ROLE OF ETHNONYMS IN THE CREATION OF TOPONYM

Summary. Turkish ethnoses together with Georgians are also one of the most ancient inhabitants of this territory. Turkish ethnoses also participated in the summer movement of the ancient ethnoses related to the Transcaucasia. They were always present sometimes in the pure form, sometimes assimilating and sometimes in the condition of assimilated, and they took part in ethnogenetic evolution of Transcaucasia. In order to discover the roots and antiquity of the Turkish origin ethnotoponyms in Georgia, first of all, it is necessary to determine that what period of history Turkish ethnoses had dwelled in the country, transfer of ethnoses to toponyms and their role in the creation of toponym.

Key words: Turkish ethnoses, Georgians, Transcaucasia, Azerbaijani toponyms, Ahiska Turks.

Introduction. Different Turkish ethnoses were originated in the territory of Georgia from the earliest times and this land had also been a home of different Turkish ethnoses along with Georgians. Archaeological excavations of ancient times also prove that Transcaucasia falls to an anthropogenic zone [7, p. 4]. According to the I.M. Sechenov’s scientific considerations, physiological structure belonging to Asian Turkish people is the first anthropological types in the world [10, p. 62]. Therefore, it can be supposed that Turkish ethnoses together with Georgians are also one of the most ancient inhabitants of this territory. Turkish ethnoses also participated in the summer movement of the ancient ethnoses related to the Transcaucasia. They were always present sometimes in the pure form, sometimes assimilating and sometimes in the condition of assimilated, and they took part in ethnogenetic evolution of Transcaucasia [9, p.15]. In order to discover the roots and antiquity of the Turkish origin ethnotoponyms in Georgia, first of all, it is necessary to determine that what period of history Turkish ethnoses had dwelled in the country, transfer of ethnoses to toponyms and their role in the creation of toponym. “The ethnonyms reflecting the names of different tribes and nations are of special importance in terms of history. Because of ethnotoponym was originated from the names of tribe and nations, ethnic composition presented in this and other historical stage lives in those ethnonyms. “In the determination of ethnic components participated in the creation of the nation and its formation” [1, p. 11], the role of toponyms closely related to “the social life of the nation and the language of the nation settled there” [5, p. 450] is important. The settlement date of Turkish ethnoses in the territory of Georgia which participated actively and powerfully both in the glotto genetic formation and in the ethnogenetic evolution of Azerbaijani people dates back to ancient times. Kh. Aliyev also writes properly that the formation date of the toponyms of Azerbaijani origin in the territory of Georgia is as old as the history of Azerbaijani living in those areas. The People has given the names proper to geographic locations since ancient times. Those names have not been given purely coincidental, they served to notify a conscious activity of the people and social, economic and political relations. As it is not possible to imagine the human society without geographical name, those names cannot be imagined without the people too. The toponyms of Turkish origin in Georgia should be explained in connection with the past history of our cognates lived in those areas. Because toponyms have been formed related to the history of our people.

