

THE NAMES, NICKNAMES AND PSEUDONYMS IN DIFFERENT CULTURES

This paper intends to deal with the use of names, nicknames, and using pseudonyms, name giving culture in different contexts and how is accepted, reacted, felt and evaluated by different individuals. The nicknames or pseudonyms have been used for different purposes, in various spheres of our life and adopted to hide an individual's real identity.

Key words: giving name, different cultures, individuals.

В этой статье речь идет об использовании имен, прозвищ и псевдонимов, а также о культуре как давать имена в различных контекстах и как воспринимают, реагируют, чувствуют и

оценивают разные люди. Прозвища или псевдонимы использовались для различных целей, в различных сферах нашей жизни и скрывают настоящую личность индивида.

Ключевые слова: давать имя, разнообразие культур, индивидуумы.

All personal and impersonal names have meanings. Even brand new names invented by creative parents mean something to the parents and the child. Most names, however, have more conventional, widely accepted meanings. Whether personal names and meanings are widely understood and play a role in everyday life varies from culture to culture.

In some places, names are embodiments of a person's spirit and are very powerful. Within these cultures, name meaning is an important aspect of a person, and it can influence the way society perceives someone. In other places, meanings of names aren't as well known, so they shape their owner's experiences on a more personal level.

The power of a name and its value has long been immortalized in prose, poetry, and religious ceremony. Everyone recognizes himself or herself by name.

The word "name" comes from Old English *nama*; akin to Old High German (OHG) and Sanskrit *नामन्* (*nāman*), Latin *nomen*, and Greek *ὄνομα* (*onoma*), possibly from the Proto-Indo-European (PIE) **nomn-*. Oxford English Dictionary is found the definition of "name" spanned five pages of small type beginning with: "1. The particular combination of sounds employed as the individual designation of a single person, animal, place or thing." The word "name" has been used by Anglican speakers over the ages to mean different things. Consider these uses of the word:

- Your name is muzak to my ears.
- If I had a dollar to my name, I could make a name for myself.
- He was named co-chair of the Coffee Fund Committee.
- Janis named her price; namely everything he owned.
- The psychic could not name the tune in Murray's head.
- In the name of mercy, take one of my breath mints.
- The name of the article was "Name Actor Seeks Anonymity."
- Claude could name the state capitals, but not the zoo animals.

Obviously this is a word that carries a heavy load. Its meaning is so broad that other words and

phrases have been coined over the years to carry some of the baggage. The following list shows synonyms that serve to mean something like a "name" in some context. Yet each also has its own connotation or additional meanings. Synonyms for "name" – personal n., last n., surname, cognomen, anthroponym, autonym, patronym, matronym, family n., maiden n., married n., birth n., first n., forename, Christian n., given n., nickname, moniker, appellation, epithet, byname, sobriquet, agnomen, pet n., code n., pen n., stage n., alias, brand n., trade n., signature, sign, nom de plume, badge, tag, anonym, demonym, econym, icon, symbol, toponym, label, title, designation, common n., genus, denomination, specie, rubric, type, proper n. Name of a person- anthroponym, place- toponym, body of water- hydronym, ethnic group- ethnonym, resident(s) of locality- demonym, false name- pseudonym, author writing an assumed name- pen name, item named after a person- eponym.

In the Old Testament, the names of individuals are meaningful, and a change of name indicates a change of status. For example, the patriarch Abram and his wife Sarai are renamed "Abraham" and "Sarah" when they are told they will be the father and mother of many nations (Genesis 17:4, 17:15). These names can be found in Muslim context too, Abraham's equivalent is Ibragim, Sarah's Saira, Bubusara, Saragul etc., Joseph's Jusup, Yusup, Yusuf. Throughout the Bible, characters are given names at birth that reflect something of significance or describe the course of their lives. For example: Solomon meant peace, and the king with that name was the first whose reign was without war. Likewise, Joseph named his firstborn son Manasseh (Hebrew: "causing to forget") as a gesture of forgiveness to his brothers for selling him into slavery.

