Usage Sphere and Lexico-Stylistic Features of Anthroponomastics

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Abstract:

The article elaborates usage sphere and lexico-stylistic features of anthroponomastics. When the person names combine with toponyms, there appears a new term called "anthroponomastics". The article revealed that anthroponomastics mainly cover the names of villages, settlements, cities, streets or avenues, restaurants or cafes, markets or shops public buildings such as schools, universities, colleges, stations, museums, metro stations, hospitals, mosques, churches, etc. Public buildings are usually named after historical figures, poets, writers, musicians, academicians or scholars, presidents while shops or markets, cafes or restaurants are named after ordinary people depending on the willing and desire of citizens. The study underlines that there is a minute distinction between anthroponomastics and personification. In personification, human character and quality are transferred onto an inanimate object while only name is transferred onto place names in anthroponomastics. Besides, novel terms such as zooponomastics, vegeponomastics, aviaponomastics have also been compared with anthroponomastics in the article.

Key words: anthroponomastics, vegeponomastics, zooponomastics, personification, anthropomorphism, aviaponomastics

INTRODUCTION

Anthropomorphism is a subtype of personification which attributes human emotions, traits, or intensions to non-human entities (Oxford dictionary, 1885). One of the usage spheres of anthropomorphisms can be found in toponyms which encompass place names. Some place names which can also be called anthroponomastics are named after historical figures or martyrs where we can find a number of examples in Azerbaijan. Anthroponomastics deals with toponyms with person names which is considered to be a branch of onomastics.

Some anthroponomastics bear the names of historical figures including poets, writers, presidents, musicians, scholars, martyrs, etc. We can find a lot of place names including parks, streets, avenues, villages, settlements with the names of those historical figures. For example, Ataturk Avenue in Nakhchivan city, metro station named after the poet and statesman Nariman Narimanov, the poet Nizami Ganjavi, the musician Gara Garayev can be the best samples for anthroponomastics.

When the names of these historical figures are transferred onto other objects but not toponyms, they lose this status and cannot be considered anthroponomastics. As a result of the first and the second Karabakh wars, the country lost thousands of soldiers who then became national heroes. In order to immortalize and commemorate the names of those heroes, the government made a decision to name the place names such as schools, museums, streets, avenues, villages, settlements with the names of heroes who showed deeds and prowess in the war.

Mubariz Ibrahimov is a national hero of Azerbaijan whose name was given not only to place names, but also to other inanimate objects. A statue named after Him was erected in the honor of Mubariz Ibrahimov at Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University. In 2016, one of the streets in Sumgait city was named after Mubariz Ibrahimov (Zakir F, 2016). His name had already been perpetuated by naming one of the streets in Bilasuvar after Him by that time.

Apart from anthroponomastic titles, the name "Mubariz" was also given to a film, a book, a rifle, a tanker, memorial board, etc. However, these inanimate objects cannot be considered anthroponomastics. These inanimate objects immortalize and perpetuate the National Hero's qualities and characteristics. The film titled "Mubariz" demonstrates his qualities such as patriotism and braveness. As the character of "Mubariz" is personified in that film, we can see personification here. The same logics pertains to the book titled "Mubariz".

 When we approach the matter from stylistic perspective, it is possible to see metalepsis apart from lexical approach. As obvious, there are some stages in metalepsis where several names are hidden while transferring human names onto place names. It means that the soldier who fought for his motherland was national hero before becoming a martyr. For example, the words of "soldier" and "national hero" are hidden inside the word "martyr". And the word "martyr" in its turn is hidden in the name of Mubariz Ibrahimov.

Mosques and churches are usually named after saints, prophets, apostles and conquerors who went down in history both as historical figures and religious leaders. For example, Beyazit II mosque in Turkey was built in honor of Sultan Beyazit in 1506. St. Mark's Basilica (church), St. Peter's Basilica (church), St. Vitus Cathedral and many other religious sites prove that anthroponomastics mainly source from religious Saints in Europe.

Sometimes, personification and anthroponomastics can be confused though there is a subtle distinction between them. The main similarity between them is that there is transference in both. However, what is transferred is a matter. In personification, human character and quality are transferred onto an inanimate object while anthroponomastics is distinguished with name transference only. It means that only names are transferred onto inanimate objects.

