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THE SEMANTIC PECULIARITIES OF THE AZERBAIJANI PSEUDONYMS

LAS PECULIARIDADES SEMÁNTICAS DE LOS SEUDÓNIMOS AZERBAIJANOS

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ABSTRACT

The article deals with the system of pseudonyms of the modern Azerbaijani language. Pseudonyms take a special place in the system of anthroponymy. The reasons of creation of pseudonyms are quite different: to draw attention, to hide a person's identity, to express person's ideals etc. Pseudonym is a person's auxiliary name; it is used in the limited sphere and takes a certain place in the person's social life. Historical, social, culturological, ethnographic and other information is concentrated in the content of pseudonyms. The main purpose of the research is to appropriate classification of pseudonyms in order to determine and describe their semantic peculiarities. Pseudonyms are classified in a different form in the article; there is a new perspective on their status. Pseudonyms are considered to be an anthroponymic unit that reflects a person's self-evaluation. The findings show that being a result of the author's self-nomination a pseudonym not only carries out the appellative and referential functions but also is complete and referential from the semantic standpoint, i.e. it gives certain (objective and subjective) information about the concrete object of the external reality.

Keywords:

Onomastics, anthroponymic system, pseudonym, nomination, auxiliary name.

RESUMEN

El artículo trata sobre el sistema de seudónimos del idioma azerbaiyano moderno. Los seudónimos ocupan un lugar especial en el sistema de las antroponimias. Las razones de la creación de seudónimos son bastante diferentes: llamar la atención, ocultar la identidad de una persona, expresar los ideales de una persona, etc. El seudónimo es el nombre auxiliar de una persona; se usa en la esfera limitada y ocupa un lugar determinado en la vida social de la persona. La información histórica, social, culturológica, etnográfica y de otro tipo se concentra en el contenido de los seudónimos. El objetivo principal de la investigación es apropiarse la clasificación de los seudónimos con el fin de determinar y describir sus peculiaridades semánticas. Los seudónimos se clasifican de forma diferente en el artículo; hay una nueva perspectiva sobre su estado. Los seudónimos se consideran una unidad antroponímica que refleja la autoevaluación de una persona. Los hallazgos muestran que, al ser resultado de la autonominación del autor, un seudónimo no solo cumple las funciones apelativa y referencial, sino que también es completo y referencial desde el punto de vista semántico, es decir, brinda cierta información (objetiva y subjetiva) sobre el objeto concreto de la realidad exterior.

Palabras clave:

Onomástica, sistema antroponímico, seudónimo, nominación, nombre auxiliar.

INTRODUCTION

Pseudonym is a person's auxiliary name. Like the other anthroponymic units a pseudonym is also a word, it obeys the laws of the language and must be studied through the linguistic methods. There is historical, social, culturological, ethnographic and other information in the content of pseudonyms along with the lexical component. Work has been done to reveal and study the origin, formation, development of anthroponyms; various scientific views have been expressed. Study of pseudonyms are very interesting both for linguists and literary scholars. This allows to describe in detail the historical events. It is from this perspective that this theme has extralinguistic and integrative character.

For the first time in Azerbaijani linguistics, Shamsaddin Sadiyev gave information about pseudonyms in his scientific work (Sadiyev, 1969). However, some master's pseudonyms were confused with a nisba. There is more information in Sadikhov's dissertation, which was the first to establish a classification of pseudonyms (Sadikhov, 1975). On the other hand, H. Hasanov paid special attention to pseudonyms in his articles and monographs, but in some cases, he confused pseudonyms with nisba and nicknames (Hasanov, 1980). Also, M. Chobanov considered in detail pseudonyms in his anthroponymic researches but unfortunately sometimes equated pseudonyms with nicknames, too. The nicknames of the characters of the epos "Kitabi-Dede Korkud" were called pseudonyms. However, M. Chobanov's glossary of pseudonyms deserves attention as one of the first examples (Chobanov, 1987).

There is also information about the category of pseudonyms in A. Gurbanov's scientific works (Gurbanov, 2004). Some contentious issues related to pseudonyms are explained and solved in Z. Verdiyeva's book "The category of auxiliary names" (1990) and M. Adilov's scientific works. A. Pashayev gave much more information about pseudonyms both in the works written in co-authorship with M. Adilov and in his own scientific works; he also compiled the glossary of pseudonyms, dedicated his monograph to this category, emphasized the existence of the special field that studies such units and called it "study of pseudonyms" (Pashayev, 2018). G. Mammadli also made a great contribution to collection and systematization of pseudonyms. The researcher referred to this issue in his articles and gave these units and signatures as a compilation in his reference books (Mammadli, 1977).