Main part. A great importance of the toponyms in the people’s history, language and origin has always been in the limelight of investigators. The historians of an ancient period had addressed to toponyms and ethnonyms like reliable documents [3, p. 11]. A. Gurbanov dealt with the reasons for naming of geographic locations at different times notes that Azerbaijani toponyms have been originated on the basis of different word groups present in our language lexicon. Genetic and ethnolinguistic analysis of those toponyms shows that there have been certain tendencies in naming of geographic locations at different times. Thus, settlements and place names had exclusively borne a name of any person at a certain time. In a different time period, this naming had been formed on the basis of a name of tribe and clans. So, place names have appeared by hearing the names of person, tribe and clan, animal, plant, celestial bodies, water objects and etc. [4, p. 322]. The role of ethnonyms which are one of the nominative language units least subjected to a change in the development process of a language is unprecedented in creating toponym. Each of the toponyms having ethnonymic character in the territory of Georgia individually gives very appreciable and valuable information about history and ethnogenesis of our people. For example, if we have a look at the works of ancient Greek and Roman historians such by Hekamey, Strabon, Horamis, Pliny, Plutarch, Ptolemy and others even before the era, we will see that some ethnotoponyms in the territory of Georgia who come up to our time have more than 3000 years. Most of our toponymists do not give more than 900 years to the names of place of residence of Turkish origin in this territory. Nevertheless we come across such toponymists in this area that these have left indelible stamps not only in the history of Azerbaijani people, but also in the history of Turkish people. For example, if we have a look at as//az component ethnotoponyms, we can ground our thought in full. There is a village called Ashgala in the Zalga district of Georgia. Ash word used in the first component of this toponym which has a difficult structure is surely phonetic variant of as//az tribe name. The toponyms such as Azuki, Aziguri mentioned also in the Georgian sources is of this kind. On the basis of the toponyms such as Azgur, Azman, Azora etc. which existed formerly in Southern Georgia and taken off to the different places together with Ahiska Turks as a result of deportations, exiles stands the names of tribe. So, the role of as//az tribe name was very important in creating toponym in the territory of Georgia and as shown in the sources that “as”es which is first and initial source in the ethnogenesis of Turkish people as a whole, as well as Azerbaijani Turks is a nation which has immutable traces and a key role in the first stages of the world history. So, let’s say from the beginning that Asian continent which is the largest and oldest continent in the world was also named with the names of “As”es. Strabon called them (that is “as”es) the real
owner-inhabitants of the Asian continent. A number of ethnotoponyms, including As city (Peri), Aspandān (Isfahān), Aslanbūl (İstanbul), Assām (there is Assām state and Gurdaspur province in India now) and others are directly related to the name of “as” tribes. As supplementary to it, Azerbaijan, Ayas (man)-Hayastan, Astarkhan-Hashtrailh et al. many toponym, ethnotoponym and antroponyms also reflect the names of “as”es. And this is an undeniable fact for history. Strabon had repeatedly remembered that a number of ancient tribes are a generation of “as”es [2, p. 122–123]. Oghuz ethnos name is also one of the ancient onomastic units participated in the creation of some toponyms in the territory of Georgia. The word of Oruz used in the first component of Ohruzan toponym existing in Dmanisi district is undoubtedly an equivalent of oghuz ethnonym. The Oronym of Uraz winter camp is mentioned in “Defteri-mufes-seli-eyleti-Tbilisi” drawn up by the Osmani Turks in 1728. In our opinion, the names of place of residence with oghuz component which are repeated in the territories where Turkish people live, as well as in some toponyms in Georgia are originated from az, uz, guz lexical units which are the ancient Turkish tribes. It is also noted in many toponymic researches that guz is a name of ancient “guz”es (Oghuzes). Khaz-Guz -Gaz-Kas are the phonetic series of the same word. The word of Oghuz which is an old Turkish ethnonym stands on the basis of these toponym particles. Due to the confirmation by V.V. Bartold, a prominent Russian orientalist, Oghuzes are one of the most ancient Turkic ethnoes, and in the emergence of other Turkish speaking tribes, Oghuz had been a great beginning. Undoubtedly, the names of ancient Turkic tribes such as az, uz, guz, Oghuz originate from one origin both ethnic culture and lexicon unit” [9, p. 26–27]. All the above mentioned has been approved by A. Gurbanov, G. Geybullayev, M. Seyidov and tens of linguist-historian toponymists. An ancient mik-mug ethnonym had played an important role in the emergence of more than 7 ocyonyms in the territory of Georgia. The ethnotoponyms such as Bala Mughanli, Sert Mughanli, Jala Mughanli used by adding different geographical terms just in Borchali district are the special ocyonyms proving how popular this tribe is from the ancient times yet. If we add here the ethnotoponyms of