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LEXICOLOGICAL AND INTERCULTURAL FEATURES OF TOPONYMS OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF SPAIN

This study focuses on the lexicological and intercultural features of toponyms in the Southern region of Spain. Toponyms are the names of geographical objects such as cities, villages, rivers, mountains, which are an important part of the culture and history of a country. Toponyms in Spain reflect different historical periods of the rich history of the Spanish people. The Spanish language has inherited a rich and developed toponyms system from many eras. Toponyms retain a certain meaning, reflect the natural features of the territory, its surface, flora and fauna, minerals, etc. If a particular feature is reflected in a place name, it means that this feature was quite important. However, it is not only the geographical environment that determines the nature of local names; their form and content are always determined by socio-historical and cultural factors. Linguistic studies of place names are closely related to semantics, morphology, dialectology, and phonetics. The linguistic and intercultural analysis of theoretical developments of scholars has allowed us to distinguish three large groups, namely, the study of the etymological origins of place names of the pre-Roman, Romanesque, Arabic and Mosaic periods. Etymological research reveals the primary meaning of a place name, the reasons for the emergence of a geographical object, its historical conditions of origin, development, and modification.

The study of the lexica-semantic group of geographical objects of the southern region of Spain has shown that toponyms do not have morphologically expressed derivational means, they become proper names because of transferring a ready-made word from the sphere of appellatives (onomatopoeia, toponymisation) or proper names, most often geographical ones, accompanied by rethinking the word, as a result filling it with new toponymic content. The morphological method of producing geographical objects is the formation of monosyllabic and bisyllabic names, which in their turn may contain the following parts: noun+noun, adjective+noun, numeral+noun, ideological and other word combinations, names-abbreviations, and other forms of production, depending on the language of the study. The formation of toponyms by means of stemming, derivation, parasynthesis and affixation is reviewed and analysed.

Key words: *Spanish language, toponym (place name), geographical object, lexicological and intercultural features, southern region of Spain.*

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ЛЕКСИКОЛОГІЧНІ ТА МІЖКУЛЬТУРНІ ОСОБЛИВОСТІ ТОПОНІМІВ ПІВДЕННОГО РЕГІОНУ ІСПАНІЇ

Дане дослідження зосереджено на лексикологічних та міжкультурних особливостях топонімів Південного регіону Іспанії. Топоніми – це назви географічних об'єктів, таких як міста, села, річки, гори які є важливою складовою культури та історії країни. Географічні найменування Іспанії – відображення різних історичних періодів багатой історії іспанського народу. Іспанська мова успадкувала багату й розвинену топонімічну систему багатьох епох. Географічні назви зберігають у собі певний зміст, відображають природні особливості території, її поверхню, тваринний, рослинний світ, корисні копалини тощо. Якщо та чи інша особливість закладена в географічній назві, це свідчить, що ця ознака була досить важливою. Проте не лише географічне середовище

визначає характер місцевих назв, їхню форму і зміст завжди визначають суспільно-історичні та культурні чинники. Лінгвістичні розвідки топонімів тісно пов'язані з семантикою, морфологією, діалектологією та фонетикою. Лінгвістичний та міжкультурний аналіз теоретичних напрацювань науковців дозволив виокремити три великі групи, а саме дослідити етимологічні походження топонімів дороманського, романського періодів, а також арабського та мосарабського. Етимологічні розвідки розкривають первинне значення топоніма, причини появи географічного об'єкта, його історичні умови виникнення, розвиток і видозмінювання.

Вивчення лексико-семантичної групи географічних об'єктів південного регіону Іспанії полягало в тому, що топоніми не мають морфологічно виражених дериваційних засобів, власними назвами стають внаслідок перенесення готового слова із сфери апелятивів (ономатизації, топонімізації) або власних назв, найчастіше географічних, що супроводжуються переосмисленням слова, тобто наповненням його новим топонімним змістом. Морфологічний спосіб продукування географічних об'єктів представив собою формування односкладних та двоскладних назв, останні з яких можуть містити частини: іменник+іменник, прикметник+іменник, чисельник+іменник, ідеоматичні та інші словосполучення, назви-скорочення та інші форми продукування, що залежить від мови дослідження. Здійснено огляд та проаналізовано формування топонімів за допомогою складання основ, застосування деривації, парасинтезу та афіксації.