However, despite previous studies, there are still gaps that deserve to be investigated, so the main objective of this research is to appropriate the classification of pseudonyms in order to determine and describe their semantic

peculiarities. In order to accomplish this, the descriptive, classification and comparative methods are used in the research. The sources of the research are some scientists' works, the different materials related to this theme and dictionaries of pseudonyms.

DEVELOPMENT

Anthroponymy is one of the largest branches of Azerbaijani onomastics. Anthroponymy (from Ancient Greek *anthropos* 'human' and *onoma* 'name') is the study of the names of human beings. Thus, anthroponymic vocabulary studies the emergence, formation, development of anthroponyms, their connection with the customs, traditions during the naming, their kinds and connection with the other name categories and the peculiarities of the anthroponyms used in the historical documents and fiction.

There are such categories as nicknames, titles, pseudonyms in the Azerbaijani language along with personal names, patronymic and surnames. Each of these name categories has its own peculiarities and they differ from one another in their use. They can be divided in two categories according to their functions and naming the persons from the different standpoints: 1) the main name categories; 2) category of the auxiliary names.

1. **The main name categories.** This category includes a personal name, patronymic name and surname. These names have an official character and they are reflected in the person's documents. It is known that when a person is born he/she is named, and one person differs from the other one by means of his/her name. A patronymic name that is included in the main name category is also significant for a person. A patronymic name is used in order to differ the persons with the same name, but sometimes it is not enough. At that moment surnames are used. A surname has a social character and serves society.
2. **Category of auxiliary names.** "There are the following kinds of auxiliary names: 1. nicknames; 2. pseudonyms; 3. titles; 4. honorable names; 5. pet names" (Pasha, 1996, p. 47). Unlike the main name categories these names are not reflected in the official documents. They are given to a person during the certain period of his/her life for his/her services, post, appearance, activities, work, profession, occupation etc.

Pseudonyms are one of the widespread branches of the category of auxiliary names. Pseudonyms take a peculiar place among anthroponyms; they are used in the limited sphere and are formed as a result of the person's self-naming. The reasons of emergence of pseudonyms are various: author's desire to hide his/her identity, not to attract attention, to express his/her ideals etc. Being a product of artificial nomination, a pseudonym carries out a

specific function in the artistic text and it is its aesthetic component.

“The first examples of pseudonyms occurred in Greece, later they spread on the other territories. The term pseudonym is derived from the Greek pseudonymon ‘false name.’ Pseudonym as a term has two meanings in the Arabic language: 1. deliverance, rescue; 2. pen name” (Verdiyeva, 1990, p. 5). There are other explanations of pseudonym besides these meanings in many dictionaries: additional name taken by a famous person for a purpose; alias used instead of the person’s real name; additional name used by poets, especially by Divan poets (Sami, 2007; Adilov, et al., 2020).

In Ali Yildirim’s opinion, unlike Persian and Turkic literature, there is no pseudonym tradition in Arabic literature. The Arabic poets most often signed their verses by their names and kunya (Erzen, 2017). *“Almost all classical poets used pseudonyms in their poetry, and they gained fame with these names. Over time, some poets’ real names were forgotten”*. (Kaya, 2003)

It is known that pseudonyms were widespread in the literature of all peoples, in particular, in the East. *“Writing under a pseudonym or a pen-name was common among both female and male writers. By using pseudonyms, it was possible to assume different positions as a writer. That, in turn, entailed a certain kind of freedom to create disparate types of texts”* (Entzenberg, 2009, p. 346). Use of pseudonym became a tradition from the X century and spread among poets and writers in Azerbaijan. Poets and writers became famous for their pseudonyms not their names in Azerbaijani literature.

“In the world, as well as Oriental culture, since ancient times, literary assemblies have existed as special cultural institution. In the East, as well as in Azerbaijan, they were mainly created in palaces, and their members were under the patronage of the rulers. Shusha literary assemblies of the XIX century were remarkable for their multifunctionality, contributions to literature, culture, education, enlightenment. Literary assemblies were primarily a school of poetic skill. Verses and poems were written, literary discussions were held, poetic norms were studied here, traditions of imitation were strengthened and passed on to the next generations. Selected poets were given pseudonyms at literary assemblies. The pseudonym was given by members of literary assemblies or famous masters of the word from the literary environment”. (Mehmet, 2020)

However, later pseudonyms were used not only by poets and writers but also by revolutionaries, inventors. These persons can be grouped as follows: those who abandoned their discordant surnames, persons hiding from

prosecution, young writers avoiding critics, persons of the same surnames. So, some researchers divide pseudonyms into two parts, literary-artistic and political ones.