Human names are not only given to inanimate objects, they can also be attributed to animals and plants. This situation is often met in fables and fairy tales. Cartoons are rich in animals whose names are related to humans. Kids are more keen on watching cartoons when they see an animal with a person name. When you have a lovely pet, you can call it with a person name, as well. For example, a cat or a dog can be called with a person name. But when you call a restaurant or café with animal or plant names, it is not considered anthroponomastics. A restaurant can be called with the names of "Nightingale" or "Eagle" where aviaponomastics emerges as a stylistic device. Zooponomastics appears when a park is called "Koala". When the café bears the name of a plant such as "Cactus", it is regarded as vegeponomastics. It is possible to classify more subtypes of onomastics. However, the aim of the study is to reveal the lexico-

stylistic features of anthroponomastics. Anthroponomastics should not be mixed with the afore-mentioned subtypes of onomastics.
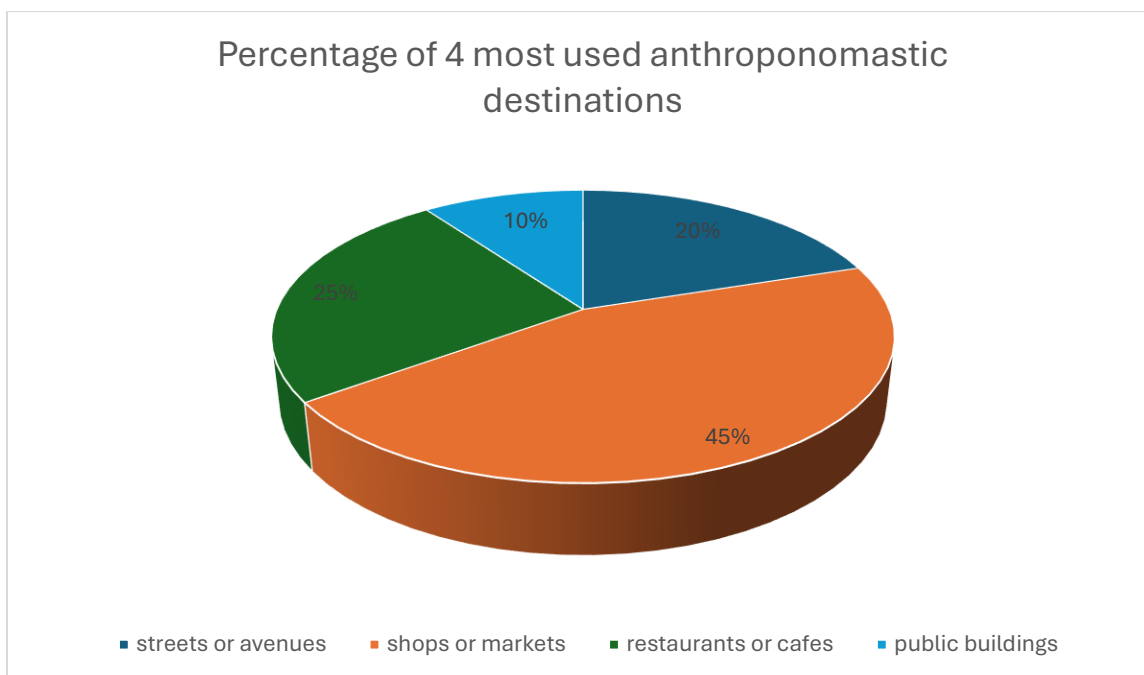
LITERATURE REVIEW

There are many researchers who studied anthroponomastics from different perspectives. Marcia Sipavicius Seide is one of such researchers who shed light on the topic of Comparative anthroponomastics (Seide, M, 2021). He mentioned anthroponomastics language policy which revealed that some migrants living in Europe made an attempt to use Greek, Arabic and Cyrillic alphabets in the language of the countries where they stayed. It could have some negative impact and bring about some changes in society. This case may also break local or governmental anthroponomastic laws. Luis Ramon Campo Yumar conducted a research related to anthroponomastics in the Bible. The author analyzes the names of Catholic saints. Some toponyms are named after Catholic saints in Cuba (Campo Yumar, 2024). Besides, some researches on this topic were studied by Kleber Eckert, Maiquel Rohrig (2024), Babayev Javid (2022), Artur Galkowski (2023), Olga Chesnokova (2019), Chimaobi Onwukwe (2020), Alisoy Hasan (2023), Rashad Seyidov (2024) and many others.

METHODOLOGY

Participants

According to a survey conducted among 100 respondents met in the street, anthroponomastics mainly covers the names of parks, streets or avenues, public buildings such as hospitals, schools, universities, metro stations, airports, museums, restaurants or cafes, bars, shops or markets, etc. We decided to make a survey according to 4 main categories including streets or avenues, shops or markets, restaurants or cafes, public buildings.

Pie chart 1.

