

ONOMASIOLOGY, ONOMATOLOGY, ONOMASTICS (FOR CLARIFICATION OF TERMS)

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Abstract. No field terminology is immune from errors. A similar situation exists in onomasiology, where even such fundamental terms as “onomasiology”, “onomatology”, “onomastics”, etc. are confused. Moreover, neither in the Georgian nor in the foreign scientific space does there exist an **“explanatory dictionary of onomasiological terms”**. There are only **“explanatory dictionaries of onomastic terms”**, in which a significant part of the terms explained are precisely onomasiological in general, and not specifically onomastic. Today, it is no longer controversial for anyone that “onomasiology” and “onomastics” are independent linguistic fields. Accordingly, based on the analysis of the current situation, the present work raises the issue of compiling a “Georgian Explanatory Dictionary of Onomasiological Terms” and separating it from “Explanatory Dictionaries of Onomastic Terms”.

Keywords: onomasiology, onomastics, onomasiological dictionary, onomastic dictionary, nomination, onyme.

Introduction. The formation of any field of science is usually connected with the creation of its own conceptual apparatus and terminological base, although no field terminology can overcome its shortcomings. This is also the case with onomasiological terminology, about which **Olga Blinova** wrote as early as 1972: "Unfortunately, there are many onomasiological concepts and their corresponding terms to be defined and specified (Blinova, 1972: 98). The situation has not changed much even decades after this opinion was expressed: "Although the theory of nomination and its field of study has advanced significantly, the problem of its metalanguage is still relevant and unsolved (Yagafarova, 2010: 172)". This can be clearly seen on the example of the basic terms of this field - "onomasiology", "onomatology", "onomastics". Even from a superficial comparative analysis of their definitions, it is clear how many terms of this field are confused with each other.

Methods. The research is based on descriptive, comparative, terminological analysis, definitional analysis and conceptual analysis methods. Using the descriptive method, the terms “onomasiology”, “onomatology” and “onomastics” in modern linguistic literature are discussed. Based on the comparative method, the similarities and differences of the mentioned terms are revealed. Through definitional and terminological analysis, their content scope and functional boundaries are clarified. Conceptual analysis was also used in the research process, which made it possible to determine the relationships between the concepts under consideration.

Discussion. What is onomasiology (Greek *onoma* – name and *logos* – teaching)? It is "the science of appellative and onymic designation and naming" (Tskhadaia, 1988; Podolskaya, 1988).

What is onomastics (Greek *onomastikē téchnē* – the art of naming; ὀνομαστικός - "related to naming")? It is a branch of linguistics that studies all proper names. The subfields of onomastics are: anthroponymics, toponymics, zoonymics, ethnonymics, cosmonymics, theonymics, and others (EGL, 2008).

In a word, according to the definitions, the linguistic fields of onomasiology and onomastics are clearly separated from each other: onomasiology is the science of names in general, and onomastics is the science of proper names (Jorjieva, Shcherbakova. 2019). We run into problems as soon as we start looking for an "explanatory dictionary of onomasiological terms". The fact is that instead of it, almost everywhere, both in Georgian and foreign (including modern and Soviet-era Russian) linguistics, "explanatory dictionaries of onomastic terms" can be found (such as, for example: Tskhadaia, 1988; Podolskaya, 1988, etc.). At the same time, a significant part of the terms contained in them are generally onomasiological and not specifically onomastic, which is emphasized by the author of one of these dictionaries: "In onomasticism, two main terminological groups are distinguished: 1. Onomastic terms themselves, created by onomasticists and 2. Terms borrowed from related disciplines (other linguistics fields, archaeology, history, geography and others). For example, many terms defined in this dictionary are directly onomasiological: აპელატივი (*apelativi*), დენოტაცია /*denotatsia*/, მოტივირება /*motivireba*/, მოტივირების პრინციპი /*motivirebis printsiipi*/, მოტივირებული (არამოტივირებული) სახელი /*motivirebuli (aramotivirebuli) sakheli*/, ნომინაციის მოტივი /*nominatsiis motivi*/, ნომინაცია /*nominatsia*/, ნომინატორი /*nominatori*/, ნომინაციის ობიექტი /*nominatsiis obiekti*/, ნომინაციის სუბიექტი /*nominatsiis subiekti*/, ნომინაციის პრინციპი /*nominatsiis printsipi*/, ნომინაციის სიტუაცია /*nominatsiis situatsia*/, ნომინაციის აქტი /*nominatsiis akti*/, ონომასიოლოგია /*onomasiologia*/, ონომატოლოგია /*onomatologia*/, სახელდება /*sakheldeba*/, სახელმდებელი სუბიექტი /*sakhelmdebeli subiekti*/, სახელწოდება /*sakheltsodeba*/, პეიორატივი /*peiorativi*/. P. Tskhadaia rightly points out that: "The situation requires not only the enrichment of the Georgian onomastic terminology, but also the clarification and refinement of the already used one. By virtue of tradition, "onomastic" is still used in the meaning of "anthroponymy", while "toponymy" and "toponymics" are considered synonyms. This inaccuracy was also reflected in the last edition of the "Russian-Georgian Dictionary" /"топонимика" (toponimika) is the same as "топонимия" (toponymiya) / (Tskhadaia, 1988: 9).

