

Comparative and Contrastive Analysis of English, Kazakh and Russian Animalistic Nomination

Сулькарнаева А.Р., Амренова С.Р.

Университет Туран-Астана, ЕНУ им. Л.Н. Гумилева
Астана

Берілген мақала жануар атауының негізінде жасалған ағылшын, қазақ және орыс фамилияларының салыстыру анализін қарастырады.

В данной статье рассматривается сравнительный и сопоставительный анализ анималистской номинации на материале английских, казахских и русских фамилий.

The publication is devoted to the theme of our research work, in which a group of English, Kazakh and Russian surnames based on animalistic nomination allows us to compare and contrast these three languages. Analysing the occurred surnames with animalistic components as well as people's perception of fauna, it is feasible to disclose the peculiarities and distinguishing characteristics of each culture. While analyzing we have noticed the features, which are characteristic not to one culture only, as well as found out the distinguishing characteristics.

There have been found some general characteristic features which are specific for two or all three cultures. Such features as a different stage of age and male-female genders are characteristic for the English, Kazakh and Russian languages.

In the Russian language the surnames with animalistic component are formed by a diminutive suffix like *Bychkov* (a little bull)-*Bykov* (an adult bull) /4, p. 21/, *Gurev-Ariyev* or *Leonov*, *Agnin* (a little sheep or a lamb) /3, p.12/-*Baranov* (an adult sheep)-*Petrov* (an old sheep) /3, p. 45/, *Zherebtsov* (a little horse or stallion)-*Konev* (an adult horse), *Avtaikin* (a little bear or cub)-*Medvedev* (an adult bear) /5, p.22/

In the English language the surnames are also expressed by diminutive suffixes “-kin” and “-el” or a word for showing different stages of age, like *Lambkin* (a little lamb), *Calverts* (a little bull)-*Bevis* (an adult bull), *Lovell* or *Lowell* (a wolf cub)-*Lycidas* (an adult wolf), *Lionel* (a little lion)-*Leon* (an adult lion), *Orson* (a bear cub)-*Bernard* (an adult bear) /6, p.54/.

But in the Kazakh culture people express different stages of age more definitely like *Taybek* (a one year fowl) or *Zhabagiev* (a one year fowl)- *Saurikov* (a young fowl) or *Kulinbayev* (to be rich with a fowl)-*Donenbayev* (to be rich with a four year fowl)-*Zhilkibayev* (to be rich with an adult horse) /1, p.23/, *Zhangoziev* (a little lamb)-*Toktibayev* (to be rich with a lamb, which is more than six months)- *Baglanbay* (to be rich with a little lamb)./2, p.13/

Male- female gender of animals in surnames turns to be a general feature for all these three languages. In the English language there occur the surnames with an animalistic component which emphasis its gender like *Ursula* (female bear), *Ray/Rey/Wray* (female deer). In the Russian language there are also found surnames with animalistic component which stress definite gender like *Kozeev* (female goat)-*Kozlov* (male goat), *Ovechkin* (female sheep)-*Baranov* (male sheep), *Ursulov* (female bear)- *Medvedev* (male bear). In the Kazakh language there especially occurs male gender, for instance, *Baglanov* (male sheep), *Koshkarbayev* (male sheep), *Serkeev* (male sheep)./2, p.56/

In contrast to the Kazakh language, there obtain the features like surnames with animalistic components originating from nicknames which is the adaptation of animal's references, although it may have been to identify a similar trait in the bearer of the name and human occupations connected with animals in the English and Russian languages. For instance, a Russian surname *Zaitsev* derives from a word “zaitz”, meaning “hare”. This word may have been given as a nickname to someone who resembled a hare in some respect, perhaps a swift, agile or timid individual. In the English language we can exemplify a surname of *Fox*, it may have denoted a cunning individual or been given to someone with red hair or also it might have been as a sly person as a fox. As for occupational nicknames, a Russian surname *Konovalov* originates from the word

“konoval”, meaning “a horse’s doctor”-someone whose trade involved care and treatment of horses of diseases and injuries, birthing and gelding.

John Kennedy, studying English surnames narrates in his work, that suffixes *-hurd* or *-hird* and *-ward* have an occupational meaning for the tender of animals, the *Coward* is derived from *cow herd*, there was also a *hog+ward* who gave us the surname of *Hoggart*, a *stot* was a young ox and the man who looked after him was called a *stot herd*, which has become the surname *Stoddart*. Also without any suffixes, some people were nicknamed *Fox* or *Todd*, for somebody who hunted foxes.