The names also represent the personal identity. Judging by the names of Native Americans we may assume that the Native Americans mostly referred to the natural forces, objects, powers and strong belief. They believed they should live in harmony with nature. They also believed that each tribe was guided by natural spirits. The Sioux Indians believed in the "Great Spirit" Wakan Tanka. The three main ideas from the native American society are the following: be happy with

what you're given, be responsible to your people, and be aware of the balances in life. The names of Native American women and men symbolize the connection with the natural phenomenons and prove the harmony of manhood and nature. The names can be of different wild animals, plants, and environmental happenings. Female names: Chilali- snowbird (Hopi), Chimalis- bluebird (Algonquin), Chusi- snake flower (Hopi), Dibe- sheep, Doba- no war (Navajo), Lulu- rabbit (Miwok), Shada- pelican; Male names: Kuckunniwi- little wolf (Cheyenne), Kuruk- bear (Pawnee), Kwahu- eagle, Langundo-peaceful (Hopi), Matoskah- white bear (Sioux).

Eastern Slavic naming customs are the traditional ways of determining a person's name in countries influenced by East Slavic linguistic tradition, mainly Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan. The standard structure of the full name is the f.eg. Petrov Aleksandr Ivanovich, Andreeva Tatyana Vladimirovna, in the local languages of the non- Slavic CIS countries, Russian rules for patronymics were either never used or abandoned after gaining independence. Some Turkic languages, however, also use patronymics, formed using the Turkic word meaning 'son' or 'daughter'. For example, Asan uulu, Kazakh ұлы (ûlâ; transcribed into English as -ulî, son of Asan) or Azeri oğlu (as in Heydar Elirza oğlu Aliev); Kazakh қызы (transcribed into English as -qyzy, as in Ainura Bakyt kyzy). Some surnames in Turkic languages have been russified since the 19th century and remain so, russification practice is not common, varying greatly by country.

While investigating the customs and traditions of cultures the question arises why the people give a name to a newly born. Obviously the name is not for a beauty, or didn't come without a ground. The people gave a name according to the time, day of the week, or month, place, objects they've seen or hopes for a new born baby. From one side the name seems just as a proper noun but it covers all traits of character, peculiarities and differences. On the other side, sometimes the name is closely tied with his destiny or personal life.

The honor of giving name in Turkic nations is realized by a respected, influential person of the tribe. The family will pay for the name with a good meal and a new cloth. When the name was given by Azan, mullah read a verse from Koran and that word where he stops was chosen. In Kyrgyz family to give a name is a very

responsible duty and related with a magic, ideological views.

Islam greatly influenced to the name giving culture throughout the Turkic nations and there are common features and rules for name giving. Historically three main rules were observed while giving a name: to give a good name only after a child did something noticeable deed, to organize a festive gathering, the name giver must be well respected and a noble person. As an example, the name giving culture in epic "Manas" serves best here. As a result, Kazakh, Chuvash, Turk, and co-rooted cultures observed these rules. The Turkish names Tokta, Durmush, Dursun are used in the same meaning and same purpose.

What Are Nicknames?

The word nickname comes from the Middle English "eke name," or extra name. Nicknames are names that are substituted for a given name but have not been legalized. While using someone's given name and title shows deference and respect, using their nickname is an informal form of address. In small communities, derisive nicknames are often used to refer to people behind their backs, and the nicknamed individual may not even know about the epithet. Other nicknames are used to refer to or address someone directly. These fall into several categories:

Referential nickname. These are nicknames bestowed on public figures, and are often used to refer to politicians and sports figures. For example Andrew Jackson was known as "Old Hickory" and Winston Churchill was called "The British Bulldog."

