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UKRAINIAN ONOMASTIC TERMINOLOGY

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The paper aims to highlight the current problems of Ukrainian terminology of name studies. Our objective is to point out the problematic trends in developing Ukrainian onomastic terminology and describe its current state. We address the existing challenges within Ukrainian onomastic terminology, noting that comprehensive solutions have yet to be fully developed. Five problematic trends were established in the course of our investigation. 1. Introducing new terms is the coinage of terms if a real or imaginary need arises. It may be justified since new phenomena arrive into this world calling to be named. Hence, new terms appear, but sometimes, a newly coined term is either unnecessary or incorrect. 2. Futuristic terms are created to classify yet non-existent proper names that may be introduced, serving as placeholders for potential necessity. 3. Synonymous terms appear determined by the objective historical, scientific search for the best term for the most effective transfer of the desired meaning or by the subjective search, the result of excessive term coinages when a universally acknowledged term already exists. 4. Polysemantic terms come to life with the flow of time when some terms develop more than one meaning, usually because of the subjective approaches of researchers causing a kind of commotion in onomastic circles and an urgent need to explain and specify the use of the term in a particular context. 5. Incorrect use of onomastic terms that are supposed to bear a precise scientific meaning, a fact that might be neglected by some researchers who attempt to introduce onomastic terms into non-onomastic works. As a result of our research, we compiled a dictionary of Ukrainian onomastic terms, arranged alphabetically and containing 444 entries, each with a brief note on the term's origin. Each term is concisely defined, followed by the most typical examples that tend to be self-explanatory or accompanied by a short description. Each term is supplied with a Ukrainian translation. The Ukrainian-English Key presents a shortened dictionary version that facilitates Ukrainian onomasticists' use of the correct term.

Key words: *onomastics, term, onomastic terminology, problematic trends, dictionary of onomastic terms.*

Statement of the problem. Over the last three decades, Ukrainian onomastic studies have undergone profound and transformative development. This growth has been characterised by a steady stream of academic contributions, which have expanded the field's theoretical framework and deepened its practical applications. Scholars from across the country have dedicated themselves to exploring the rich tapestry of names and naming conventions, resulting in a significant body of work that spans numerous monographs, research articles, and doctoral dissertations. These contributions have collectively played a pivotal role in advancing the onomastic discipline, enriching it with new perspectives, methodologies, and insights. The impact of this scholarly activity has been far-reaching, influencing the academic

community and enhancing the cultural and historical understanding of Ukraine's linguistic heritage. The meticulous research conducted by onomasticists has shed light on the origins, meanings, and evolutions of names within the Ukrainian context, offering valuable contributions to related fields such as history, anthropology, and sociolinguistics. This vibrant period of scholarly endeavour has solidified Ukrainian onomastics as a dynamic and evolving field that continues to push the boundaries of what we know about the power of names in shaping identity and culture. In summary, the last thirty years have been a time of significant achievement and growth for Ukrainian onomastic studies. The ongoing efforts of dedicated scholars have ensured that this field not only thrives but also continues to make meaningful contributions

to the broader landscape of linguistic and cultural studies. Thus, the onomastic terminology project is increasingly important in the name study area. The Ukrainian onomastic terminological system has a longstanding scientific tradition stemming from the research held in the 60-s in the Academy of Sciences of the UkrSSR. Modern Ukrainian onomastic terminology represents the scientific worldview of the Ukrainian academic community.

Analysis of recent research and publications.

The chronological predecessor of the Ukrainian onomastic system standardisation attempt is *the Project of Ukrainian onomastic terminology* by V. Nimchuk (Німчук, 1966). More recent studies include *Structure of the Onymic Space of the Ukrainian Language* by M. Torchynsky (Торчинський, 2008) and *Dictionary of Ukrainian Onomastic Terminology* by D. Buchko and N. Tkachova (Бучко, Ткачова, 2012).