It is also striking to see the confusion between the terms: "onomatology" - "onomasiology" and "onomatology" - "onomastics". For example, in the words of Al. Glonti, "Onomatology or onomastics is a part of lexicology that studies proper names (of people, tribes, places)" (Glonti, 1988: 157). Therefore, he equates these terms with each other. A. Matveev's¹ position is similar, about which E. Berezovich writes: "Reviewing the use of the above terms in the domestic and international traditions, A. K. Matveev proposes the use of the term onomatology in the meaning of "science of proper names." (Berezovich, 2007: 318). N. Podolskaya also equates onomasiology and onomatology: "Onomasiology (onomatology) - Science of designation, naming, nomination of appellative and onymic" (Podolskaya, 1988: 95). P. Tskhadaia goes further.: "Onomatology - 1. is the same as onomasiology, 2. is the same as onomastics. (Tskhadaia, 1988: 86).

We cannot ignore the fact that in no dictionary are the terms "*onomasiological term*" and "*onomasiological terminology*" not only not defined, but even not mentioned at all. Moreover, they do not mention the defining component "*onomasiological*", which is actively circulating in the scientific space. On the other hand, the dictionary contains a large number of term-combinations with the defining component "onomastic". They are defined as follows:

- **Onomastic term** - a word or phrase that precisely denotes a certain concept of onomastics. For example, onyme, toponym, anthroponym, deonymization, etc.

¹ Author of the monograph: "Onomatology". Moscow: Nauka, 2006

- **Onomastic terminology** - a set of onomastic terms, etc.

Finally: neither in Georgian nor in foreign Internet space can one find explanatory dictionaries of onomasiological terms at all.

Many more examples can be cited to prove that there is much that needs to be seriously reconsidered and clarified in the scientific terminology of onomasiology. The most important step towards solving this problem would be the creation of an "Explanatory Dictionary of Onomasiological Terms", which would clearly show that onomasiology and onomastics are two linguistic disciplines. Each has its own object of research and terminological apparatus, therefore, their confusion with each other is unacceptable. Onomastics, as a branch of onomasiology, studies its own theory of naming, or onymic nomination, while onomasiology includes another subfield, which studies the theory of names in general, or appellative nomination. Since we do not have a hyponymic term denoting this second part, it is obvious that this void has been completely filled by the term "Explanatory Dictionary of Onomastic Terms," whereas it should be limited to onomastic (onymic) terms only. If such a dictionary includes terms from both the theory of onymic nomination and the theory of appellative nomination, it should be called the hypernymic term "Explanatory Dictionary of Onomasiological Terms" and should include two components.

Conclusion. Thus, in our opinion, it would be better to use the term "onomasiology" in two meanings: 1. In a broad sense - the field of linguistics, which includes both appellation and onymic nomination, and 2. In a narrow sense - the field of linguistics, which includes only appellation nomination. Accordingly, the term "Explanatory Dictionary of Onomastic Terms" should be understood as a set of terms of onymic nomination only, and "Explanatory Dictionary of Onomasiological Terms" - composed of two parts: as a set of terms of onymic nomination and appellation nomination.

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