Ключові слова: іспанська мова, топонім, географічний об'єкт, лексикологічні та міжкультурні особливості, лінгвістичний аналіз, південний регіон Іспанії.

Toponyms are necessary in everyday life, when travelling, to identify a certain territory, its borders, etc. Even within a small area, it is difficult to do without a specific geographical designation of certain objects. Toponyms allow us to understand the address, draw a projection of movement, and describe the human environment. Over time and historical conditions, they change, new ones appear, and become other place names.

Different scholars have tried to study toponyms and separate them into a single science of place names, but each of them realised and concluded that toponymy, which studies geographical objects, is only a part of a certain science. Trying to give a clear answer to which science toponymy belongs to, they exacerbated the contradictions between different views on this discussion.

Coverage of topical issues related to the role, classification and functioning of toponyms can be found in the works of domestic and foreign linguists, among whom we should highlight T. Betsenko, V. Vinogradov, V. Zhuchkevych, G. Labinska, F. Mikloshych, E. Murzaev, I. Ogienko, O. Stryzhak, O. Superanska, V. Tomlytskyi, M. Torchynskyi, K. Tyshchenko, M. Yanko, E. Cherepanova, R. A. Pérez, A. L. López, D. Ortega López, L. Linares Rodríguez, J. A. Chavarría Vargas, B. Sanz Alonsa, García Sanchez, Trapera and others.

Relevance of the present research lies in the fact that the range of issues on which the attention is focused, namely the study of toponyms of the southern region of Spain, is carried out in domestic linguistics for the first time. The factual material proposed for analysis has not been the subject of study by domestic scholars. Some of the analysed sources are covered for the first time in national Spanish studies.

Purpose of the research is to identify and study the linguistic, namely etymological, lexical-semantic,

morphological aspects of place names of the southern region of Spain.

The following **methods** were used in this research: historical, linguistic, semantic analysis, systematisation of toponyms by territorial affiliation.

Research is original in its novelty because it is the first time that Spanish place names of the southern region of Spain have been the object of study.

In the modern world, toponyms reflect the cultural heritage of the people, the peculiarities of the area, the uniqueness of nature, and the living conditions of people. Toponymy is an interdisciplinary science that is a synthesis of linguistics, history, and geography. The basic concept of this science is toponymy, which considers a set of geographical names of a certain territory. The term toponym comes from the Greek: 'topos' – locality, 'onyma' – name, appellation (Y. Karpenko, 1992).

Geographical names refer to geographical objects, they reflect the geographical features of a particular area, region, or massif. In this research, we consider the southern region of Spain. It is on this territory that the culture of geographical names with its unique characteristics has been developing over a long historical period in the context of various social and geographical formations.

The Andalusia region is located in the south of Spain and comprises Almeria, Cádiz, Cordoba, Granada, Huelva, Jaén, Málaga and Seville. This region stands out among others because of its strategic position, located on the most southern side of Europe, between the northern continent and Africa, and between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Andalusia has fertile land and is rich in mountain ranges.

The appearance of the first toponyms of the region is associated with common words: forest, plain, mountain, water, river, etc. Primitive man did not

have a large vocabulary. A little later, people began to explore larger areas, and it was time to distinguish between mountains, rivers, and forests, so it was suggested that they use different definitions that characterised geographical objects by size, shape, colour, size, and purpose, all of which were reflected in the names of the southern region.

Over time, names began to indicate the affiliation of objects as group, collective, tribal, national, and individual. Thus, the main reason for the emergence of a place name is the need for its existence. It was difficult for the population to do without a certain designation of an object. Toponymisation occurred as a result of linking the original general concept to a specific address (V. Luchyk, 2011).