The pseudonyms that exist from the ancient periods in Azerbaijani literature are literary-artistic. Authors most often used literary-artistic pseudonyms in order that their names sound poetical and be known. *“Not only the poet use his pseudonym as a pure absolute nickname also remarked some clues about his disposition, perspective of life, stance, and pleasure”* (Agirman, 2019, p. 5). Political pseudonyms were most often used by poets who just started creative activity, criticized the ruling classes writing satirical poems and desiring to remain anonymous and hide from persecution. Sometimes using political pseudonyms authors tried to draw readers’ attention to their work. However, though the medieval poets and writers faced difficulties, some of them did not hide using the political pseudonyms, they used only one pseudonym. Use of several pseudonyms by one person in order to hide his personality in Azerbaijan was connected with the emergence of the newspaper “Əkinçi”. And furthermore, activity of the satirical journal “Molla Nasreddin” expanded use of political pseudonyms in Azerbaijan.

“Contrivedness and artificiality of political pseudonyms is connected with stealthiness and protection of such names” (Pasha, 1997, p. 138). Such famous Azerbaijani writers and poets as J. Mammadguluzadeh (1869-1932), M. A. Sabir (1862-1911) and others used political pseudonyms. Nevertheless, some authors used the other authors’ pseudonyms in order to hide their personalities. The political and literary-artistic pseudonyms fixed in the Azerbaijani anthroponymy differ from one another for their forms and other peculiarities. There are similarities and differences among them:

1. History of emergence of the literary-artistic pseudonyms is more ancient than history of emergence of the political pseudonyms. For the first time, the political pseudonyms appeared with the creation of the newspaper “Əkinçi” and they are widespread at the present time.
2. The literary-artistic pseudonyms can become the author’s real name over time, but the political pseudonyms do not have such a peculiarity.
3. The literary-artistic pseudonyms are formed from the words connected with the author himself / herself, but the political pseudonyms are formed from the words that provoke laughter and attract attention.
4. The literary-artistic pseudonyms are typical of only one person, but the political pseudonyms can be used by several persons.

5. The literary-artistic pseudonyms are stable, invulnerable, but the political pseudonyms are unstable, they depend on the situation and change frequently (Pashayev, 2018, p. 56).

The modern writers' and poets' pseudonyms are not political, they can be included in the range of the literary-artistic pseudonyms because these authors use pseudonyms in order that their names sound more poetical: *Kamran Yunis* – Kamran Ahmedov; *Garagan* – Elkhan Agshin oglu Zeynalli, *Elkhan Elatli* – Elkhan Osmanov, *Rovshan Abdulla oglu* – Rovshan Abdulla oglu Abdullayev, *Agshin Yenisey*, *Ali Akbar* – Alekber Aliaga oglu Aliyev, *Agshin Evren* – Agshin Elshan oglu Safarov, *Asad Garagaplan* – Asad Nasirli, *Eminguey* – Emin Akif oglu Alizadeh etc. Performers of meykhana *Agaselim Childag* – Agaselim Ali oglu Salimov, *Nizami Ramzi* – Nizami Ramzi oglu Bakhshiyev, *Namig Garachukhurlu* – Namig Hilal oglu Shukurov, *Rashad Daghli* – Rashad Vagif oglu Amirov and others take a special place among such persons. *“In the modern world, authors use a pseudonym as a way to attract attention to themselves and the products of their creativity. Pseudonym is considered as an important component of the presentation complex which provides a preliminary, pre-reading reflection”*. (Dzharasova, 2012, p. 99)

We shall now proceed to consider the similar and distinctive features of the anthroponymic categories.

