

# Structural-semantic and pragmatic features of deonym adjectives in Russian, Kazakh and German languages

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## Abstract

The article is devoted to the analysis of deonym adjectives in Russian, Kazakh and German. Deonym adjectives have their own characteristics in derivation, but they are not opposed to traditional methods of adjective formation in the languages, and they practically use a well-established mechanism of derivation. These language units are filled with extraordinary semantic content, which is dictated by a proper name in their basis. Deonym vocabulary in its pragmatic volume of meaning is considered as one of the integral components forming lexical parameters of value model of the world.

**Key words:** language picture of the world, derivative adjectives, morphological and syntactical means, word-formation models, Russian, Kazakh and German

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## Introduction

The formation of words related inherently to proper names is a phenomenon, quite common in all natural languages (Shakhmetova, Bekbosynova, 2014: 451-456; Shokhenmayer, n.d.). Proper names store etymological memory word that allows us to connect the old with the new experience, enter their subjective assessment (Elman, 2004: 301-306; Liberman, 2009; Rutkiewicz-Hanczewska, 2014: 159-170; Säily, 2017). Receiving additional connotations, proper names go into a special vocabulary – deonyms (Fradin, 2007: 84-98; Spencer, Nikolaeva, 2017: 79-99). Exactly this derivational productivity and communicative activity of the phenomenon defined the theme of our scientific article.

It is pertinent to point out that connotation comes from proper names, in the following cases:

- the denotation of a proper name becomes sufficiently well known in all members of a particular linguistic community, received the overall minimum education and training (onomastic, including the names of cities, names of the most popular politicians, artists, historical places, etc.);
- the proper name ceases contact to one, any specific denotation and is typical for many, something similar to each other people, objects, rivers, etc. (Hartung, Frank, 2014: 179-197).

In turn, rethinking of onyms with their further transfer to discharge deonyms is generally done in one of two ways:

- on the basis of associative connections between the value of naming and called objects (the process of deonimization);
- by regulatory records (artificial deonimization).

Thus, a special feature of deonyms' word formation is that it contributes to the formation of units belonging to different nominative parts of speech. As a result of secondary nomination through the proper names, a volume layer of vocabulary, containing in its composition nouns, adjectives, verbal units, adverbs or even non-nominative words like interjections, appears. We believe the discipline of deonomastics represents generally the study of words which have been formed on the basis of proper names, it is not the part of historical linguistics anymore, nor the realm of Romance philologists only.

Our research is aimed at the analysis of derivative adjectives. It was revealed, first, that deonym adjectives have their own characteristics in derivation, and they are not

opposed to traditional methods of adjectives' formation in the languages, and they practically use a well-established mechanism of derivation. Secondly, deonym adjectives are filled with extraordinary semantic content, which is dictated by the proper name in their basis. Third, the onym at the core of a derivative motivates the main functional applicability of derivatives, defining their communicative pragmatics. Fourthly, the relative lexical fewness of deonym adjectives does not prevent their easy speech reproduction in differently-structured languages.

### **Methodological Framework**

Deonym derivatives were selected from the dictionaries of modern Kazakh, Russian and German languages (the total number of more than 600 units) served as the material for analysis. The corpus of analyzed lexicon is divided into words of special and general meaning. The former include deonym terms, the second group contains adjectives of evaluative and indicative content (McEnery, Wilson, n.d.).

Collected factual material was analyzed in terms of its structural characteristics, revealing of actual word-formation models, establishing of the level of derivatives' motivation, and the study of their semantics' features. It is important to determine the degree of coincidence of structural and semantic parameters of deonym adjectives in comparable languages and compare their communication productivity, which directly depends on their reflective semantics.

In general, the selection and the analysis of deonym derivatives took about 4 months.