Private nickname. Also known as a love-name, or pet-name, these names are typically used between lovers only when they are alone (or by couples who are impervious to the eye-rolls of their friends). Think "Sweetie Pie" or "Honey Buns." Private nicknames give couples a sense of intimacy, as they are names known and used only by each other, which helps create a little pocket and hedge against the outside world. Public nickname. A public nickname is one that is often given to a person in his childhood by family or friends, and which he carries with him everywhere he goes — it has achieved a near permanent status. The person may introduce themselves to new people with the nickname, and friends and associates may not even know the person's real name. True nicknames are complete departures from the root of one's real name. Generic. These are less personal, off-the-cuff

nicknames that are given to those who fit certain categories. “Doc” for a doctor, “Shorty” for a vertically-challenged individual, “Paddy” for an Irishman, and so on. Nicknames can be subdivided into Physical, Descriptive, Titled, Behavioral, Animal and Objects Nicknames.

Americans doubtless use more nicknames than any other peoples today. They give them to their wives, husbands, children, friends, enemies, and to almost every object they see or use. There are literally thousands of them employed in the daily conversations or in the writings of the American people. Each American state possess their nicknames according to their historical and traditional data along with the facts that reveal discoveries, settlements, and later development.

Alabama- Cotton Plantation State, Cotton State, Heart of Dixie, Lizard State, Yellowhammer State; Arizona- Apache, Aztec, Baby State (Because Arizona is the newest continental state in the Union), Copper State, Grand Canyon State, Italy of America, Sweetheart State, Valentine State (Arizona gained statehood on February 14, 1912);

Massachusetts- Baked Bean, The Commonwealth, Pilgrim St, Taxachusetts, Connecticut- Constitution St, Nutmeg St, Blue Law St, Freestone St, Land of Steady Habits Mississippi- Hospitality State, Magnolia State, The South's Warmest Welcome, The Birthplace of America's Music, The Bayou State; Michigan- The Great Lake State, Mitten State, Winter Water Wonderland, Minnesota- Butter Country, Gopher State, Land of 10,000 Lakes, Land of Sky-Blue Waters, New England of the West, North Star State, State of Hockey, Vikings State, Bread and Butter State; California- El Dorado State, The Golden State, The Eureka State Colorado- Buffalo Plains State, Centennial State, Colorful Colorado, Columbine State Highest State, Lead State, Mother of Rivers, Rocky Mountain State, Silver State, Switzerland of America; Washington D.C.- Nation's Capital; Hawaii- Aloha State, Paradise, The Islands of Aloha, Paradise of the Pacific, Pineapple State, Rainbow State, Youngest State; Kansas- America's Bread Basket, Wheat State, Home of Beautiful Women, Central State, Sunflower State; Kentucky- Bluegrass State, Corn-cracker State (reported in 1881), Tobacco State; Florida- Alligator State, Flower State, Gulf, Orange state, Sunshine State; New Jersey- Garden State, The Tomato State, The Cross-Roads of the Revolution;

New Hampshire- Granite State, Mother of Rivers, Live Free or Die, White Mountain State Oklahoma - Sooner state, Tennessee- Volunteer St, Utah- Mormon State, Beehive St., Texas- Chili State, Lone Star St.,

In Inuit culture they do not speak to or reference Elders by using their first name. It was considered to be disrespectful to speak the names of people older than you. This tradition is still followed today. In addition, Inuit tend to apply this etiquette to all people. Again, this was done to show respect to the older people. Inuit, in keeping with this tradition, did not pronounce the names of the newcomers. Instead, they would give them a name consistent with their

characteristics, occupation, or the way the name sounded. Very often, names of the newcomers

were too foreign and difficult to pronounce.

Local names were easier to remember. Outsiders

were known only by their nick-names. Most of the time, their given names were never really

known! Today, many outsider's nick names are still given and used. This shows a great deal of

respect for that person from the Inuit perspective. Inuit only seem to give nicknames for those they really respect. For example, Pa-qul-luk. (This name was given to a researcher who asked many questions). Just from the name, you can tell what type of person this may be.

