Research Article

The Linguistic Status of Phytonyms

Linguistics

Keywords: plant, plant name, onomastics, onomasiologic meaning, onomastic meaning, bionym, type, phytonym, phytonimia, phytonimics, vocabulary meaning, hierarchical structure, nominative-onomastic unit, linguistic basis, etc.

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Abstract

The article analyzes phytonyms – special plant names, which are one of the types of nominative nouns of living – bionyms, it also based on the materials of Uzbek language explores their linguistic characteristics, their place on onomastic surface, their difference from ordinary appellative lexemes, motivational-nominative essence. The linguistic status of phytonyms is defined based on analyses and examples.

As a result of the development of science and scientific concepts, the progress of agriculture, culture and art, new types of nouns emerged in the Uzbek language such as: phytonyms (specially designated names for plants and trees), documentonyms (names of historical documents, statues, laws, historical acts), chrematonyms (names of some weaponry, artifacts, musical intstruments) chrononyms (specific names for historical periods, special historical dates, names given to historical events), faleronyms (names given to awards, orders, medals, badges, titles) [1.p.19].

Scientifically analyzing the names in the system of nouns, A.V. Superanskaya mentioned also phytonyms – the names of the plant varieties, alongside the anthroponyms, zoonyms, mythonyms, speleonyms, dremonyms, pelagones, limonyms, gelonyms, potammonyms, hydronyms, documentonyms, means of movement, which have no special title in linguistics, firm names, important names of institutions and organizations, popular names of public goods, holiday, anniversary, festivities and other ceremonies, some important events, literature and art, the names given to the natural events [2. p.5].

As the founder of the Uzbek onomastics E.Begmatov correctly pointed out, the rich material of the names in the language, all its appearances, have not been adequately collected and studied [3. p.33]. E. Begmatov, Ya. Avlakulov include the phytonyms into the line of an onomastic unit which have not been explored enough, such as aneyconyms, anemonyms, artionyms, agionyms, venesuonyms, glasionyms, hemeronyms, heortonyms, hineconyms, dignitonyms, ideonyms, insectonyms, catayconyms, lithonyms, marsionyms, mercurionyms, nauthonyms, oycodomonyms, ornitonyms, polionyms, spleonyms, choronyms [4. p.34]. Indeed, some types of names, including phytonyms, have not yet been specially collected or learned in Uzbek linguistics except some articles and submissions.

The linguistic map of the universe occupies a special place in the linguistic-lexic microgroup representing the world of plants, which, in turn, is characterized by its richness and diversity.

Uzbekistan is also a country, which is rich in plants. Currently, there are more than 1 million plants and more than 10000 plant species in the central herbarium of the Scientific Institute of "Plant Genetics, Animal Gene Pool", of the Academy of Sciences. According to scientists, around 500000 species of plants are found in the world, of which 4148 species are found in Uzbekistan. Of course, all these plants have their own name. It is understood that in the lexicon of the Uzbek language the plant names form a semantic group. For example, *fir tree, juniper, barley, rose*. There are also special names in the language that are similar to the ordinary names of plants mentioned above.

Plants are used to mean trees, shrubs and herbs in a broad sense. **Plant names** are botanical terms which represent the notion of thousands of organisms that comprise trees, shrubs, bushes and herbs and etc. In the research of linguistic units such terms as **plant names, lexemes representing plants, plant nouns, names for plants, phytonyms, and floristic lexicon** are used to represent plant names. Each of these units differs in its meaning [5. p.11].

In terms of the name of plants, terms – plant names and phtonyms are used more frequently. As G.Nematova pointed correctly, the term "phytonyms" and its notion have onomastic and onomaciological meanings and uses. The term phytonym refers to the specific names of plants in the onomastics. In onomaciology, it is used in the meaning of plant names and represents apellyas, that is, a set of simple phrases, which designate varieties of plants [Look. 5, 6]. G.Nematova studied the simple names of these plants, more precisely, the use of apellyas and their methodological and literary features.