Formulation of the purpose and objectives of the article. As Ukrainian onomastic ideas develop, new terms and concepts emerge to describe various aspects of naming practices. Our paper aims to highlight the current problems of Ukrainian terminology of name studies. Our primary goal is to identify and highlight the emerging trends and significant patterns in the evolution of Ukrainian terminology over time. Additionally, we aim to provide a comprehensive and detailed overview of its current state. By examining the historical progression and the factors that have influenced terminology development within various fields, we seek to illuminate how Ukrainian terminology has adapted and transformed in response to modern changes. This analysis will delve into the contemporary landscape of Ukrainian terminology, exploring the challenges and opportunities it faces today. We intend to offer a thorough description of its present condition, encompassing the advancements that have been made, the areas that require further attention, and the ongoing efforts to standardise and refine the terminology for academic and practical use. Through this exploration, we hope to contribute to a deeper understanding of Ukrainian terminology's role in facilitating effective communication in an increasingly globalised world.

Presentation of the main research material.

Five problematic trends in the Ukrainian onomastic terminological system development were established.

Trend 1. Introduction of new terms

The most potent terminological trend in Ukrainian onomastics is the coinage of new terms if a real or imaginary need arises. It may be justified since new phenomena arrive into this world calling to be named, and new terms appear:

sitonym – a subtype of ideonym, a proper name of an internet site, e.g. *google search, youtube*.

venusonym – a subtype of cosmonym, a proper name of an object on the surface of Venus, e.g. *Ishtar Terra*.

Though, oftentimes, this wish of the researcher's heart to be scientifically precise and meticulous opens Pandora's Box, letting out Frankenstein terms which consist of three or more root morphemes, challenging to comprehend or memorise, the examples of which are **virtualmythotoponym**, **pseudovirtualonym**, **computerpoetonym**, the list can be continued.

Two tendencies in the creation and use of terms are observed worldwide: **simplification** and **complication**. In Western onomastics, a distinct trend to avoid complex terms exists, substituting, for instance, the term **toponym** by **place name** and **chrononym** by **time name**. On the contrary, Ukrainian onomatologists tend to use existing and create new scientific terms.

Here, we deal with different **levels of specification and detalization** of terms that ideally should be governed by the aim and theme of this particular research: being aimed at popularising the research among a wide range of readers or dedicated to a highly specialised study of a specific phenomenon (in this case the use of a particular term will make the task more accessible). We also should bear in mind that Ukrainian is a synthetic language, which makes abundant use of affixation, inflexions, and internal changes to convey meanings and grammatical relations of words, so it is acceptable to form a word with two, even three, sometimes four formants, unlike English, an analytic language, with its preference of word order and auxiliaries for the same task. This difference impacts the repertoire of word-building patterns and predisposition to coin new terms.

Trend 2. Futuristic terms

The Ukrainian onomastic system is based mainly on the existing phenomena, thus creating terms for existing proper names. Some researchers and terminologists may resort to coining new terms for the proper names that may be created. We tend to call these terms-to-be *futuristic* terms.

Some terms which once were futuristic as **phaleronym** (a subtype of chrematonym, a proper name of order, medal, distinction, e.g. Order of the Garter) are now widely used. Nevertheless, here we would like to dwell on the current futuristic terms. To illustrate, we turn now to some types of **cosmonyms**, the proper names of natural space objects. In this terminological class, we can observe quite many **futuristic terms**:

saturnonym – a subtype of cosmonym, a proper name of a natural object on the planet of Saturn, e.g. *Great White Spot*;

jupiteronym – a subtype of cosmonym, the proper name of a natural spatial object on the planet of Jupiter, e.g. *the Great Red Spot*.

Due to the nature of astronomical research and the enormous distance to these space objects, there are few proper names that could nominate any spatial landmarks. Although they can be discovered in the future, onomastic terms are already at our service. Moreover, some of these planets are gas giants with no surface and space objects, so basically, such terms are futuristic, waiting for astronomical findings to come.