Percentage of 4 most used anthroponomastic destinations

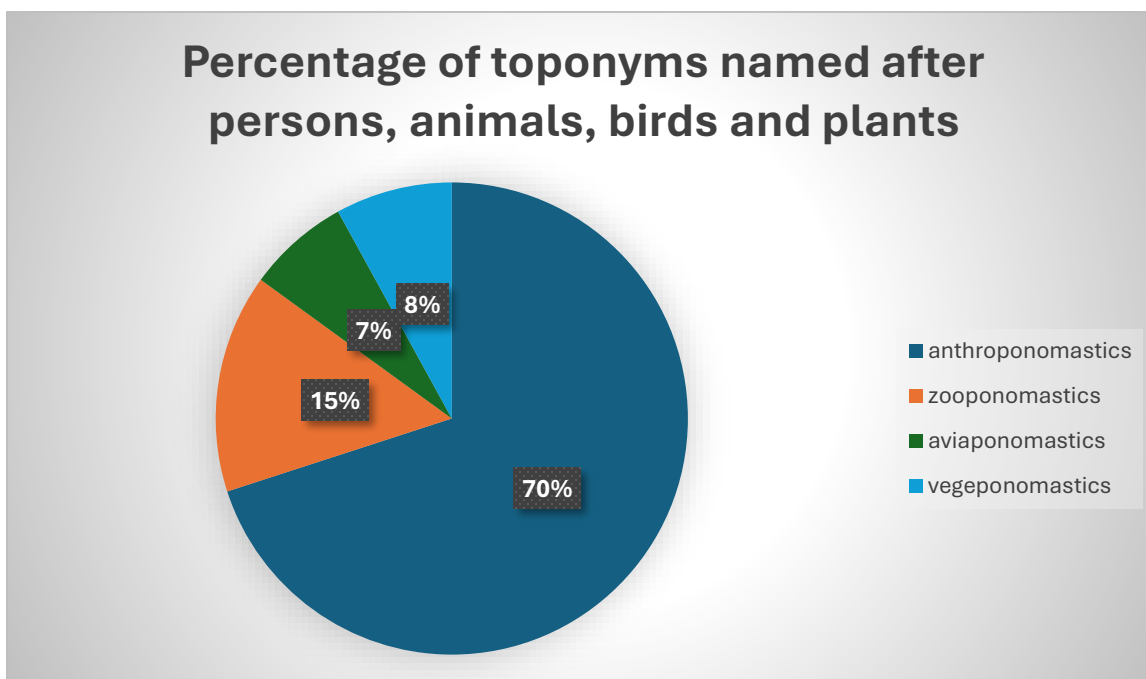■ streets or avenues ■ shops or markets ■ restaurants or cafes ■ public buildings

As seen from the first pie chart, most of the respondents, namely 45% of the total participants were in the view that shops and markets bear person names most while 10% of the respondents confirmed that public buildings are named with person names least. The category "restaurants or cafes" occupies the second place with 25% which is followed by the names of streets or avenues making up 20%.

DATA ANALYSIS

The following bar graph shows the percentage of anthroponomastics compared to zooponomastics, aviaponomastics, vegeponomastics. The second pie chart was designed on the basis of 100 respondents who participated in the street survey.

Pie chart 2

Among 100 respondents, great majority of participants claimed anthroponomastics to comprise the highest figure 70%. This percentage is followed by animal names with 15% which the respondents supposed them to be in the second place according to its coverage area. The last two categories vegeponomastics and aviaponomastics share the least percentage with 8% and 7% respectively. In comparison with anthroponomastics, zooponomastics, vegeponomastics and aviaponomastics are not widely spread. As obvious, anthroponomastics prevails in all fields of toponyms according to the given data.

DISCUSSIONS AND RESULTS

It might be caused by excessive number of shops and markets in ratio to the less number of public buildings which are named by common people and government respectively. Any common citizen can name a shop or market with his/her son or daughter or siblings or parents or beloved people independently. However, person names are attributed to public buildings such as museums, airports, stations, schools, universities, colleges, hospitals, with the permission of the government. This naming does not depend on the willing or

desire of ordinary people who do whatever they want. Therefore, the naming of public buildings is not in the massive form unlike shops and markets.

Sometimes, people are named with plant names such as flowers which cannot be considered to be impersonification, as well. Since the quality of inanimate objects should be transferred onto humans in this case. The quality must be an action or a feature that belongs to inanimate objects. For instance, if somebody says: "You grumble even though you don't rain", he impersonifies the person. The actions of grumbling and raining which pertain to clouds have been transferred onto a human. In this case, it is regarded as impersonification.

Lily, Violet, Lilac, Rose are person names. There is not metaphoric transference of quality or action. Hence, there is no impersonification here, as well. Since the quality of the flowers is not transferred onto people. As in anthroponomastics, only the names are transferred onto the people.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the study, it is possible to conclude that the field of anthroponomastics needs a rigid research in local level. Since there are very few researches conducted on this topic. Though there are quite a lot of researches carried out globally, it does not cover local study comprehensively. While elaborating anthroponomastic names in Azerbaijan, it turned out that most of public buildings bear the names of public figures such as presidents, scholars, poets, writers, musicians, martyrs while markets or shops, restaurants and cafes were named after ordinary citizens. As a result of analysis, it became known that anthroponomastics should not be confused with zoopnomastics, vegeponomastics and aviaponomastics. Since place names can also bear animal, plant and bird names. This comparison has been made at lexical level. As a result of survey conducted in the street among 100 respondents, it turned out that most used anthroponomastic destination is shops or markets as they prevail everywhere in comparison with public buildings. When approaching the phenomenon of anthroponomastics from stylistic point of view, it has been compared and differentiated with personification and impersonification. It has been noted that there is a minute difference between them. Hence, the quality or any characteristic feature is not transferred onto place names when we form anthroponomastics.

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