During our research work on the surnames originating from animalistic nomination of the English, Kazakh and Russian languages it is visualized that many English and Russian surnames have the same origin of the Latin and the Greek languages. Looking up the dictionaries of Russian and English surnames, we notice that these two languages have similar surnames, we can exemplify the surnames with animalistic components originating from the Latin language: a Russian surname *Ursulov* and an English surname *Ursula* (*ursa*-female bear), a Russian *Leonillov* and an English surname *Leon* (*leo*-lion) and the surnames with animalistic components originating from the Greek language are a Russian surname *Ippolitov* and an English surname *Hippolyta* (*hippos*+*lyo*-horse+unharness), a Russian surname *Leandrov* and an English surname *Leander* (*leon*+*aner*, *andros*-lion+man), a Russian surname *Lykarionov* and an English surname *Lycidas* (*lykos*-wolf), a Russian surname *Philippin* and an English surname *Philip*(*philein*, *phileo*+*hippos*-loving horse). From here, we interpret the reason of the same surnames’ origin of the Russian and English languages of accepting Christianity by these two nations. Old Christian proper names came to Russia and England after accepting Christianity canonized by church and turned into surnames from the last name. Christian names originated from the Latin, Greek and Hebraic languages. /3, p.10/ Early Christianity refers to the period when religion spread in the Greek/Roman world and as far back to the 1st century of a Jewish sect. The term "Christ" is a modified transcription of the Greek word *christos*, meaning "anointed one". The form of the Greek word (*Christianoi*) indicates it was a transcription of a Latin word. The suffix (Latin *-iani*, Greek *-ianoi*) means "belonging to the party of". Early church writings were in Greek, even those originating in Rome, as Greek was the international language, *lingua franca*, of the day (similar to English in the early 21st century) and was widely spoken even in Rome.

We disclose that Kazakh surnames with animalistic components originated from names only given them by parents. The Kazakh people had different superstitions and they believed in its realization. Giving names as *Aidargali* (a brave lion), *Kaskirbek* (strong as a wolf) etc., parents wished their dreams to come true. Also the Kazakh people often used the components as “bek” for magnifying the baby’s strength as in *Ayubek* (strong as a bear), “zhan” for personifying animal’s character to baby as in *Zhanbura* (a camel’s soul), “bay” for increasing the animal’s number, because in early time having an amount of sheep, horses or bulls, goats or camels was considered to be material wealth. Everything was estimated in accordance with a quantity of animals’ heads, like in *Zhilkibay* (to be rich with a horse), *Koilybay* (to be rich with a sheep) and others. The components “mirza”, “bi”, “khan”, “sultan” were used for emphasizing their social origin and showing their royal ancestors /1, p.5/ But also it might be considered to realize their dream of walking into the top position.

There was a rather unique social cultural perception of human and animal ability to give birth by the Kazakh people. For instance, the superstition which is specific for the Kazakh people only as male sheep nomination like “Koshkar” wished to realize their dreams to have many boys in the family. /2, p.65/ They believed that such names would continue the male generation in the family. Another specific feature for unique Kazakh culture is months’ nomination which expresses the animal meaning. According to T.S. Zhanuzakov’s dictionary *Есімдер Сыры*, “Tokti” is a little lamb not more than six months old. The Kazakh people have called March month “tokti”, thus it is clear that they gave a name to a baby as *Toktibay* or *Toktibek* and other derivative names to a person who is born in March.

Concerning the English surnames’ specific features, we ascertain that some surnames have derived from place names and they tried to indicate the locality of a definite animal, using the suffix

-*ley* denoting locality is of a frequent occurrence in such names *Hartley* (*bece+lea(h)*-deer+meadow), *Buckley* (*heor(o)t+lea(h)*-deer+meadow). *Lea* is the Forest of Dean, and in the Cotswold area. *Bulmer* (*bulena-bula(plural)+mere*-lake of the bulls), is an English place name from a place in Essex that was recorded in the Domesday Book as *Bulenemera*. /7, p.12/ Also from the dictionaries of English surnames we have found that some English surnames derived from animal signs at the roadside inns during early times, when people didn't read signs but looked at pictures. Thus innkeepers sometimes took their animal sign's picture as a surname.

According to our statistics of occurring animals in the English, Kazakh and Russian languages, it has become quite obvious that such factors as a definite stage of age, male/female gender, seasons of year's nomination, animal locality, national and cultural superstitions as well as visualized road signs of animals have influenced the formation of Anthroponomical System of all languages under analysis.

As for the Kazakh and Russian languages it should be noted that there is a rather high percentage coincidence of the most dominant animals like *lion*, *sheep*, *horse*, *wolf*.

The English language turns to have a definite distinction in usage of animals' names in English Anthroponomy. Such animals as *wolf*, *bear*, *deer*, *bull* and *horse* seem to have more influential potential on the English people. From here, we conclude the reason of animals' percentage similarity in the Kazakh and Russian surnames is the Russian influence on Kazakh culture after Kazakh lands joining to Russia.

So, the main similarity for the three languages is the undoubtedly great influence of wild natural fauna (animals) on the formation of Anthroponomical System of the English, Kazakh and Russian languages. The significance distinction is unique national and cultural perception of definite animals role in the life of each nationality. Thus, each language can be characterised by having its specifically national, cultural, mental perception of natural fauna.

Bibliography:

1. Zhanuzakov T.S. Есімдер сыры.-Алматы: «Парасат», 2004.
2. Казахские имена. -Алматы: Кочевники, 2006.
3. Petrovskii N.A. Словарь русских личных имен.-Москва: «Русский язык», 1980.
4. Туриков N.M. Словарь древнерусских личных имен.-С-Пб, 1903.
5. Никопов V.A. Словарь русских фамилий. - Москва, 1993.
6. Ribakin A.I. Словарь английских личных имен. -Москва, 1986.
7. Lidin R.A. Иностранные фамилии и личные имена. -Москва, 1998.