At the same time, we observe a lack of research and, accordingly, terms for spatial objects on satellites, except the Moon. For example, *Enceladus*, the sixth largest satellite of Saturn, has landmarks on its surface. They are four sub-parallel depressions, and they bear the nickname *Tiger Stripes*. Their official names, given in 2006, are *Alexandria Sulcus*, *Cairo Sulcus*, *Baghdad Sulcus* and *Damascus Sulcus*. Similarly, we could speak about landmarks on many more satellites in the Solar System.

Trend 3. Synonymous terms

One of the difficulties in functioning the Ukrainian onomastic terminological system is the use of synonymous terms. It could be determined by the **objective** historical, scientific search for the best term for the most effective transfer of the desired meaning, a bright example of which are the terms **astronym** and **cosmonym**. Primarily, they were employed synonymically and interchangeably, denoting all natural space objects. However, with the further development of onomastics in Ukraine, they began to be used to denote partially different classes of objects of extra-linguistic reality:

cosmonym – a proper name of a space object: a star, constellation, galaxy, planet, satellite, etc., e.g. *the Moon*, *the Lyrids*, *the Milky Way*;

astronym – a subtype of cosmonym, a proper name of a star, e.g. *Betelgeuse*, *Algol* (also nicknamed *the Demon Star*).

Such differentiation enhances the growth of logical hypo-hyperonymic relations between terms.

The reason for the appearance of synonymous terms might also be purely subjective, being the result of excessive term coinages in the situation when a universally acknowledged term already exists, a bright example of which is the synonym to the term **literary onomastics**. A number of them were singled out in Ukrainian literary onomastic works (here given with approximate translations):

Table 1

Synonymous terms to *literary onomastics*

літературна ономастика	literary onomastics
літературно-художня ономастика	literary onomastics of artistic prose
ономастика художньої літератури	onomastics of fiction
поетична ономастика	poetic onomastics
поетоніміка	poetonymics
поетонімологія	poetonymology
ономатопоетика	onomatopoeitics
поетика оніма	poetics of onym
стилістична ономастика	stylistic onomastics

Trend 4. Polysemantic terms

With the flow of time, some terms developed more than one meaning, causing commotion in onomastic circles. It refers first of all to **chrematonyms**, which as proper names of human creations might denote in the Ukrainian onomastic system: 1) names of historical actions (in standard approach treated as chrononyms); 2) proper names of literary and musical works (traditionally understood as ideonyms); 3) proper names of paintings, films (also ideonyms), the list may be prolonged further. This approach blurs the boundaries of established categories of proper names, leading to their overlapping and considerable confusion.

The same situation has arisen with **ergonyms** – proper names of organized groups of people such as a business organization, political party, educational establishment, bank, cultural institution, restaurant, shop, etc. At the same time, they also denote the names of corresponding buildings, thus functioning as urbanonyms and microtoponyms, as in the examples:

hotelonym

– a subtype of architecturonym, urbanonym, microtoponym, a proper name of a hotel, motel, camping, etc.;

– a subtype of ergonym, a group of people who work there, e.g. *the Ritz* (London, UK), *Negresco* (Nice, France).

schoolonym

– a subtype of architecturonym, urbanonym, microtoponym, a proper name of premises of an educational institution;

– a subtype of ergonym, a group of people who work there, e.g. *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, *University of Oxford*.

Trend 5. Incorrect use of onomastic terms

By all means, onomastic terms are intriguing and appealing, like the Mona Lisa, but they bear

a precise scientific meaning, a fact that some researchers might neglect. Most frequently it happens to unfortunate **zonyms** and **phytonyms**, when biological terms are substituted by onomastic ones: *cat* and *dog* are termed as zonyms, *rose* and *oak* as phytonyms. The very essence of proper names is not taken into account: onyms identify the nominated **individual** objects, such as *Hachikō*, a Japanese Akita dog remembered for his remarkable loyalty to his owner, for whom he continued to wait for over nine years after his death; or *General Sherman* (a giant sequoia tree in the Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park, USA).