1. **Pseudonyms and personal names.** Use of pseudonyms was widespread in the Oriental literature. Writers and poets were famous for their pseudonyms. So personal names and pseudonyms were often confused. Personal names and pseudonyms differ in a number of ways: 1) A name is used by each member of society, pseudonyms are used only by masters. 2) Each person is given a name at birth, but pseudonyms are assumed later. 3) A person is given a name once, but a pseudonym can be assumed several times for various reasons. 4) Personal names are given in order to differ persons from one another, but pseudonyms are often used by masters in order to hide their personality. 5) A pseudonym becomes a personal name over time but in random cases personal names become pseudonyms.
2. **Pseudonyms and signatures.** It is known that political pseudonyms were widely used in Azerbaijani literature, press, so such terms as *imza* “signature” or *gizli imza* “hidden signature” appeared, and these terms and pseudonyms were confused. However they differ from one another. Pseudonym is a scientific term and expresses precise meaning. The word “signature” is used in several meanings. A person's real name and surname are also considered to be a signature.
3. **Pseudonyms and surnames.** Surname is a family paternal name showing a person's belonging to a certain kin starting with common ancestors, or in a narrow sense, belonging to a particular family (Soyad). Being a means of expressing the national essence the surname is the official anthroponym; in legal terms, it is officially registered. It takes a special place in the Azerbaijani anthroponymic formula. Every person is given a surname at birth and usually wears it for the rest of the life. Pseudonym is an auxiliary anthroponym. It is retained only legally and is reflected in laws related to copyright.
4. **Toponyms and pseudonyms.** A nisba was used in the East. A pseudonym and nisba were often confused and accepted as the same notion. As M. Chobanov noted *“if we look at the history of emergence of pseudonyms, we'll see that before surnames people assumed the names of places of their residence as pseudonyms”* (Chobanov, 1987). Though there are pseudonyms formed from the toponyms in Azerbaijani literature, in our view, the second components in these examples are nisba not pseudonyms.
5. **Pseudonyms and nicknames.** A nickname is given to a person for a certain peculiarity, appearance. There are differences between nicknames and pseudonyms: 1) Nicknames are given to a person by other people, but pseudonyms are assumed by a person himself/herself. 2) Nicknames indicate person's appearance, peculiarity, mental ability, but pseudonyms do not have such peculiarities. 3) Pseudonyms can be used separately from the person's real name, but nicknames are often used together with the personal names. 4) Nicknames express the person's negative features, but it is very rarely seen among pseudonyms.
6. **Pseudonyms and nicknames-Web Names.** With the development of technological progress and information technologies at the present stage nomination processes in Internet, opportunities of self-naming draw attention. Study of causes, peculiarities of informal anthroponyms – Web Names in the global Network is becoming increasingly important.

Regarding the last item, participants of virtual communication choose nicknames for themselves that are a special kind of anthroponyms. Such informal names are widespread in Internet. Nicknames-Web Names are product of the renomination, it serves virtual person's self-nomination: *Mulat Ka M*, *Orxan Saffari*, *Shelale Goyturk Nia Qara*, *suleymann*, *Shems Narmin*, *valida 222*, *amore_085*, *hand-made.by.nara91*, *mm.shopping_.*, *dr_gunay_feyziyeva_* etc. “The process of self-nomination is carried out in ICQ by using one of the types of nicknames: nick-autonym, nick-pseudonym or nick of transitional nature. Assigning a network name to a particular group depends on which language unit forms its basis: own real communicant's

anthroponym (nick-autonym), lexeme from appellative or “alien” onym (nick-pseudonym), combination of user’s real name with a common unit or “alien” proper name (transitive type)” (Balkunova & Ryanskaya, 2010).

Nicknames-Web Names are considered to be results of speech nomination. Carriers of nicknames are also their authors. This brings nicknames closer to pseudonyms, because a pseudonym takes a certain place in the person’s social life, too. Sometimes nicknames are called “network pseudonyms”. As both proper and common nouns take part in their creation they are products of renomination. At the same time emergence of nicknames is a creative act. People introduce themselves in the virtual world in this way. People create a certain image for themselves using pseudonyms and nicknames. Such names structurally can consist of one or several words and they can be formed from the words with the nominative and metaphorical meaning.

Some pseudonyms allow people not only to hide themselves but also to differ and be distinguished. *“Using a pseudonym does not necessarily equate to cowardice or irresponsibility; more than this, it may mean privacy, safety, expression of style, and a mere sense of creativity and mystery on the part of the writer”* (Mella, 2010). At the present time, examples are writers’, poets’, actors’, singers’ pseudonyms. In the XXI century pseudonymization serves mainly to drawing attention to oneself. Nicknames have such a function, too. Both nicknames and pseudonyms are expressive and at the same time imaginary, individual, artificial names. Only a carrier knows its meaning. Their scope of use is limited. They help a personal name to be secret like occasional words.

However a nickname differs for its function. It is a name that creates relation; communicative function prevails among nicknames. Unlike pseudonyms, the scope of their use is Internet; they characterize a virtual person. *“The definition “virtual” itself indicates the obligatory attribution of the phenomenon to the communicative sphere of Internet space”* (Balkunova, 2012). Orthography of pseudonyms and nicknames is different. Hence, it may be considered that nicknames are the modern developed forms of pseudonyms.