Thus, in the Russian and Uzbek linguistic studies, the term "phytonyms" is used to describe the concept of onomastic and onomaciological significance, and to apply the term to ordinary and proper names of plants. It should be noted that in most studies of Russian linguistics, turcology, including in the Uzbek linguistics, the term phytonyms refers to appellations representing simple names of plants[Look. 10-15]. In our opinion, it is necessary to differentiate the concepts of plant name, phonic word and terms –ordinary apellyas, and nouns with simple words. *Spruce, poplar, mustard, melon, watermelon, vine, flower, mint, grass* are apellyas, that is, simple words representing different plants. In addition, the language dictionary contains specific names for plants. In our opinion, it is desirable to use the term phytonyms (gr. *phyton* – plant + *onyma* – name) [17.p.116]. For example, varieties of *barley: Arak, Boychechak, Bolgali, Gulnoz, Zafar, Mavlono, Toshkallak, Feruz, Xonakoh // Honako, Tsiklon, Kyzylkurgan*; Varieties of *cereals: Rano, Urgench, Hurmoy, Tashkent, Chulli suede, Red semen*, rice varieties such as *Avangard, Nukus – 2, Oven, Istiqlol, Sanam, Mustakillik, Cayhun* [Look. 21].

The Phytonyms group includes not only the varietal names, but also the specific names of a particular plant. For example, Pavlonia tree, the native land of which is South and Southeast Asia, which are grown in China about 2.5 million hectares and widely spread in China and Japan, also widely known in the United States as the *Imperial tree, the Queen tree, the Kiri, and the Tang* [Look. 9] – which are pythonyms.

This type of phythonyms is very rare in Uzbek language. For example, Yakkatut (Alone mulberry) is the 1000-year-old mulberry tree in the Uychi district of Namangan Province. The tree is called so bacause of its age and the number of its individuality.

In onomastics, names of living organisms (human beings, animals, plants) are referred to as bionym (gr. Bios – life + onyma – name) [16. p.21]. In the terminological dictionaries of onomastics, the varieties of bionyms include anthroponyms, zoonyms, ornithonyms, phytonyms [16. p.43]. For instance, personal names: *Shakhlo, Gulnora, Gulchekhra, Alisher, Khasan*; names of animals and poultry: *Girot, Boychibor, Jyronkush, Toshchaynar, Boribosar, Akbuyin*; plant names such as *Akkishmish, Shakarangur, Sultaniy, Kattakurgan, Nimrang* (names of grapes). So, the phytonyms are also a type of bionyms.

The term phytonyms emerged as a scientific neologism in the Russian linguistics in the 70-s of the 20th century, and later took its place in the Uzbek language. For example, there are varieties of apricots in Uzbekistan such as *Ahrori, Subhaniy, Gulungi luchchak, Mirsanjali, Korsodik, Khurmoi, Isfarak, Javpazak, Oqorik, Shalakh, Ruhi Juvanon, Mohtobi* [26. p.514]. These names are, in contrast to ordinary names of apricots, are phytonyms – special adjectives representing apricot varieties.

Specific names of plants are phytonyms, and their complex is called phytonimia. The phytonimics is a field, which holds scientific and theoretical studies of phytonyms.

Phytonimics has its own object and subject as a part of onomastics. So, phytonimics is also considered as a field of onomastics, which has its own theoretical and practical significance.

The emergence of phytonyms is related to the field of selection which deals with the theory and practice of producing highly productive varieties and hybrids of plants. Science has two types of selection:

1) people's selection;
2) scientific selection.

The Uzbek language phytonyms can be classified according to the type of selection:

1. Phytonyms belonging to people's selection. The primitive forms of people's selection began in the period when farming appeared. For example, the varieties of wheat such as

Qizilbug'doy, *Tuyatish*, grapes, *Soyaki*, *Sohibi*, *Parkent*, apricots *Kursodik*, *Obinovvot*, barley *Toshkallak*, and others are the results of people's selection [23. p.570].

2. Phytonyms belonging to scientific selection are the names of plant varieties created by the community of certain scientists and scientific groups. For example, names of corn varieties: "Vaxsh – 10", "Uzbekistan – 5". Another fact is that the "Navrotsky", which is a new kind of cotton-wood based on "Rusel" brought from America, created by E. Navrovsky. There is also another type of this cotton-wood Triumph, which later was called «Navrotskiy zafari». These all words are phytonyms [23. p.570].

Selection of the varieties of selection achievements is regulated by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Selection Achievements" (August 30, 1996).

Usually, language units tend to have a hierarchy. It is also valid under the scope of appellative lexicon and phytonomia representing plant names. In the linguistic units linked to the gradual relationships, a broader concept and meaning implies a conception that is more conducive to understanding, meaning that it often engages in type-variety (hypo-hyporonomic) united-divided (partonomic) relationships [Look.18].

According to researches on botanical science, the meaning of the plant names, the phytonyms can be subdivided into the following semantic groups:

1) tree names. For example, varieties of persimmon such as *Vaxsh, Xiakume, Sharq Khurmosi*;

2) grassland names. For example, varieties of cereal such as *"Tashkent – 1", "Vaxsh – 233", "Yettisuv", "Khiva", "Uzgan"* [22. p.10].