Andalusia is a large autonomous centre with Seville as its capital. The mountainous terrain, historical markers, migration flows, economic development and later decline have left their mark on the geographical names of this region. This is how oronyms, oikonoms, hydronyms, etc. emerged.

The name Andalusia itself dates back to the eighth century, which included the kingdoms of Jaén, Seville and Cordoba, and was founded by King Fernando III. The etymology of the Arabic word Andalusia (al-Ándalus) is still controversial. The first version suggests that the word al-Ándalus was used by the Arabs (who at that time inhabited southern Spain) to refer to the entire Iberian Peninsula. However, most scholars hold the theory that the name comes from the word 'vandal' (Vandalusia) (García Sanches Jairo Javier, 2007).

The Age of Exploration left its mark and increased the number of toponyms. The most famous is the voyage of Christopher Columbus, when he organised an ocean voyage with the support of Andalusian merchants. The first island he reached after a difficult voyage across the Atlantic Ocean was named San Salvador (Saint Saviour). After a long journey, a number of other islands were discovered. When Ch. Columbus reached Haiti, he realised that nature reminded him of his homeland and was no different from the Spanish land. Therefore, it was decided to call these lands Española (little Spain) and annex them to the possessions of Castile and Aragon.

The geographical names of Spain reflect different historical periods in the rich history of the Spanish people. The Spanish language has inherited a rich and developed toponymic system from many epochs. Remaining Ibero-Roman at its core, it is closely related to the toponymic system of Europe, creating a rather interesting and peculiar complex. The local Ibero-Roman names are ancient in origin, as evidenced by their linguistic features.

Many names are derived from anthroponymic origins, meaning they are named after a specific name, usually a person who is most prominent in the area. An example is the large number of streets in Málaga: calle Doña Enriqueta, calle Ana Bernal, calle Santa Lucia, calle Santa María, calle La Mariana, calle Marta Micaella, etc.

As noted above, toponymy distinguishes separate classes of geographical names: choronyms, oikonoms, hydronyms, oronyms, etc. (V. Luchyk, 2011: 14-16).

The names of settlements are called oikonoms; names of cities – astionyms (Sevilla, Cordoba, Málaga, etc.); names of inner-city objects – urbanonyms; names of streets – godonyms (calle de Marqués de Larios, calle Císter); names of squares – agoronoms (plaza Carmen Olmedo, plaza de María Guerrero).

The names of roads are called dromonyms (Autovía del Sur (A-4), Autovía del Mediterraneo (A-7), Autovía de Sierra Nevada-Costa Tropical (A-44), Atovía de Granada (A-81), etc.) (O.Karpenko, 2000).

The names of reservoirs are called hydronyms (Rambla de las Hortichuelas (Almería y Granada)); names of oceans are called oceanonyms (océano Atlántico); names of seas are called pelagonyms (mar Mediterráneo); names of lakes are called limnonyms (Embalse de Iznájar (Cordoba), Embalse de Arcos de la Frontera (Cádiz)); names of rivers are called potamonoms (Río Luchena (Almería)).

The names of mountains are grouped together under the name of oronimas (Barranco Carrasco (Jaén), Cantagallos (Jaén y Granada), La Cruz de Jubera (Granada)); the names of forests are called drimonimas.

The names of territories (districts, historical regions, countries) are called choronyms (Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Castilla y León, Cataluña, Galicia, etc.). The names of territories are divided into natural ones – the names of natural landscape areas.

The names of geographical objects derived from the names of animals are called zootponoms, and from the names of plants – phytponoms.

Toponyms are divided into macrotponoms (names of large objects) and microtponoms (names of small geographical objects). Macrotponoms include the name Spain (España), which is derived from the Phoenician 'Hispaniae', the name the Romans used for the entire Iberian Peninsula (García Sanches Jairo Javier, 2010).

Thus, the review allows us to conclude that geographical names retain a certain meaning, reflect the natural features of the territory, its surface, flora and fauna, minerals, etc. If a particular feature is reflected in a place name, it means that this feature was quite

important. However, it is not only the geographical environment that determines the nature of place names; their form and content are always determined by social, historical and cultural factors.