As already mentioned, pseudonyms have been widely used since the X century, so both taking several pseudonyms by one person and using the same pseudonyms by several persons have been widespread. That is why pseudonyms are used in two forms:

7. Non-repeating pseudonyms allow authors to differ from one another: Khagani – Ibrahim Shirvani, Nizami – Ilyas Yusufoglu, Javid – Huseyn Javid etc.

Non-repeating pseudonyms are also called “lesser used pseudonyms”. This means that they are pseudonyms used only once by one person and non-repeating: Vurgun – Samed Vurgun, Khazri – Nabi Khazri, Naimi – Fazlullah Naimi etc.

8. Repeating pseudonyms are ones used by several authors at the same time. Repeating pseudonyms are also called “common pseudonyms”. Non-repeating pseudonyms were used as political pseudonyms, but common pseudonyms occur both among political and literary-artistic pseudonyms: Sheida – Sultanmejidd Ganizadeh, Sheytan – Mirza Jalil, Molla Nasreddin – Mirza Jalil, Omar Faik Nemanzadeh, Mirza Alekber Sabir etc.

When an author signs his / her work in the name of several persons, it is “a false common”. Furthermore “pseudonyms with the plural suffixes” occur, too. Such pseudonyms with the plural suffix may relate both to one person and several persons at the same time: Shieler (lar/lər –is a plural suffix in the Azerbaijani language – R. H.) – Jalil Mammedguluzadeh, Ganja javanlari (Ganja Wolves – R.H.) – Ali Nizami Mammadzadeh etc.

As pseudonyms replace the author’s own name they can be used in the various forms:

1. Pseudonyms are used alone: Anar – Anar Rzayev, Elchin – Elchin Efendiyev etc.;
2. Postpositive pseudonyms: they are forms of pseudonyms widely used by masters. At that time first there is an author’s own name, then his/her pseudonym is used: Shah Ismail Khatai, Molla Panah Vagif, Gasim bey Zakir etc.

The semantic peculiarities of pseudonyms

Pseudonyms are formed both from proper and common names. Our classification is based on the available classification according to certain principles and we group pseudonyms in the following way:

1. **Anthroponymic pseudonyms –Pseudonyms formed only from personal names - preonyms.** *Aydin* – Aydin Mirsaleh oglu Mammadov, *Gabil* – Gabil Allahverdi oglu Imamverdiyev and others. Some of the pseudonyms of this group are not the authors’ own names, for example: *Rahman* – Sabit Kerim oglu Mahmudov, *Aydemir* – Ali Huseynzadeh, *Galandar* – Salman Narimanov and others. Such pseudonyms are also formed by cutting off a part of the personal names in the form of compound words: *Sultan* – Sultanmejidd Efendiyev , *Sattar* – Alisattar Ibrahimov, *Fath* – Fatali Ismikhhanov etc.
2. **Pseudonyms formed from the patronymic names.** Such pseudonyms patronymic pseudonyms – patronymic pseudonyms can be formed from the real and

assumed patronymic name. There are the following pseudonyms that consist of the real patronymic names: a) patronymic name + the words oğul 'son' or qızı 'daughter': *Gashamoglu* – Ahmed Mammadov, *M.Huseynoglu* – Mammadali Tarverdiyev, *Ali Velioglu* – Veli Ali oglu Alizadeh, *D. oglu* – Suleyman Rustam etc.; b) pseudonyms formed only from the patronymic names: *Ahmedkhan* – Aslan Ahmedkhan oglu Bayramov; c) personal name + patronymic name: *Ahad Muxtar* – Ahad Mukhtar oglu Ganbarov, *Khalida Khalid* – Khalida Khalid qizi Ismaylova; d) personal name + patronymic name + formant of surname: *Mirza Khalafli* – Mirza Khalaf oglu Khalafov, *Vagif Sultanli* – Vagif Sultan oglu Verdiev etc.; e) pseudonyms that consist of assumed patronymic names: *K. O lu* – Akif Kazimov, *Turkoglu* – Mirza Jalil, *Araboglu* – Huseyn Sharifov, *Ekinchioglu* – Hasanbey Melikov, *Demirchioglu* – Mastan Rasul oglu Aliyev etc.