### **Results and Discussions**

Adjectives refer to the lexical-semantic class of predicate words denoting non-procedural attribute (property) of objects, events, or other signs, indicated by the name. It is recognized that adjectives are combined with an attributive-qualitative value, corresponding to it by the morphological category of the degrees of comparison and accompanying and characterizing function (attribute in the noun and predicative in the verb (Eykbaum, 1996). Sign words, as we know, have no denotation, they are only significative. Adjectives are correlated with denotation through the substantive that it determinates. In their empirical significance adjectives correlate with other parts of speech in speech realization. Exactly this specific feature of deonym adjectives is important for investigated lexicon. Deonym adjectives, combined with a household name, perform an attributive function; therefore in terms of content they are inextricably linked with determinative substantive. Frequently, we can talk about the functioning of idiomatic or stable elementary syntaxemes expressed by attribute group of words.

Morphological derivation of adjectives of special meaning takes place according to the word-building type [onym + adjectival formant of a corresponding language]. In the Russian language in particular, one of the formulas is as follows: [(onim + suffix. -ск- + appellative)].

Compare:

*(Абердин-ангусская порода коров)* Aberdeen-Angus cows (from the county Aberdeen and Angus in the UK);

*(Александрийская бумага)* Alexandria paper (from the toponym Alexandria);

*(Броуновское движение)* Brownian motion (named after the English botanist Robert Brown);

*(Брюссельская капуста)* Brussel sprouts (from the toponym Brussels);

*(Букеевская орда)* Bukeyev horde (named after the Kazakh sultan beech Nuralimova);

*(Каприйская школа)* Capri school (from the name of the island of Capri);

*(Карасукская культура)* Karasuk culture (from the river Karasuk in Kazakhstan);

*(Лиможская сталь)* Limoges steel (from the toponym Limoges in France);

(*Рентгеновская спектроскопия*) ray spectroscopy (after the German physicist Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen);

(*Фаяюмские портреты*) Fayum portraits (from the name of the oasis of El Fayoum in Egypt) etc.

A distinctive feature of these deonym attribute groups is their strongly pronounced indivisibility and integrity of semantics. The onym at the basis of combination creates a motive for verbal expression. In fact, it is a semantic core, which accumulates complete information about designated fragments of a certain sphere of human knowledge. In the above examples, reflecting not the whole spectrum of such nominations, it is clearly seen that different spheres are represented here: history, physics, archeology, ethnology, metallurgy, biology, medicine, paper industry, and culture.

Included in the group of name, a deonym adjective is combined with it with morphological and syntactical means; it is consistent in number, gender and case, and performs the attributive-defining function of an attribute. We believe that the deonym adjective performs not only the normalized attributive function, but deictic (pointing to the unusual nature of the object referred to) and identifying (selecting from a number of others referred to) functions. These functions are borrowed by derivative unit from producing onym and its specific semantics in the language. The above mentioned also applies to other word-formation types within deonym attribute combinations. Thus, this formant contributes to the appearance of conceptual terms in the Russian language in the form of deonym adjective-substantive combinations (Khaničev, 2003).

The same result is obtained due to the formant expressing the possessiveness of an attribute in relation to the appellative part of the word combination. The category of adjectives' possessiveness was highlighted in the Russian language by V.V. Vinogradov because of their special forms (Vinogradov, 1986: 639). The formation formant of a deonym combination - [(onym + ов / ев-) + appellative] - demonstrates the special productivity.

Compare:

'*адамов грех*' Adam's sin (Biblical name Adam);

'*Адисонова болезнь*' Addison disease (named after the English physician T. Addison);

'*архимедова спираль*' Archimedean spiral (named after the ancient Greek scientist Archimedes);

'*кесарево сечение*' cesarean section (named after the Roman Emperor Yu. Caesar);

'*сегнерово колесо*' Segner wheel (named after the Hungarian scientist J.A. Segner), etc.

In this series, we note that in addition to terminological expressions combinations of general and non-special content are present, like 'Adam's sin', which is used with the meaning of "disobedience; weakness for temptation".

The formant [onym (in the category of possessiveness) + appellative] is actively functioning for terminology. Possessiveness in Russian morphology is expressed with form-changing inflections of the genitive case.