The field of toponymy underwent the greatest scientific research in the twentieth century. Studies of place names can be found in the works of the following scholars: T. Betsenko, V. Vinogradov, V. Zhuchkevych, G. Labinska, F. Mikloshych, E. Murzaev, I. Ogienko, O. Stryzhak, O. Superanska, V. Tomlytskyi, M. Torchynskyi, K. Tyshchenko, M. Yanko, E. Cherepanova, R. A. Pérez, A. L. López, D. Ortega López, L. Linares Rodríguez, J. A. Chavarría Vargas, B. Sanz Alonso and others. The publications of these authors substantiate the basic principles of grouping geographical names. Today, no science can stand aside, it cannot develop independently of others. At the same time, the interpenetration and mutual influence of different sciences is a natural process. Accordingly, there are cross-cutting sciences, among which toponymy is developing in unity with history, geography and linguistics.

In his scientific works, G. Ryliuk considers toponymy and refers it as a science to geography (a place name contains a clear characteristic, reflects natural territorial features), to history (a place name arises in a certain period of historical time, demonstrates the way of life, social system, life of people with a certain historical monument) and to linguistics (place names are words of language) (T. Symonenko, 2014).

In this research paper, we are studying the issues of linguistics, so this is where we will focus our research. The toponymic material that was collected during my stay in the southern region of Spain needs to be systematised. Toponymy is a branch of onomastics, a section of linguistics that studies place names. Therefore, it is advisable to consider and study the classification of toponyms.

Categories of place names are distinguished by the size and importance of geographical objects; let's consider the concepts of macro and micro place names.

A macrotoponym is the name of a large geographical natural and physical object. As a rule, a macrotoponym is internationally known, established by scientific taxonomy in the works of geographers, on administrative, geographical, topographical maps.

A microtoponym is the name of a small natural and physical uninhabited geographical object known to a fairly small number of people. Usually, microtoponyms are fixed in the memory of the population, they cannot always be found in official documents, and they can appear in the folk names of streets, beams, meadows, springs, small hamlets, etc. Micro-

toponyms are the least studied among domestic and Spanish researchers (T. Poliarush, 2004: 131).

Microtoponyms are quite variable, they are used only in a certain geographical area of a widespread language or dialect. Macrotoponyms are the names of large geographical areas and administrative units. In this work, we consider it appropriate to take into account the study of macrotoponyms that are more widely used in the society of the southern region of Spain, which is why they need to be better covered in this study.

Linguistic research on macrotoponyms and toponyms is closely related to semantics, morphology, dialectology and phonetics. As G. Labinska notes, 'linguistic geography studies the "settlement" of individual language traces on the Earth's surface, as well as the territorial differentiation of individual meanings of these words, their "resettlement" to other territories' (V. Luchykh, 2011).

It is advisable to consider the classification established by F. Miklosich, which is based on the principle of *semantic* division of toponyms. The scientist identified groups of toponyms that denote: land, water, vegetation, fauna, colour, buildings, people's occupations, tools, ethnic names, names associated with the social system, etc. (Abellán Pérez, Juan, 1999). F. Miklosich's classification is continued in the works of other scholars.

P. Polianskyi singled out the *lexical-semantic* approach and identified two groups of toponyms:

- 1) names derived from the names of the owners of geographical objects;
- 2) names that are an indicator of topographic location (Abellán Pérez, Juan, 1999).

The *morphological* component of toponyms was pointed out by N. Marr and R. Trautmann in their research, namely, the scientists distinguished toponyms that are based on their own name and toponyms that denote common vocabulary (Peña Díaz Manuel, 2012).

Stefan Ruhstaller, a Spanish linguist, outlines the principles of classifying toponyms by object categories. The author first distinguishes etymological, then semantic and morphological principles (Ruhstaller, Stefan).