3. **Pseudonyms formed from surnames.** Such pseudonyms are used both with a formant and without it: *Yusifli* – Vagif Aziz oglu Yusifov; *Jamil* – Ahmed Sattar oglu Jamilzadeh, *Rza* – Anver Ismail oglu Rzayev etc. Pseudonyms formed by changing formant of the surname: *F. Kocharlinsky* – Firudun bey Kocharli, *J. Hajizadeh* – Jafar Khandan Hajiyev etc.
4. **Gynekonymic pseudonyms.** Authors use female anthroponyms – gynekonyms – in order to be incognito and be protected against evil forces. Gynekonymic pseudonyms are often political pseudonyms, but the literary-artistic pseudonyms also occur in Azerbaijani literature: *Nazli khanim* – Mammadsadig Akhundov, *Musalman gizi* – Seyid Masum Musevi, *Khanbaji* (baji 'sister' – R. H.) – Ali Razi Shamsizadeh, *Nigari* – Mir Hamza Efendi, *Lale* – Baggali Abdulhuseyn etc.
5. **Andronymic pseudonyms.** The women who act in literature and press use male names, surnames or pseudonyms in order to hide from persecution. So, most of the andronymic pseudonyms are political ones: *Rustamli* – Nargiz Ahmed gizi Gurbanova, *Kanan* – Mehriban Rizvan gizi Hajiyeva etc.
6. **Pseudonyms formed from the auxiliary names.** *Khagani* – Afzaleddin Ibrahim Najjar Ali oglu, *Molla Nasreddin* – Omar Faig Nemanzadeh, *Yuhusuz Molla* (Yuxusuz 'insomniac' – R. H.) – Jalil Mammadguluzadeh etc. Almost all such pseudonyms are political in Azerbaijani literature. Pseudonyms formed from the titles and personal names: Ashig Ali, Ashig Alesger, *Arabachi Ayaz* (*Arabaçi 'coachman' – R. H.*) – Ayaz Vilayat oglu Allahverdiyev etc.
7. **Memorial pseudonyms.** The famous, outstanding persons' names are used as pseudonyms: *Kanan* – Yusif Rahimzadeh, *Soltan Abdulhamid* – Jalil Mammadguluzadeh etc.
8. **Abbreviation pseudonyms.** There are various forms of such pseudonyms:
 1. **initial pseudonyms.** Such pseudonyms can be classified according to the quantity of the letters in initial: a) one letter: *A.* – Hamid Arasli, *Z.* – Hanafi Zeynalli, *G.* – Aziz Sharif Gurbanali oglu etc.; b) two letters: *FK* – Firidunbey Kocharli, *S.H* – Seyid Huseyn Sadigzadeh, *M.S.* – Mammad Said Ordubadi, *A.N* – Ali Nazmi Mammadzadeh etc. The pseudonyms of this group have some characteristic features. For example, sometimes the words that mean the author's profession or occupation are added to two-letter pseudonyms. The authors who use three-letter initial sometimes change the order of initials to hide their personality. There are also such forms as one letter of initial + pseudonym: *M. Mushvig* – Mikail Mushvig, *A. Mammadzadeh Ganja* – Ali Nizami etc.
 2. **semi-initial pseudonyms.** A personal name, patronymic name, surname and one of the pseudonyms or both of them are in the form of initial in such initial pseudonyms. The quantity of letters can be various in them, too: *U. Hajibeyov* – Uzeyir Hajibeyov, *T. Kamal* – Kamal Talibzadeh, *A. Ilyas* – Ilyas Efendiyev, *H. Nakhchivanli* – Huseyn Javid, *M. Hadi* – Mir Abbas Mirabbasov, *M. Sabir* – Mirza Alekber Sabir etc.
 3. **false initial pseudonym.** Such pseudonyms consist of one or two letters and falsely characterize a person. It is difficult to identify a real author in such examples: *M. P.* – Salman Mumtaz, *N. N.* – Azim Azimzadeh, *M.N.* – Jalil Mammadguluzadeh etc. Some pseudonyms of this group are initial and person's real name, some of them are initial and real surname: *M. Hanafi* – Hanafi Zeynalli, *A. Mammadli* – Aga Mammadli, *G.S.* – Gulam Mammadli, *A.S.* – *Abbas Sahhat*, *M.M.* – *Mirza Alekber Sabir* etc.
 4. **use of compound personal names as pseudonyms.** *M.S.* – Mammadsadig Akhundov, *Kh. Ana* – Xanimana Sadigova, *M. Jafar* – Mammadjafar Jafarov, *A.A. Shikhlinisky* – Aliaga Shikhlinisky, *M.A. Nashir* – Mirali Seyidov, *H.R. Zadeh* – Agahuseyn Rasulzadeh, *S. M. A* – Sultanmajid Efendiyev etc.
 5. **pseudonyms formed from the components of names and surnames.** *Shar* – Aziz Sharif, *Ad. Efendizadeh* – Adil Efendizadeh, *M. li* – Gulam Mammadli, *R. li* – Mikayil Rafili, *G-zadeh* – Sultanmajid Ganizadeh, *M. Ch.* – Molla Mahmud Chakar, *A.M.b.T.-ov* – Alimardanbey Topchubashev, *MASA* – Mammad Said Ordubadi etc.