Compare:

'*Беркгаузена эффект*' Berggauzen effect (named after the German physicist G.G. Berggauzen);

'*Бехтерева болезнь*' Bekhterev's disease (named after the Soviet doctor Bekhterev);

'*Бесселя уравнение*' Bessel equation (named after the German astronomer Bessel);

'*Сейферта галактики*' Seyfert galaxy (named after the American astronomer K.Seifert);

'*Эйзенхауэра доктрина*' Eisenhower Doctrine (named after US President D. Eisenhower), etc. Thus, Russian deonym adjectives are used in general-literary

language and terminology. They are characterized by attributive-appellative compatibility with representation of one indivisible sense.

Metonymic convergence of meanings of motivating and motivated bases of logical contiguity acts as a mechanism for reconsideration of a proper name in the dominant role for the production of terminological nominations. Functioning models of transformation are generally reduced to two areas: the face (anthroponym) → the result of the person; area (place name) → object or phenomenon associated with the area.

In the Russian language, examples of idiomatic expressions with the realias pertaining to the funds of the world culture are often encountered. In characterizing the behavior of the person in society, assessment of the circumstances, conditions, vital interests, etc. onym as an attribute gives the expression a holistic imagery and stylistic markedness. For example:

- Balaam's ass (suddenly start talking ass of soothsayer Balaam in biblical mythology): iron. normally taciturn man;
- Belshazzar's Feast (named after the son of the last king of Babylon Nabonidus Belshazzar, generous feast of whom is described in the Bible) - "a generous feast";
- Pillars of Hercules (according to the myth two rocks were erected in the Strait of Gibraltar, on the African and European shores by Hercules, that were "edge of the world" on the proposal of the ancient Greeks) - "ends of the earth";
- The Gordian knot (on behalf of the king Gordius of Phrygia, who, according to legend, attached an extremely tangled knot to the drawbar of a chariot; according to the prediction of the oracle, a man who was able to unravel that knot was to become the ruler of Asia; Alexander the Great cut the knot instead of untangling the sword) - "intricate set of circumstances";
- Danaev gift (the legendary wooden horse presented to the Trojans by the Greeks (Danaides); the hidden inside the horse troop of Greek soldiers opened the gates of the city to their troops, and Troy was taken and destroyed) - "gift with treacherous intent";
- Draconian laws (named after the Athenian archon Dragon, who in 621 BC created a set of laws (the first codification of the Athenian law), characterized by extreme cruelty) - "cruel laws";
- Aesop language (named after the ancient Greek fabulist Aesop) - "cryptography, allegory, concealing thought in literature".

We have noticed that Russian-speaking terms relate not only meaningful poetic shapes and sizes, although those too are available, compare:

*sapphic stanza* (named after Sappho, the ancient Greek poet: in ancient lyric and imitation stanza of three 11-complex and 5-complex poems logged structure);

*anacreontic poetry* (named after Anacreon is Greek lyrical poet: measured motives predominate, consciously cultivated sensual pleasures of life), but also cover general literature concepts.

Such expressions of general content are based on the metaphorical transfer of a proper name's meaning based on an analogy with the fact that it carries on. Expressions of this plan are on the whole of evaluative nature, they find common features with the original real name or a fact in the description of certain persons, objects or phenomena of reality.

In the Kazakh language deonym adjectives demonstrate essentially the same characteristics, ie functioning on the level of common vocabulary and terminology system. Differentiation takes place in terms of intralingual morphology (Klein, 1980: 155). Adjectives of terminological order are realized in conjunction with deterministic appellatives as well as in the Russian language, with the only difference that in the Kazakh language the formant [onim + appellative] acts. Possessiveness of speech construction is determined with the shape-changing affix of appellative, not of deonym (Djanuzakov, 1976: 49).

For example: 'адай жылқысы' Aday horses / from the name of the Kazakh bloodline of Adai, using this kind of horses;

'Бегазы мәдениеті' Begazy culture / from the name of mountains Begazy, at the foot of which the archaeologists found traces of this culture;

'қаракөл елтірісі' karakul pelt / from the name of oasis Karakul in Uzbekistan, where a breed of sheep has been grown;

'Оже әффектісі' Auger effect / after the name of the French physicist P.V.Auger, who discovered a physical phenomenon / etc.