3) names of melons and gourds. For example, varieties of cucumber are: *"Gulnoz", "Navruz", "Omad", "Margilan – 822"*;

4) names of flowers and shrubs. For example, varieties of peppers: *"Nafis", "Kelin tili"* [25. p.582] and others.

It is apparent that the plant names have a specific system of splitting. This division is expressed in classical units such as family, variety, species, types, and in their special names. Variety – the smallest classification unit for the cultivated plants that have been created as a result of the selection of certain morphological, physiological and economic characteristics that transmit to the stable and transmitted to generations; a group of plants of one kind; the smallest classification for cultivated plants [20.p.224]. For example, there are dozens of varieties of grapes, such as *Jurauzum, Tarnov, Rizamat, Xishrov, Oktyabr, Galaba, O'zbekiston muskati* [24. p.50].

Of course, types are divided into certain species. For example, *Khalili* is the type of early grape. These species have some kind of *Qora Khalili (Black), Oq Khailili (White) and Qizil Khalili (Red)*. In addition, these phytonyms are divided into smaller thematic groups. For example,

the names of vegetable crops can be divided linguobotanically according to the botanical names of the family:

1. Phytonyms representing cabbages:

a) cabbage names such as *"Navruz", "Tashkent", "Istiqbol";*

b) turnip names such as *"Muyassar", "Namangan", "Samarkand"*.

c) small radish names such as *"Qizil ulkan", "Dumaloq", "Dungan"*;

g) radish names such as "*Andijan – 9", "Marghilan*".

2. The phytonyms representing root vegetables:

a) the names of carrots: such as *"Farovon", "Ziynatli", "Mushak", "Nurli";*

b) parsley names: "*Nilufar"*;

c) the names of corianders are: "*Kahrabo", "Orzu";*

g) dill names such as "*Uzbekistan – 232", "Orom*".

3. Phytonyms representing weed: names of beet varieties such as *"Bordeaux – 237", "Orzu"*.

4. Phytonyms representing gourd family:

a) cucumber names such as *"Gulnoz", "Zilol", "Navruz", "Omad";*

b) watermelon names such as *"Sharq ne'mati", "Chillaki", "Dilnoz", "Koziboy", "Manzur", "Olmos", "Urinboy", "Marmar tarvuz", "Chinni tarvuz";*

c) melon names such as *"Dilxush", "Baytkurganiy", "Baraka", "Kuktura", "Tulkiburun", "Shakarpora", "Shakarpalak";*

d) Pumpkin names: "*Tomoshaqovoq", "Shirintoy", "Mittivoy"*.

5. Phytonyms that represent the tomatous:

a) tomatoes names such as "Avicenna", "Bahor", "Nurafshon", "Marvarid", "Darhan", "Zakovat", "Subhidam", "Turon";

b) egg-plant names: "Feruz", "Surkhon gozali", "Zamin", "Sitara", "Karagozal", "Diyor";

c) Peppers names such as "Yulduz", "Cayhun", "Zumrad".

6. Phytonyms representing fabaceae:

a) Mung bean names: such as "*Qahrabo", "Gálaba*";

b) Pea names such as "*Zimistoni", "Lazzat", "Yulduz";*

c) Bean names such as "*Navruz", "Kahrabo"*.

7. The phytonyms representing the onions:

a) The names of onions: *"Okdur", "Qoratol", "Sunbula", "Chillaki", "Margilan", "Qoratol", "Kaaba", "Ispan – 313";*

b) Garlic names such as *"Chidamli", "Binafsharang", "Andijan", "Janubiy binafsharang"*.

8. Phytonyms representing the salad: *"Yirik boshli", "Ko'kshokh"*.

It should be noted that, though some of the studies on botany and vegetation have been carried out, the linguistic aspect of the issue has not been studied yet. Therefore, some linguists have been identified ethnonyms and the phytonyms as insufficiently learned in the onomastic system [17. p.116].

E.Begmatov adds documentonyms, demonyms, faleronyms, chrononyms, chremotonyms, and others to the list of onomastic units mentioned in some researches, but not a separately studied as a research object. In our opinion, such phytonyms also get into this type of names [3. p.37].

A.Otajonova, among the ethnonyms, puts the phytonyms in the category of insufficiently studied issues [17. p.116].

