

Towards the Conditional Personal Names of Community Centers in Bulgaria

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(Summary)

The text enters the field of research on the border between onomastics and anthropology where conditional personal names of community centers are considered not only as part of the language system but also as a symbolic resource for (re)construction of identity. The paper presents the main theoretical assumptions, conceptual apparatus and systematization of the names adopted in the linguistic discipline in terms of naming institutions and in particular the community centers. Special emphasis is given to the onset of the nomination practice for cultural and educational associations, registered since the period of their occurrence (mid- 50s and 60s of the XIX century). The paper traces the main semantic groups and their subsequent transformations in the changing socio-cultural contexts. In the various stages of community centers' existence, the practice belongs as an initiative and is implemented within the local communities. However, the official discourses of the state (in its ideological transformations) which have their own specific impact on the system of names have been of particular importance. For this reason, the research interest is directed not only to the communities, but also to the legal regulations in the naming that are available in the legal documents of community centers. The onomastic works and data are an important source of empirical material as well as the constantly updated register of the national community centers. Specific examples are drawn from the historiographical literature and Internet sources.

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