In his turn, the Spanish linguist García Sanches distinguishes lexical stratigraphy, semantic approach, linguistic and dialectal, and morphological aspects of toponyms (Peña Díaz Manuel, 2012).

According to María Dolores Gordón Peral, it is necessary to pay attention to the etymological and linguistic aspects of macrotoponyms (Ruhstaller, Stefan).

In her work, linguist J. Doležalová classifies Spanish toponyms: by origin, by geographical aspect and by the meaning of lexical components.

The analysis of the scientific literature allows us to determine the principles of toponyms classification: geographical (territorial division of geographical objects), historical and linguistic (etymological, lexical and semantic, morphological)

Thus, a review of the scientific literature has revealed that there is no single unified toponym classification. In the researches of linguists, we can trace an interdisciplinary approach; toponymy combines scientific research in geography, history, and linguistics. We consider it appropriate to consider the linguistic aspect of place names in the southern region of Spain in the next section.

Toponymy is a science that deals with the origin and evolution of toponyms. Toponyms are important sources of historical geography. Today, they are used to determine the boundaries of certain ethnic groups and their state formations, lines of defensive borders, directions of migration movements, etc. Specialised research allows us to investigate the oldest names. This applies specifically to those that inhabited the southern regions of Spain. Such toponyms are considered to be signs, symbols that scientists continue to study even today. For a correct interpretation of a toponym, it is necessary to know the vocabulary of each era, each historical period that left an imprint in the toponymy, the settlements of people who inhabited certain geographical areas, etc. Without in-depth study and etymological analysis of terminology, toponymic searches can turn into speculation.

In their research, scholars V. Zhuchkevych, O. Superanska, V. Tomlytskyi, M. Torchynskyi, and K. Tyshchenko take into account the toponyms' etymology, the explanation of which is studied by linguistics, as it provides an understanding and comprehension of a geographical object.

According to V. Zhuchkevych, it is necessary to study the etymology of geographical names. The scholar proposes to classify names by their etymological origin: 1) place names with a clear semantic meaning; 2) place names that require etymological analysis to reveal the essence of the name; 3) place names the meaning of which cannot be revealed (V. Zhuchkevych, 1980).

Etymological research allows us to investigate the primary meaning of a toponym, the reasons for the appearance of this geographical object, its historical conditions of origin, development and modification.

As the Spanish scholar Celdrán notes, the etymology of place names should be considered in relation to certain historical periods and peoples who inhabited these lands during a certain period of residence in the southern region of Spain. The researcher distinguishes the following groups of

settlements: Iberians, Phoenicians, Greeks, Celts, Romans, Visigoths, Berbers, Arabs, and others who were not numerous in the above-mentioned territories (J. Doležalová).

García Sánchez classifies the etymology of Spanish toponyms in a different way. He distinguishes geographical names from the Indo-European period, the Greek period, the Phoenician period, the Roman period, the Germanic period, and the Arabic period. The analysis of the theoretical developments of Seldran and García Sánchez allowed us to divide the above periods into three large groups, namely, to study the toponyms etymological origins of the *pre-Roman*, *Roman*, *Arabic* and *Mozarabic* periods. We consider it expedient to consider in more detail the origin of geographical objects of the above periods. We have noticed that among the toponyms of the southern region, there are proper names of *pre-Roman* origin (preindoeuropeos mediterráneo, vasco, protovasco, ibérico, tartestico, preceltico, celta). Here is an example:

- roots of prehistoric toponyms: kar(r)-, kal- (stones) *Calpe*, *Carrión*; deiw- (light, heavenly, divine) Deva, Deba; cariu- (stones) *Quer*, *Querol*;
- suffixes of pre-Roman toponyms: -be, -bis Dénis.

Toponyms of Roman origin are formed with the help of suffixes: -anus, -ana *Albatana*, *Rociana*; -en(a), -ent(e) *Jaén*, *Agullent*; -olus *Orihuela*.