Possessiveness can be expressed explicitly by affixation of onyms, for example:

'Әсет пен Ырысжанның айтысы'

*Aset and Yryszhan Aitys / by names of Kazakh folk singer-improvisators /.*

In addition to this typified formant some examples of proper adjectival forms of onyms in conjunction with appellatives are found:

gallamdy metallurgy / from the old Latin name for France - Gallia /;

Altay kyzy / from the name of the Altai Mountains /;

Evkliditik geometriya / the name of the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid /.

A feature of the Kazakh onym adjectivization is the presence of comparison, which performs the function of evaluation in general-literary language.

Examples of such representations of meanings of value picture of the world are the following samples, explicating comparative content with morphological affixation:

'Baluan Sholaktay' / after the famous Kazakh fighter B.B. Sholak / "be strong like Baluan Sholak";

Korkyt Atam kobyzynday / name of the legendary Kazakh musician Korkyta / "cry like kobyz Korkyt".

In contrast to the Russian language in the Kazakh deonym material there are many derived adjectives, not limited with syntagmatic value of attribute groups, and manifesting themselves as separate lexemes. It means that derivatives can function freely in any discourse, commensurate with the volume of signification (Fábregas & Marín, 2017). As an illustration, we will demonstrate certain deonym adjectives marked with different formants, giving them a different range of values: adamgershil "human", adamday "like a man", adamsyz "deserted".

Thus, adjectives of onym origin in the Kazakh language are marked with specificity of morphology in such way that derivational segments and inflectional morphemes determine their basic meaning. In accordance with the value of word-formation formant deonym adjectives can be classified as identifying nominates in class of terms and emotionally-estimated connotative lexemes in the general category of adjectives (Ford, Davis, Marslen-Wilson, 2010: 117-130).

Adjectives in the German language are used for the expression of attributes and the evaluation modality in the language picture of the world. Meanings of adjectival derivatives have quite a wide semantic space, correlated, first, with certain spheres of human activity, such as philosophy, politics, etc.; and secondly, with the general determination concerning all human activities in objective reality.

In the analysis of general semantics we can notice some trends that influence the formation of the adjectives' sense. Name in the basis determines semantic scope of derivative, i.e, it motivates and semantically directs a deonym adjective (Bizhkenova, 2003; Schweickard, 1995: 431-435).

In linguistic literature it is noted that a motivated word (or a word derived synchronically) is a word that is semantically (or syntactically) formally derived from another word (Ulukhanov, 2012). The degree of derivative motivation is determined as a result of comparative analysis of two bases' correlations: producing (in our case - a proper name), and derivative (here - the adjective) (Sadikova et al., 2016).

Monosyllabic and polysyllabic lexemes prevail among the samples of derived adjectives in German in comparison with attribute combinations in Russian and

Kazakh languages. This is due to the general trend of the German language to the formation of single lexemes by adding bases. Hence, one derivative lexeme in German confronts to the combination of words in Russian and Kazakh languages.

In the analysis of the actual material the following metaphor-metonymic parallels have emerged in the development of the nominative meaning of deonym adjectives with the prevalence of morphological segment -isch.

A) the name of the locality (city), known as the birthplace of certain textile goods and products, is transferred to the goods and products (Leon → leonisch «metallic threads»); Mossul → musselinen «tenderly woven of cotton»);

B) the personal names of the scholastic philosophers, religious reformers, biblical characters are assigned by adjectival derivatives, explaining their significance, which falls under a section of religious values (Paulus → paulinisch «in accordance with the teachings of the Apostle Paulus»; Luther → lutherisch «Lutheran»; Simon → simonisch);

C) in accordance with the teachings of actually existed philosophers derivatives from the names of these philosophers get their meanings, actually expressing the same meaning as the generic name (Hegel → hegeljanisch; Marx → marxistisch; Platon → platonisch);

D) adjectives derived from the names and surnames of statesmen, military leaders indicate what they were famous for; their names motivate word formation with the meaning of "politics" (Machiavell → machiavellistisch; Peron → peronistisch (in the spirit of Peron);

E) the names of scientists: physicists, mathematicians, bibliophiles played a motivating role in the value of adjectives derived from them, that mostly relate to the scientific terms (Euklid → euklidisch; Faraday → faradisch; Grolier de Servieres → grolieresk «as a single bound in leather with gold and color sewing »).