In Kyrgyz culture nicknames are often used in family terms, as it is not desirable to call in-laws with their names. Our mothers even didn't pronounce the similar things that sound like their in-law's names, instead they described character, habits, or some features of the person. F.eg. father of my husband, aunt of my children, husband of my sister-in-law etc.

A pseudonym ['sju:dənɪm] is a name that a person or group assumes for a particular purpose, which differs from his or her original or true name. Pseudonyms include stage names, screen names, pen names, nicknames, aliases and others. Pseudonyms are most usually adopted to hide an individual's real identity. Actors, musicians, and other performers sometimes use stage names to mask their ethnic backgrounds. Pen names are used to conceal the author's identity. One famous example is Samuel Clemens's writing under a pen name Mark Twain. The Bronte sisters used pen names for their early works, so as not to reveal their gender and so that the residents would not know that the books related to people of the

neighborhood. Anna Bronte published under Acton Bell, Charlotte Bronte- Currer Bell, Emily Bronte- Ellis Belle.

Some female authors used male pen names in particular in the 19th century, when writing was a male-dominated profession. A well known example of the former Mary Ann Evans, wrote as George Eliot. Amandine Aurore Lucile Dupin, French writer used pen name George Sand. Jane Austen used the pseudonym “A Lady” as the author of her first novel *Sense and Sensibility*. J.K.Rowling is a shortened name of Joanne Kathleen Rowling, author of Harry Potter series. There are famous nicknames in the world literature: Boz-Ch.Dickens, D.Defoe=D.Foe, O’Henry- W.Sydney Porter, Lewis Carroll- Charles Dodgson, H.D.-Hilda Doolittle, Agatha Christie- Mary Westcamat, Saki-Hector Munro, Stendahl- Marie Henry Beyle and others. A famous case in French literature was Romain Gary. Already a well-known and highly acclaimed writer, he started publishing books under the pen name Emile Ajar. He wanted to test whether his new books would be well received on their own merits and without the aid of his established reputation, and they were. In Russian literature we may give as an example Maxim Gorkiy- A.M.Peshkov; in Kyrgyz literature A.Tokombaev-Balka (Hammer), Alykul Osmonov- descriptive epithets like Great poet.

A famous stage names Marilyn Monroe- Norma Baker, Madonna- Louise Veronica Ciccone, Sir Elton John- Reginald Kenneth Dwight, Lady Gaga- Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, and many others, as the number of stage nicknames are endless.

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The reasons why the writers use pen names are the following: 1.to mask the gender; 2.to shift genres; 3.to unify identity (when two or more authors decide to use one) f.eg. Ellerry Queen- cousins Frederic Dannay and Manfred Lee; 4.to hide moonlighting- most writers have day jobs; if they published under their real names their bosses might assume they're not working hard enough and fix the problem. And sometimes a person just doesn't want his good name or reputation changed by the opinionated or risqué works he’s writing. In 1969, the Edgar Award for best mystery novel was won by Jeffrey Hudson, a Harvard medical School intern whose real name was Michael Crichton.

As a conclusion, we may assume that the names are proper kind of language thing — one of distinction and discrimination. It is chosen, conferred and announced. It always belongs somewhere to something. It prefers to register in encyclopedias and directories rather than merely in dictionaries. It can travel the world and be understood, like Toyota or Airbus. It ignores the rules of grammar to become a Bronte adjective, or it can Houdini itself to be a verb. Names have meanings instead of definitions. They proclaim themselves on badges and emblems, promote themselves on banners and signs. They belong to birth and breed, title and tradition.

All the other symbols, signs and sounds in our language are just common words, often chained together, serving a sentence. They are slaves to grammar, clothed by connotation and context, artless when alone, dispensable when not. Names are brocades that give it class.