In the south of Spain, there are a large number of toponyms of the Arab period:

- masculine article al- is used at the beginning of the geographical object *Albacete*, *Almería*;
- Arabic initial form of wādi (river, valley), typical for hydronyms *Guadalajara*, *Guadalupe*;
- first names, patronymics ending with an accented í: *Almoradí*, *Ceutí*, etc.

In addition, there are many toponyms derived from Arabic nouns:

- marý (meadow, marshland) *Almarza*, *Almargen*,
- burý (tower) *El Borge*, *Borges*, *Bujaloro*, *Bujalace*
- ýabal (mountain) *Jabalquinto*.

The main characteristic of Mozarabic toponyms is the addition of the article al- to Roman names. But there are other characteristics of Mozarabic toponyms, such as:

- diphthong -ie- (diminutive suffix -iel) *Cardiel*, *Montiel*;
- plural feminine names ending in -es: *Yeves*, *Yeles*;
- names with the initial y-: *Yuncler*, *Yuncillos*.

We will further consider the lexical and semantic features in the names of geographical objects, which

will allow us to study the selected toponyms in more detail during a trip to the southern region of Spain.

In the process of researching toponyms, special attention is paid to the study of the lexical and semantic group of geographical objects of the southern region of Spain. This aspect has been studied by Y. Karpenko, E. Cherniakhivska, T. Poliarush, Garcia Sanchez, Trapero and others. The essence of the lexical and semantic creation of geographical objects is that «toponyms do not have morphologically expressed derivational means, they become proper names as a result of transferring a ready-made word from the sphere of appellatives (onomatisation, toponymisation) or proper names, most often geographical, accompanied by a rethinking of the word, i.e. filling it with a new toponymic meaning» (O. Selivanova, 2006). According to Y. Karpenko, «the lexical and semantic method of creating toponyms consists in semantic splitting of a polysemous name with further formation of a homonym. The external form of the name is preserved. It does not undergo changes at the formal level » (Y. Karpenko, 1992). P. Polianskyi in his lexical and semantic classification distinguished

- names derived from the names of the owners of settlements,
- names that are an indicator of topographic location.

Spanish scholars Tapero and García Sánchez divide toponyms into first- and second-level toponyms according to the lexical and semantic method.

First-level toponyms are geographical objects with the primary function of naming places. Such cities are **Cádiz and Tenerife**.

Second-level toponyms are names that have a primary function, but can also have a different purpose, perform a secondary function. Some of these toponyms do not change their semantic basis, they are referred to as toponyms of natural phenomena: **Fuente** (spring), **Tierra** (land), **Orilla** (shore), while others have derivatives: **Palmar** (a place where many palm trees are concentrated), as well as place names that have a metaphorical relation to geographical objects, i.e. place names can convey to geographical objects the qualities of the human body or animals, for example: **Cabeza, Mesa, Felicidad**.

It should be noted that Tapero also identified toponyms that take into account the subject evaluation and are used in the same meanings both in toponymy and in ordinary speech. The author refers to such toponyms in the general vocabulary: **Bueno / Malo** (toponyms denote quality: good / bad), **Hermoso / Feo** (toponyms denote aesthetic taste: beautiful / ugly), **Alto / Bajo** (toponyms denote

position: high / low), **Grande / Mayor** (toponyms denote size, age: big / older), **Gordo / Afilado** (toponyms denote shape: full / graceful), **Rojo / Negro** (toponyms denote colour: red / black).

Toponyms, like any words in a language, have their own morphological structure. Each language has its own means of word formation. For the scientific study of geographical objects, scholars (V. Zhuchkevych, O. Superanska, S. Rosponda, G. Sanchez, Trapero, etc.) use the linguistic principle of toponym classification, distinguishing toponyms by morphological features. The morphological method of producing geographical objects can be the formation of monosyllabic and bisyllabic names, the latter of which may contain the following parts: noun+noun, adjective+noun, numeral+noun, ideomatic and other phrases, names-abbreviations and other forms of production, depending on the language of the research.

