is created analytically. For example: in order to distinguish two dunes around the settlement from each other, one is called a Don (Dune), and the other is called a Aral (Island) because it is located separately in a lowland. In the Kazakh language, a small part of the continent, completely surrounded by water, is called “aral” (Island), and on the basis of this similarity, a separate hill located in a lowland is also called “aral”. The same way one of the two gullies was called a Sagyzsai (Gum gully) because of the growth of gum vegetation, and the other – Terensai (Deep gully) because of its depth. The names Akzhota (White hummock), Aksai (White gully), Bozkyrat (Brown ridge), Aktobe (White hill), etc. are based on the example of traditional toponymy. Thus, words in the language develop their meaning and function in the course of their use and rise to a new quality.

When looking at the toponymic database, it can be seen that the names of geographical features tend to combine with other components and create a new name, rather than stand alone. The main feature of previously mentioned names is their activity in toponymy. For

example: *Kudyk (Well)*: Kayyskudyk (Tawed well), Altykuduk (Six wells), Koskuduk (Double well), Olenkuduk (Song well), *Ozek (Gorge)*: Akozek (White gorge), Aschyozek (Salty gorge), Buglyozek (Deer gorge), Kogaozek (Typha gorge), Terenezek (Deep gorge), Saryozek (Yellow gorge), *Sai (Gully)*: Aksai (White gully), Batpaksay (Swampy gully), Borlysay (Chalky gully), Buglysay (Deer gully), Burmasay (Roundabout gully), Butaksai (Branch gorge), *Tau (Mountain)*: Aktau (White mountain), Karatau (Black mountain), Sarytau (Yellow mountain), Bestau (Five mountains), Kentau (Ore mountain), *Togan (Pond)*: Aktogan (White pond), Kyzyltogan (Red pond), Koltogan (Lake pond), Togandybulak (Pondy spring); *Shoki (Hill)*: Akshoky (White hill), Karashoky (Black hill), Kyzylshoky (Red hill), Altynshoky (Golden hill), Baishoky (Rich hill), etc.

The process of globalisation in the XXI century and the mass migration of the rural population to the city are causing disconnect between man and nature, and the names of geographical features are being learned not from everyday life but from the media. In the everyday life of citizens, there is no need to know about the nature of the steppe, so its use is limited. As a result, a citizen who does not know the types of geographical features may not even know the origin of toponyms in steppe regions, since there is little information about the types of the earth crust. Hence, the connection between the sound and meaning of toponyms is becoming increasingly vague, which in turn can lead to the autonomy of toponymic forms.

“Autonomy of toponymic forms” is an independent form of the name, detached from the original meaning. For example, person knows the village of Konyrolen, but does not understand the toponymic meaning of the words “konyr” and “olen”. In toponymy, it is said that appellation “*konyr*” is often referred to brown shrubs, thicket of pine trees or grassy fields”, and the “*olen*” means “grass”, that is, the place where the brown plants grow. This is the result of the process of toponymic development in the XXI century, taking place in front of us. After the transition from nomadism to settlement, norms of land use and traditional system of living have changed which led to huge toponymic losses. Since the names given to the objects were mapped and were not fixed, many were forgotten from the memory of the people. Because of the settlement, nowadays the naming of steppe objects has slowed down, while more attention is paid to urban objects. This situation with geographical feature names has led to new changes in frequency of use, function and meaning of orographic terms and toponyms, which have played a very important role in the toponym coining of Kazakh language.

Conclusions

The intrinsic meaning of the terms used in the international space does not always correspond to the nature of local regions and the principles of naming in individual languages, therefore one term cannot include the characters of all terrestrial geographical features in the world, it is an indicator of the singularity in each language system. As the field of science develops, the demand for the accuracy of language activity increases,

concepts are defined and the process of classification within them is deepened.

When analyzing orographic terms in the vocabulary, a great continuity can be seen between their historical existence and the present forms. Although names of steppes have experienced some losses at first, they adapted to the conditions of the city. Examples of toponymic patterns of orographic terms as names of City objects: Belasar (Cross the passage), Atyrau (Delta) – names of bridges, Aksu (White water) – name of car wash center, Saryarka (Yellow steppe) – name of district within the city, etc. The great changes in the life of humanity due to the development of new technologies also require the adaptation of the vocabulary to the modern times. Names describing the image of the Great Steppe should become active members of the language of science in accordance

with modern requirements. General and singular names of geographical features in Kazakh language are developing in this way, taking common terms in the international space and adapting ancient terms to the requirements of the new time.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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Лінгвогеографічні явища у розвитку орографічних термінів казахської мови

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Анотація

Актуальність. Важливу роль у найменуванні предмета відіграє ставлення людей до нього, засноване на особливостях побуту та традицій. У казахській мові назви географічних об'єктів давалися на основі світогляду людей і часто використовувалися для орієнтування. Важливо зазирнути в минуле, щоб більше дізнатися про особливості сучасних уявлень конкретних людей.

Мета. Мета дослідження - обговорити назви місцевості та особливості їх розвитку в казахській мові.

Методологія. Назви місцевості та особливості їх розвитку можна розглядати в трьох різних напрямках відповідно до законів єдиної природи мови: по-перше, зв'язок між рівнем вивченості природи населення та принципами найменування; по-друге, проблеми використання термінів, пов'язаних із назвами географічних об'єктів, у сучасній науці; по-третє, тенденції розвитку орографічних термінів у казахській мові.

Результати. Головна особливість вивчення природи кочівниками полягає в тому, що вони не залишаються на одному місці, а постійно перебувають у русі. Дослідження робить висновок, що великі зміни в житті людства вимагають адаптації лексики до сучасності. Назви, що описують образ Великого степу, мають стати активними учасниками мови науки відповідно до сучасних вимог.

Висновки. Таким чином розвиваються загальні та одиничні назви географічних об'єктів у казахській мові, сприймаючи загальноприйняті в міжнародному просторі терміни та адаптуючи давні терміни до вимог нового часу.

Ключові слова: топоніми, найменування об'єкта, образ території, відносини людини і природи, просторіччя.