Bala Mughanli in Bolnisi district, Boyuk Mughanli, Gash Mughanli, Kirej Mughanli, Garacop in Marneuli district- Yor Mughanli in Sagarejo district, Sertja Mughanli in Gvardabani district, Mughanli in Dmanisi district, we will have to prove that the aboriginal inhabitants have a very old history. Mugh/mughan tribe encountering in a form of Mukavan in an old Georgian sources drew an attention of Mileti Hekatey, a Greek historian and geographer still lived in the VI century BC and he showed that these tribes lived near Araz River. According to information given by Herodot, an ancient Greek historian lived before the V century BC, a tribe called maga, muki, muga lived on the plains between the Caucasian mountains. Strabon, geographer who lived in I century of our era mentioned a Mughan geographical name as a “mogan” and showed that it was located between the Rivers of Kur and Araz. Besides, Ibn Al-Kaba, Al-Mugaddain, an Arabic historian lived in X century and Ibn Heykal, Yagut Hamavi, a geographer of X century and others show that Mughan had been formed related to the mughans lived in those territory formerly. Also, Handulla Gazvini, a geographer of XIV century, Abdurashid, a prominent scientist of XIV–XV century and other medieval historians expressed some opinions in their works about Mughan name. Mughan geographical name is found in writing forms as “Mokhana” (Anmian Marsemi) in the works by ancient authors, “Mokhan-Kur” in Fliny, “Mulkhankh” (Movses Khorenatsi), “Mugan”, “Mughan” (Balazari, Tabari, Istakhri and others) in Arabic sources [8, p. 194]. It is known by following the role of the ethnonyms in creating toponym that the names of ancient Turkish tribes like hun, as, sir, barsil, onogur, udi, abdal, sabir, tubal, abar, chul, bozal, tele, gagli and etc. participated very actively in the creation of many geographical names in the territory of Georgia. G. Kazimov writes that a mass flow of oghuzes to the territory of Georgia during the period of Seljucks and getting started to pass to the sedentary life create fear of becoming Turks. Turkish influences expand during Mongol conquest, Kara Koyunlu and Ak Koyunlu. According to some researcher’s opinion who review all of these comings and confusions, ancestors of Ahiska Turks were Kipchaks, but they had to be mixed with other tribes, especially Oghuzes. Therefore, a formation date of Ahiska Turks reminds somewhat a formation date of Azeri Turks. The difference is that Oghuzes predominate more in the formation of Azeris. Ahiska Turks had fallen under the control of Osmanli Empire for a long time since the end of XX century; they had lived in dependence on Russians together with Georgia since 1828. Their tragic life that is known for us had mostly started after that. By mentioning these, we can come to such a conclusion that from what time Turks were in Caucasus, Ahiska Turks also existed from that time and what comings of Turks-Turkic tribes had been to Azerbaijan from the East and West, there were the same comings to the territory of Ahiska. As what tribes had played a leading role in the formation of Azerbaijanian language, Ahiska Turks had also formed on the basis of the same factors [6, p. 11–12]. Generally, aghiska-sak tribe name in the formation of Ahiska toponym located in the south of Georgia and in the historical regions, turk nation name in the composition of Didi Turkoba toponym existed in Eastern and partially in Western Georgia, Orgor ocyonym in Aspinza district form a name of onogor tribe, a Azgur village name in Meskheti province from a name of az/as tribes, a Toba ocyonym in Akhalkhisk district form a name of tele/teles tribes, Albali village name existing in Bolnisi district from a name of Ephthalites (Hephthalites), Bazalet and Bozaliane village names from bozal (bazoal) tribe name in Dushet district, Onogris village name from onoghr tribal name in Western Georgia, Khona in Meskheti, Khona village name in Adign district, Khoni village name located near Kutaisi city, name of Khanal castle ocyonym located in the south of Tbilisi from hun-khun ethnonym, Ude toponym in Adign district from a name of Udis which are hun-bulgar tribe, Balachaur ocyonym in Gudaut district form bilajari tribe name, Edinja and Injebla village names in Akhalkhisk district from inja/anjia tribe name, name of Salardagh ocyonym in Akhalkhisk district from a name of salar tribe, Oral village name in Akhalkhisk district from salar tribe name, Aral ocyonym in Adign district from a name of salar tribe, Abakthevi village name in Akhalkhisk district from a name of avat/abat tribe, Arikhli ocyonym in Bolnisi district from a name of arig/arkh tribe, Ashgala ocyonym in Zalga district from a name of as/as tribe, Azgeyliyen toponym in Dmanisi district from a name of as/as tribe, Alget ocyonym in Marneului district from a name of alat/oriat tribe, name of Arapli residential area in Marneului district from a name of arab nation, Baydarli ocyonym in Marneului district from a name of pazar tribe, Bazakli ocyonym in Dmanisi district from a name of bozok/buzuk tribe, Baytakar ocyonym in Bolnisi district from a name of duyar/dugar tribe, Girikli village name in Marneului district from a name of gir/girig/kirk tribe, Gullar village name in Marneului district from a name of kol/kul/gul tribe, Arakel toponym in Bolnisi district from a name of gel tribe, Gojlu ocyonym in Bolnisi district from a name of Ak Ko-

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