These deonym adjectives demonstrate general-literary semantics along with special meaning. In some cases, a formal variation of lexis without consequences is observed in the value: (kalvinisch, kalvinistisch; kartesisch, kartesianisch; sibyllerhaft, sibyllisch; simonisch, simonistisch). But there is a variation with a change in semantics: saturnalisch «fun» and saturnisch «divine.»

In linguistic plan polysemy is typical for some deonym adjectives (cf. .: spartanisch - 1. «regarding Sparta»; 2. "such that puts demands on smb's will, energy," 3. "simple, economical, unpretentious"). Some adjectives are used in fixed expressions such as: laurentische Gebirgsbildung, lauretische Literei).

Thus, as a result of the lexical-semantic analysis of deonym adjectives we can state that the group of these words in the German language is not so productive and relatively few. The asymmetry of the part-of-speech categorization in the German language with the prerogative substantivization leads to the "poverty of German relative adjectives" (Devkin, 2000). In most cases, they are mono-semantic and narrow in the value, so they can be easily forced out in the speech from common lexis by a synonymous adjective (Abdrakhmanova, 2016: 7-19).

The considered derivatives are secondary, really motivated derivatives. Outlined ranks of deonym adjectives remain open because ways of their formation refer to dynamic and mobile processes that finally lead to the regular replenishment of the vocabulary with the new verbal signs in the form of deonym adjectives. So, we can confidently conclude that deonymization is one of the indicators of flexibility and creative nominativeness of the language, performing the role of mediator between the real world and a man perceiving this world.

Let us consider another aspect of the analyzed units - their communicative pragmatics. Deonym vocabulary because of its unique onomastic motivation in semantics can be referred to a special class of words that contain element of affectivity in its meaning. In this regard, deonyms in language and speech can serve as so-called "affective

words-intensifiers" (Wolf, 2002). Affectivity is considered to be as the "degree of estimated interest of the subject" (Wolf, 2002). By the definition of C. Bally, affectivity in general terms is understood as natural and spontaneous expression of subjective forms of human thought: it is inextricably linked to our feelings, desires, aspirations and value judgments, as ... external expression of interest that we feel in real life (Bally, 2003).

The words of affective assessment have special referential properties: they assume the presumption of existence of a single object, which they estimate. Evaluation can be seen as one of the types of modalities, which is imposed on the descriptive value of linguistic expression. It is known that in logic two basic types of modality expression are contrasted - modality *de dicto* and modality *de re*. In the structure of *de dicto* a modal operator is attributed to the judgment, while in the structure of *de re* modality ascribes a specific sign of the thing (Wolf, 2002).

We consider the implementation of both types of modality in deonym lexicon. Production process of deonyms has no direct access to speech, but it is actively involved in creating elements of propositions, and thus, contributes to the speech generation. Creation of value "picture of the world" is, in fact, the basis of the semantic content of syntaxemes involving deonym units (Cinque, 2010).

The pragmatic aspect in deonym valuation statements, a modal frame of which is outlined with parameters of value "picture of the world", plays a more important role than in other syntagmas correlated only with the objective world. For example, in the assessments relating to the description of various states of a person's emotional shocks (to be at risk, to suffer, or to die), the "principle of sparing effect" plays a leading role, designed for the transmission of value information by means of onym coding of meaning. Therefore, sets of deonym stable syntaxemes are characteristic for evaluation expressions, aimed at softening of categoricity and explicitness of statements (Kennedy, 1999). It is a kind of onym paraphrases of euphemistic plan or the so-called "hypostasis" (Bally, 2003). The term "hypostasis" means a special group of associations within the meaning. More often they are spoken when a single word or group of words that belong to a certain lexical category or a part of speech is used instead of the word belonging to another category. In case of deonym expressions it comes about special (onomastic) set of lexemes.

