

# REGULARITIES OF FUNCTIONING OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, FOLKLORE OF BELARUS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD CULTURE

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## CHARACTERISTICS OF CONNOTATIVE MEANINGS IN RUSSIAN PHYTONYMS

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The study of vocabulary from the point of view of linguoculturology allows us to reveal the system of cultural values and landmarks that are inherent in the linguistic consciousness of members of a certain linguistic and cultural society and which are reflected in the linguistic picture of the world of this society.

The main factors in the formation of the mentality of nations in the earliest periods of their development were the phenomena of the surrounding reality. Much attention of researchers is attracted by nominative fields that expressively demonstrate national-cultural or universal features of languages. A phytonym as a type of semantic vocabulary reflects various characteristics of plants and shows the spiritual world of a person.

The relevance of this research is expressed in the demand for study of the peculiarities of phytonyms as signs of language and culture, as concepts that include common social and cultural stereotypes and individual associations.

**Material and methods.** General scientific methods (description, analysis and comparison), as well as private methods and techniques (continuous sampling method, semantic identification method, quantitative method) were used in the work. The research material were 250 Russian phytonyms.

**Findings and their discussion.** Many phytonyms are able to tell about the history of ethnic groups due to the figurative, symbolic and conceptual meanings existing in the structure of concepts. The phytonyms birch, oak, willow, viburnum, cherry, pine, wheat, poppy, sage and many others have the highest frequency of use in modern Russian discourse.

Artistic images of plants traditionally often pass on to people. They can reflect the processes of development and reasoning. Phytonyms are given connotations and used as standards or metaphorical characteristics of a person's appearance, behavior, character, objects of the surrounding reality, etc. For example, plants have a soul, feelings: "... and no one will know what viburnum is crying about" (I. Surikov, "Song"). We have identified a number of connotations in Russian phytonyms that can be markers of the national picture of the world:

a) anthropomorphic. These connotations manifest themselves:

– with the help of phytomorphisms and comparisons with the person himself or parts of his body. The metaphorical transfer of qualities, signs, and properties of plants to a person is based on real or fictional qualities of the person himself. This group mostly contains phytonyms, which connotative meanings are associated with appearance, physical condition, etc. The appearance of a person is characterized by physical condition (height) and age (youth-old age): blooms like a rose; slender like a birch, like a poplar, like a twig; poppy color; strong like an oak; look like a cucumber; squeezed like a lemon. Female beauty is indicated by such phytomorphisms as rose, violet, peach, berry, lily. There are a lot of stable comparisons concerning the human head (ears like burdocks; wheat hair; flaxen hair; cherry lips; potato nose; cornflower eyes);

– with the help of phytomorphisms with connotative meanings of "behavior", "character": stubbornness is associated with oak, narcissism – with narcissus, unpleasant character traits – with horseradish, simplicity – with burdock, capriciousness – with mimosa, mockery, wit – with pepper.

b) without anthropomorphic significance. Most often, these are nominations that, with the help of metaphors, characterize some concepts or events: reap the fruits; see at the root; raspberries as a thieves' den or easy life; watch strawberries; rest on your laurels etc.

c) by value connotations can be divided into positive, negative and neutral. It should be noted that the connotative meanings of phytonyms have a small percentage of negative components: flax (soft as flax – a weak, uninitiative person), burdock (about a simple-minded person), dandelion (an old, weak person).

**Conclusion.** Linguoculturological analysis has revealed many phytonyms that have differences in national and cultural connotations, which makes it possible to use these units in the study of the linguistic picture of the world.

In linguocultures the image of a plant is a metaphor for the qualities and properties of a person, tools for evaluating events in a person's life.

Since the process of plant nomination is in most cases anthropocentric in nature, many of the studied phytonyms have characteristics of plants with human qualities (real or fictional). There are phytomorphisms with connotative meanings of "behavior", "character".

Russian phytonyms have a number of connotations that can be markers of the national picture of the world: with or without anthropomorphic meaning (nominations that characterize some concepts or events using metaphors).

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