In S. Rosponda's research, the presented classification is based on the grammatical structure and distinguishes the following types (G. Labinska, 2016):

- primary toponyms with zero toponymic format;
- secondary toponyms: suffixed, prefixed, suffixed-prefixed, with inflectional derivation, with accentual derivation;
- compound toponyms.

Spanish linguist Pérez in his research on toponyms defined a slightly different classification. The author distinguished derivation, word compounding, parasynthesis and affixation (Peña Díaz Manuel, 2012).

The analysis and the collected factual material of toponyms of the southern region of Spain allowed us to identify morphological aspects that are quite common and deserve our attention. First of all, it is advisable to highlight the following aspects:

- compounding words and bases,
- use of derivation,
- using toponyms in the plural,
- adding the article to toponyms.

There are many toponyms formed by combining the stems. For example, a place name can be formed by adding two stems + a stem (three or more stems): **Casabermeja**, or it can be transformed by adding new elements, for example: **Alba de Tormes**.

García Sánchez divides toponyms by folding the stems into:

- toponyms with mapped elements (with a graphic element),
- syntagmatic toponyms (separated graphically),
- prepositional toponyms (combined with a preposition) (Peña Díaz Manuel, 2012).

The process of derivation in the production of geographical objects is most often carried out with the help of suffixes. We analysed the actual material and identified suffixes:

-illo / -illa *Alamedilla, Armilla, Almensilla, Aroyo del Saltillo, Aroyo del Tolmillo, El Campillo, Las Peguerillas, Lomilla del Trueno* etc., this diminutive suffix is very productive in the names of the southern region of Spain;

-uelo / uela *El Portachuelo, El Madroñuelo, El Cortijuelo, La Escalera* etc.,

-edo / -et / -eda *Aroyo de la Silleta del Soldado, Cerro de la Lobeta, Molineta, La Laguneta* etc.,

-al / -ar *Los Morales, Olivares, Palomares del Río, Alfacar, Almegijar, Almuñecar, Busquistar, Cañar, Castillejar, El Pinar, Piñar, El Peral, El Bermejil, Puntal de la Serrata, El Losetar, El Bellotar*, etc., this suffix is used to form nouns that indicate a place where what is indicated by the attached stem is abundant, for example *Palomares*;

-ero / -era *La Rinconera, La Boquera, La Madroñera, Las Zorreras, Yesero, Colomera, Galera, Pedrera, Herrera* etc., this suffix can have different meanings in Spanish, for example, *Pedrera* (stones);

-on *Benacazón, Carrión de los Céspedes, Morón de la Frontera, Cañada del Fontarrón, Talancón, El Corralón, El Peñon, El Charcón, Peñon de la Barra* etc, this suffix is often used in Spanish to strengthen a word;

-ano / -ana *Albuñan, Montillana, Pulianas, Sorvilán, Cantillana, La Luisiana*, etc, the most notable toponyms are those formed with this suffix,

namely adjectives that represent the article of a noun, such as *La Luisiana*.

The production of toponyms by the prefix method is not common in the southern region of Spain, but it is found in certain places *Consuegra* (prefijo con+suegra).

It should be noted that there are geographical objects that are used at the end of words with -s, such toponyms can be an indicator of plurality. Also, a certain number of geographical objects in the southern region appear with articles, mostly toponyms of Arabic and Roman origin. Examples include the following toponyms *Las Gabias, Loscorrales*.

The results of this research have helped to identify linguistic, cultural, ethnic and social aspects of toponyms of the southern region of Spain. The geographical names and the history of the first toponyms of the southern region of Spain have been examined. The etymology of the geographical objects' structure is analysed, their historical origins are traced and examples of the most commonly used toponyms are given. Different principles of toponyms classification by geographical names, etymological origin and structure have been studied. It is concluded that toponyms retain a certain meaning, reflect various characteristics of the area, peculiarities of the region and local residents. The vocabulary of each historical period, which had a significant impact on the formation of toponyms of the autonomous community of Andalusia in the future, has been analysed. The lexical and semantic features of toponyms, as well as the morphological way of producing toponyms of the southern region of Spain have been researched.

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