We have made the following conclusions in the process of analyzing the most prominent nouns of more than 3,000 plants in Uzbek language, from the encyclopedic, botanical terminological dictionaries and state registers:

1. Phytonyms are the nominative-onomastic units that are formed on the basis of the connection of plants to the world within its conceptual meaing.

2. The phytonyms are words used for identification of plants and trees, and herbs that represent different varieties. Phytonyms are a nominative unit that serves to distinguish a particular plant from a second plant, or more precisely, a plant variety or species.

3. The phytonyms are the result of the active influence and interaction of people in the plant world. The findings, concepts, and intelligence of the human beings, as well as the claimants, are found in the traditional, pragmatic way of the emergence of these names.

4. Phytonyms, unlike appellative words representing plant names, do not summarize the plants, but individualize and isolate them.

5. Phytonyms carry minimal and maximum information. It is the maximum information about the botanical characteristics of the plant, which can be identified by its linguistic information if it is known that the plant is known as a plant, and that the specific plant differentiates from other plants.

6. The meaning of the phytonyms is the same as the encyclopedic meaning of other nouns. This meaning is richer and more versatile than other nouns. The meaning (information, news) which phytonyms express is broad and has an isotopic essence.

7. The phytonyms are meaningful, meaning that it is a vague and fleshly meaning of a particular plant.

8. Motivation of phytonyms is determined by factors such as lifestyle, national and cultural traditions of the language community, social and natural conditions of life activity. Like in other languages, plants in Uzbek language are based on color, size, shape, odor, taste, locative and functional properties of growth, reproduction, nature, and toponyms, antroponyms, and ethnonyms.

9. In the Uzbek language there are also conditional, numerical and abstract-based condominiums in contrast to other types of noun breeders. For example, *ToshDAU – 70 (the cucumber type obtained from the abbreviated name of Tashkent State Agrarian University), UzMASh – 9 (name of tomato).*

10. The phytonyms are the onomastic units representing language history, dialectology, ethnography, botany, biology, folk and scientific selection, seed breeding.

11. The phytonyms are written in lowercase or uppercase letters in different sources. M.Safarov believes, "... capitalization is not correct. This is because two lexical units combine to form the single melon variety, and it is desirable to include them in small letters" [18. p.27].

In the National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan, a number of phytonyms are given in capital letters: "In the 90's, mainly, the melons *Handalak, Chopori, Kizilurug, Koybosh, Umrboki, Gulobi, Asati, Akurug*; watermelons*: Chinni, Kozivoy, Marvarid, Uzbekistan, Hayitqora* [24. p.791].

In our opinion, the phytonyms must be written in capital letters in accordance with the spelling rules.

12. In the Uzbek language, it is also observed that the appellatives turn into phytonyms, namely the usual plant names, exchange into famous names of plants.

13. The phytonyms can have various basis – apellyas, self and foreign words, and other types of nouns cam form phytonyms. For example, "*Nilufar*" is the name of the parsley. The word *Nilufar* is originally comes from Hindu and has been taken into the ancient Uzbek language from Persian-Tajik language. In ancient Tajik it is used in the form of *nilufal, nilupal* and *nilufar*, and means the water plants [7. p.67].

In the Uzbek language there is a name of girls *Nilufar, which is used to call females as the lily plant, which is beautiful as the girl* [8. p.290].

A type of parsley is called so because of its features it reminds "*Nilufar*".

14. Some of the phytonyms do not live long enough, compared with anthroponyms or toponyms. Long-lived, preservation of phytonyms in the language depends on the life of the type wich it expresses. In some cases, factors such as low productivity, growth cause its decline.

15. The variety of phytonomia considerably depends on dialects when it comes to results of people's selection.

16. Dissemination of some plants, in particular the production of melons and vegetable crops, and the cultivation of a single species only in a particular region, may cause localization of some of the phytonyms.

17. As a result of selection achievements in the field of agriculture, horticulture, vegetable growing, and floriculture, phytonyms are getting enriched. During the years of independence, in Uzbekistan, more than eighty new varieties, including tomato "Sitora", cucumber "Zilol", beet "Diyor", onion "Sunbula", pepper "Cayhun", watermelon "Urinbay", «Chilllaki», melon "Zargulobi", "Lazzatli", potatoe "To'yimli", "Aqrab", eggplant "Feruz" and "Surkhon gozali" have been created.

Investigation of the names of appellative and prominent nouns of plants, creation of cardboard, identifying alternatives, identification of nominative-motivational features, linguistic foundations, historical-ethimological sources and features of the phytonyms, relationships with different species of prominent nouns, creation of their emblematic principles, are one of the most urgent tasks of linguistics and onomastics in particular.

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