At present abbreviation pseudonyms are hardly used. Unlike the ordinary pseudonyms they are often used in press, publicistic style. Some of them are:

- **Toponymic pseudonyms. Toponymic (or geonymic)** pseudonyms are widely used and widespread in Azerbaijani literature. Toponymic pseudonyms can be grouped as follows: 1) Oiconymic pseudonyms – they are formed from astionyms and comonyms: a) astionymic pseudonyms. Such pseudonyms are connected with the names of cities, towns. There are political and literary-artistic kinds of them: Ganja poet – Mirza Mammad Akhundov, Isfandiyar Shekili – Isfandiyar Bakhtiyar oglu Vahabzadeh (Ganja, Sheki are cities in Azerbaijan – R. H.). The first component of these pseudonyms means the real territory, area, the second component means the author's character, occupation, activity etc. The political pseudonyms prevail among such pseudonyms: Bakili arabachi bir Turk (a Turkic coachman from Baku – R. H.) – Alabbas Muznib, Bukhara mukhbiri (a correspondent from Bukhara – R. H.) – Salman Asgerov etc.; b) comonymic pseudonyms. Such pseudonyms include the names of villages, settlements, regions etc. Pseudonyms formed from the names of villages: Gargarli – Jahangir Gozalov, Sarajli – Ashuk Huseyn Sarajli etc.; pseudonyms formed from the names of settlements: Buzovnali – Ruhulla Akhundov, Bilgahli – Abdulazim Huseynov etc. Komonymic pseudonyms are political and literary-artistic; 2) Oronymic pseudonyms. Such pseudonyms include the names of mountains, rocks, peaks, plains etc.: Rafiq Savalan (Savalan – the name of mountain – R. H.) – Rafiq Imamgulu oglu Agayev, Gaf (the name of the region) – Uzeyir Hajibeyov, Tofiq Garagaya (Garagaya – Black Rock – R. H.) – Tofiq Osman oglu Bayramov etc.; 3) Hydronymic pseudonyms. Such pseudonyms are formed from the names of seas, rivers, lakes, springs etc.: Mammad Araz (the Araz – the name of the river – R. H.) – Mammad Infil oglu Ibrahimov, Aliaga Kurchayli (the Kura – name of the river – R. H.) – Aliaga Hasanaga oglu Veliyev etc.; 4) Horonymic pseudonyms. Such pseudonyms include the names of states, regions, districts. Horonymic pseudonyms can be literary – artistic and political: Turan – Azer Imamverdi oglu Abilov, Garsli – Omar Faig Nemanzadeh, Ukraynali – Tagi Shahbazi etc.
- **Ethnonymic pseudonyms.** Such pseudonyms express the author's nationality, belonging to a certain tribe, people etc. Ethnonymic pseudonyms that are political and literary artistic can be divided into two parts. Sometimes authors hid their nationality, their belonging to a certain tribe, people in order to save themselves from political pressure and used the various ethnonyms: Oguz – Ahmed Musa oglu Kerimov, Azer – Emil Ibrahim oglu Mehdiyev, Tat – Mammad Said Ordubadi etc.
- **Zoonymic pseudonyms.** Some of the pseudonyms are formed from the names of animals. Most of them are political pseudonyms. They are formed from zoonyms (names of animals), ornitonyms (names of birds), entomonims (names of insects), ichthyonyms (names of fish) etc.: Aslan (Lion) – Azim Azimzadeh, Khoruz (Cock) – Azim Azimzadeh, Gurbaga (Frog) – Jalil Mammadguluzadeh, Tisbaga (Tortoise) – Uzeyir Hajibeyov, Horumchek (Spider) – Jafar Jabbarli, Ari bey (Bee) – Nariman Narimanov etc.
- **Cosmonymic pseudonyms.** Such pseudonyms are rare in Azerbaijani literature and press. Cosmonymic pseudonyms are formed from the names of celestial bodies, stars, planets etc. Most of them are used as political pseudonyms, some of them are literary-artistic pseudonyms: Shams (Sun) – Mahammad ibn Hindushah Nakhchivani, Ulduz (Star) – Bagir Ibrahimkhalil oglu Bagirov etc.
- **Mythonymic and theonymic pseudonyms.** Such pseudonyms are formed from the names of God, mythical animals, creatures, places and notions: Dajjal – Mammadali Aliyev, Jin – Uzeyir Hajibeyov, Femida – Tagi Rufat Tebrizi etc.
- **Pseudonyms formed from the appellatives:** a) pseudonyms formed from the words that mean professions, crafts, occupation etc. There are different kinds of such pseudonyms: Muallim (Teacher) Y. Kanan – Yusuf Rahimzadeh, Sayyah (Traveller) – Salman Mumtaz, Hekayachi (Storyteller) – Ali Nazmi Mammadzadeh, Edebiyyat maraglisi (Interested in Literature) – Suleyman Rustam, Oyreden (Teacher) – Farhad Agazadeh, Nashriyyatchi (Editor) – Mirza Jalil, Choban (Shepherd) – Uzeyir Hajibeyov; b) pseudonyms formed from the religious words: Allahperest (Loving God) – Jalil Mammadguluzadeh, Musalman (Moslem) – Mirza Jalil, Momin (Pious) – Omar Faig Nemanzadeh etc.; c) pseudonyms formed from the names of natural phenomena: Tufan (Storm) – Mammadaga Mammadzadeh, Nasimi (Sephyr) – Seyid Ali Imadeddin Nasimi, Dashgin (Flood) – Akhundov Mazahir Hamza oglu etc.; d) pseudonyms formed from the words that mean political-social situation: Kasib (Poor man) – Ruhulla Akhundov, Fagir Mazlumzadeh (Modest Downtrodden) – Akram Jafarzadeh etc.; e) pseudonyms formed from the kinship terms: Bajioглу (Sister's Son) – Mirza Ishag Mohsunzadeh, Asif Ata (Father Asif) – Efendiyev Asif Gasim oglu, Babirov gardashlari (Brothers Babirovs) – Jamshid Amirov and Rafail Nagiyev etc.; h) pseudonyms formed from the words with the spatial meaning. Most of them are political pseudonyms: Medendeki (From the Oil-Field) – Agabala Mikayilzadeh, Kendli (Villager) – Mammad Said Ordubadi etc.
- **Pseudonym-characteristics.** Such pseudonyms may or may not be related to the person himself/herself: a) pseudonyms formed from the words that mean qualities, traits: Darin Savadli (deeply literate) – Jalil Mammadguluzadeh, Vagif (Omniscient) – Akhund Molla Panah, Rahimsiz (Merciless) – Uzeir Hajibeyov, Vazeh (Clear) – Mirza Shafi Karbalayi Sadig oglu,