Conclusions and prospects for further research. The onomastic terminological system of the Ukrainian language (as well as any other language) in its course of growth should be governed by such simple principles as:

- **common necessity:** difficulty in the development of onomastic thought without creating this particular term,
- **common sense:** following the peculiarities of the language and the terminological system itself,
- **common use:** stable and consistent use in onomastic research.

Following the guidelines of S. Verbych, who suggests that new onomastic terms require a qualified review, must be justified and comply with the basic principles of onomastics, adhere to a

unified system in the creation of onomastic terms, and codified only when they withstand the test of time and become common (Вербич, 2020), we ventured on compiling the dictionary of Ukrainian onomastic terms (Karpenko, Neklesova, 2024). Materials for our dictionary were gathered according to the following criteria: more attention was paid to the works published after 1991 and by Ukrainian authors. The dictionary is arranged alphabetically and contains 444 entries, each with a brief note on the term's origin, usually Greek or Latin, giving the reader a general understanding of the simplified etymology. Each term is concisely defined, followed by the most typical examples that tend to be self-explanatory or accompanied by a short description. Each term is supplied with a Ukrainian translation. *The Ukrainian-English Key* presents a shortened version of the dictionary. This reverse list of terms makes obtaining necessary information easier for Ukrainian speakers. Here, a Ukrainian variant of the term is given first, followed by an English translation, all the entries arranged independently and alphabetically.

Further avenues of investigation are to be directed at a thorough review of new onomastic terms and their introduction into the dictionary in case they correspond to the basic principles of the Ukrainian onomastic terminology.

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УКРАЇНСЬКА ОНОМАСТИЧНА ТЕРМІНОЛОГІЯ

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Робота має на меті висвітлити актуальні проблеми української термінології в галузі ономастики. Нашою основною метою є визначити проблемні тенденції у розвитку української ономастичної термінології та описати її сучасний стан. Ми розглядаємо наявні виклики української ономастичної термінології, відзначаючи, що комплексні рішення для цих проблем поки що не розроблені в повному обсязі. Під час нашого дослідження було встановлено п'ять проблемних тенденцій. 1. Запровадження нових термінів: створення нових термінів у разі реальної або уявної потреби. Це може бути виправдано, оскільки нові явища потребують бути поіменованими, і тому з'являються нові терміни. Проте інколи новостворений термін є або непотрібним, або некоректним. 2. Футуристичні терміни: створюються для класифікації ще неіснуючих власних назв, які можуть бути введені в обіг в майбутньому, і виконують роль резерву на випадок такої необхідності. 3. Синонімічні терміни виникають внаслідок об'єктивного історичного та наукового пошуку найкращого терміну для максимально ефективної передачі бажаного значення, або через суб'єктивний пошук, який є результатом надмірної термінотворчості у ситуації, коли загальновизнаний термін уже існує. 4. Полісемантичні терміни з'являються з плином часу, коли деякі терміни набувають більше одного значення, зазвичай через суб'єктивні підходи дослідників, що спричиняє своєрідне непорозуміння в ономастичних колах і потребує уточнення та пояснення терміна в конкретному контексті. 5. Некоректне вживання ономастичних термінів, які мали б нести точне наукове значення, чим деякі дослідники можуть нехтувати, намагаючись застосувати ономастичні терміни в роботах з не-ономастичної царини. У результаті нашої дослідницької роботи було створено словник українських ономастичних термінів, який упорядковано за алфавітом, і який містить 444 статті, у кожній з яких пропонується коротка нотатка про походження терміна. Кожному терміну надається стисле визначення, за яким йдуть найбільш типові приклади, які, як правило, є самодостатніми або супроводжуються коротким поясненням. Кожен термін супроводжується українським перекладом. Українсько-англійський ключ представляє скорочену версію словника, що полегшує українським ономастам вибір правильного терміна.

Ключові слова: ономастика, термін, ономастична термінологія, проблемні напрями, словник ономастичних термінів.