Modal evaluation of deonym expressions and the ability to act as a pragmatic de-intensifier are especially important in situations characterized as "critical", for example, associated with death, in particular, with murder. Deonym expressions may take part in the communicative acts, which require being especially careful with explicit statements, verbal "helpers" in the function of euphemisms.

In our view, deonym vocabulary regardless of its part-of-speech relatedness equally demonstrates evaluation. This is due to its special etymon in the form of a proper name, which has a fixed standard of assessment through the denotation in the speech. This is the feature of deonyms's lexical meaning. Pragmatic evaluation effects of deonyms can't be comparable to other linguistic means. For example, a widely adopted decision by someone is qualified in German and Russian with expressions associated with the name of the Israeli-Jewish King Solomon, according to Biblical tradition: *salomonisches Urteil*, *salomonische Weisheit* - «wise judgment, wise decision», "wisdom"; in the Kazakh language an intelligent man is compared to ancient Greek philosopher Platon: 'Platonday akyldy' "clever like Platon". The real and unreal (mythological) figure, representing a quantum of information with its encyclopedic content, may lie at the core of expressions. For example, German *preußischblaue Farbe* means a black-blue color, which was first produced in Berlin, capital of the former Prussia. No doubt that evaluation in the semantics of derivatives is combined with the intensification and emotive aspect (orientation on a particular subject or object) comes to the fore.

The estimated expression in the form of *de re* is realized through adjectives. Adjectives, acting syntactically and semantically in an attributive function, form attributive-subjective combinations of words at the level of syntagma, nominative in their essence, that express all kinds of features - objects, people, facts, states, relationships, events.

In the investigation of affective adjectives a number of specifics of their syntax and semantics (Elliot, 1974; Milner, 1978). For example, the fact is established that these words are not combined with intensifiers (for example, such words as *very / not very*). Really an intensifier can't be combined with a deonym: (*very*) *Solomonic solution*. This applies to the material of all three languages, cf.: (*sehr*) *europäisches Land*; (өте) *еуропалық мемлекет*. The class of represented adjectives are semantically and structurally special due to the presence of their own real name, superimposing a decisive indicative mark on the meaning of derivatives, eg.: germ. *timonisch handeln* - (after the image of the legendary misanthrope Timon of Athens) "*hateful act*" or "*to speak didactic tone*" - (by the name of Mentor, a friend of Odysseus, a teacher and tutor of his son) "*to speak preachy tone*".

A semantic link of estimation and attributiveness of deonym adjectives is built on aspects of assessment, which determines the attributes of the object on which it is evaluated. Evaluation meaning of a deonym contains "a facultative element" - "motivation of comparison" (Wolf, 2002). Its onym's base serves as an intensifying motivation of assessment. The motivating (underlying at the level of mentality) comparison occurs in the evaluation meaning of the quality of the object, for example, *neapelgelb* - not just yellow, but yellow like the color that is produced in Naples, that is, in colors from light yellow to orange; and in *altayy kyzyl* a motivating element of comparison of the quality of red (color of the Altai foxes, ie yellow-red). German adjectives *tizianblond* «reddish-yellow" and *tizianrot* «copper-red, with shades from gold to red brown" are formed and motivated with the name of Italian artist Tiziano Vetseli; these colors are especially characteristic of his paintings. It also became clear that deonyms of terminological content in Russian language are universal with deonyms the same order in other languages. No wonder, since the fundamental scientific knowledge is the property of all. Science and the technology closely connected technique cause cultural unity of all mankind.

## Conclusion

An onym in the basis of attribute creates specific motives of meanings which demands a certain amount of cultural and specialized knowledge. This, apparently, explains the fact of the relative paucity of deonym adjectives. An estimated semantics of deonym adjectives is reinforced with classifying concrete fact of evaluation motive. As we can see, affective-estimated, emotive structure of deonym adjectives, as the whole body of words, going back to the onomastic lexicon, is rather complicated in the intensional world. However, the deonym vocabulary in its pragmatic volume of meaning is one of the integral components forming lexical parameters of value model of the world. This vocabulary has its own place and intended only to its semantic space of affective evaluation.

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