Gorkhag (Coward) – Salman Mumtaz etc.; b) pseudonyms formed from the words that mean physical state and character: Deli (Mad) – Mirza Jalil, Kheste (Ill) – Kheste Gasim, Ganmaz (Muddle – Headed), Sirtikh (Impudent) – Nariman Narimanov etc.; c) pseudonyms formed from the words that express appearance: Goja (Old) bey – Mirza Alekber Sabir, Kechal (Bald-headed) – Abdulla Shaig, Jirtan (Tom Thumb) – Salman Mumtaz etc.

- **Fictional pseudonyms.** Authors used such pseudonyms in order to keep themselves safe from evil forces and draw readers' attention. Most of them are political pseudonyms: Bazar Jujesi (Market Chicken) – Omar Faig Nemanzadeh, Herdemkhayal (Light-minded) – M. S. Ordubadi, Yukhulu (Sleepy), Boynu burug (Limp) – Mirza Alekber Sabir etc.

CONCLUSIONS

Nomination, use of names is ruled by language laws and psychological peculiarities of the person who gives a name. An anthropocentric attach in the linguistic research implies increasing attention to all person's parameters reflected in the language. Special attention is paid to the author's character in artificial nomination. Being a result of the author's self-nomination, a pseudonym carries out not only the appellative and referent functions but also it is complete from the semantic standpoint and gives certain (objective and subjective) information about the referent.

In conclusion, it should be noted that pseudonyms which are unofficial names are little studied, have very interesting and rich semantics onomastic units in the anthroponymic system. The material chosen and given in the article shows the peculiarities of the system of pseudonyms and principles of nomination. The theoretical and practical materials were gathered and analyzed during the research process. The notion "Pseudonym" is comprehensively considered. The diversity of pseudonyms depends on the richness and word-formation methods of the language. In our opinion, the results and findings of the research will arouse the interest in study of pseudonyms that are very important language phenomenon. It may be assumed that with the development of the language, customs, traditions and culture the scope of pseudonyms will expand and new motives to choose pseudonyms will emergence.

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