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Turkish nomination – traditional and modern names in Turkey

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Traditional Turkish names are used not only by Turks, but also by representatives of other nationalities: Arabs, Albanians, Azerbaijanis, Circassians, Armenians – in the era of the Ottoman Empire, the Turks assimilated a large number of different nations.

The vast majority of Turkish names are of Arabic, Persian or Turkish (originally Turkic) origin, so Turkish names and surnames can be translated into any of these languages.

Prior to the mass adoption of Islam, the ancient Turks practiced shamanism – a belief associated with magical rites, totemism and fetishism. Therefore, the ancient national Turkic names had a mystical character, the meaning of Turkish names went back to the names of animals, birds, plants, fruits and flowers: Tay – «foal», Cilek– «strawberry», Sarigul– yellow rose «, Kartal -» eagle «. Often children were named after some natural phenomenon or time when the child was born – day of the week, time of day, holiday: Sel– «rain, thunderstorm», Aykut– «holy month», Tun – «night». The Turkish name in translation often meant the names of celestial bodies, geographical or climatic features: Senay– «merry moon», Tanyildiz– «sunset star», Gok– «sky», Deniz– the sea . Among such names are the names of rivers – Tuna – «Danube», etc. A separate group consists of the names of epic heroes, famous military leaders, politicians: Bekir, Omer, etc.

By the second half of the 11th century, the process of Islamization in Turkey was finally coming to an end. At this time, Muslim names are spread: in honor of the prophets and his wives, the names of religious holidays and other names with a religious meaning. In 1299, the Ottoman Turks created the state of the Ottoman Empire, the Ottoman dynasty ruled until 1922. During the sultanate, the state was multinational and multilingual: Greek, Arabic, Serbian, Bulgarian and other names penetrated Turkish culture through different languages - some of them have survived to this day. The Ottoman sultanate was the heyday of Persian culture: it was during this period that a significant number of Persian names entered Turkish nouns. Some borrowed names changed – so new Turkish names were formed (for example, the female name Yasemin – a form of the Persian name Jasmine).

Until the beginning of the 20th century, the Turks used the Arabic name system: personal name, patronymic, title, additional attribute. In 1934, a law was passed abolishing prefixes to names in the form of nicknames and titles – today the full Turkish name consists of a name and surname, and the name can be both a name and a surname.

Currently, the citizens of the country can give a child a double name: the first – religious, Muslim, the second – modern (Aisha Edge, Ahmet Batukhan). So parents choose the «golden mean», respecting traditions and following the latest fashion trends. This method is also used in families where the couple can not come to a common opinion when choosing a name for the newborn.

It is not uncommon for members of the same family (siblings, parents and children) to have consonant names: for example, brothers Aslan and Kaplan (lion and tiger), sisters Hale, Lale and Jale.

In Turkey, the majority of the population professes Islam, so the popular Turkish names are primarily Muslim names of Arab, Persian, Turkic origin. According to the Statistics Committee of the Office for Population and Citizens' Affairs, both during and after the Ottoman Sultanate, the most popular names in Turkey were the male Mehmet (formed from the Arabic Muhammad), Mustafa, and

Ahmet. The fourth place in the ranking of popularity is occupied by Ali – the name of the nephew of the Prophet, followed by the names of the grandchildren of the Prophet – Hassan, Hussein. No less popular are the names of Suleiman, Mussa, Ibrahim, etc.

Among female Islamic names, Arabic names are often used, also associated with the family of the Prophet, such names in Turkish sound somewhat different: Fatma, Aisha, Zeineb.

Muslim traditions have made popular names formed from religious holidays, holy months and days of the Muslim calendar. Thus, among the Turks you can often find the name Mirach, which indicates the birth of a child on the holy day of Mirage.

Different names were popular in Turkey at different times. During the Ottoman period, the names of statesmen, padishahs (Abdulhamit, Osman) were often used. Later, during the republican period, the fashion for names was associated with the literary heroes of epics, legends: for example, in the 70-90s of the 20th century, boys were often called by the Arabic name Murat («purposeful») due to comics and novels published at that time. , whose main character was Kara-Murat. Later, the list of Turkish names was replenished with names in honor of politicians, football players, artists, singers, heroes of famous TV series. Thus, the TV series «Alie» made the male name Arda popular, another no less rating series «Crazy Heart» aroused a wave of interest in the names of Yusuf, Zeineb. In honor of the Turkish singer Tarkan (translated from Turkish – «feudal lord»), boys were named not only in the singer's homeland, but also in other countries.

Rare Turkish names include those that are forbidden to be called children in Turkey – mainly on religious grounds. For example, it is rare to find names in honor of idols (Wada, Yaguk), glorifying man (Yzge – «saint»), belonging to the Creator with the article – al in the composition (Al-Ahad – «the only»), in honor of the pharaohs (Pharaoh, Namrud)), the names of the devils (Valkha – «doubting», Haffa – «scaring people»).

The most beautiful Turkish names can be formed from any word: natural phenomena, a graceful animal, a beautiful flower, precious stones, touching feelings, the best human qualities – the Turkish noun is extremely diverse. Karabars – «black panther», Ece – «queen», Ozcan – «unique soul» – beautiful Turkish names are enough to find a suitable one.

Among the unusual names, you can often find compound options, when parents combine their names, creating a new unique name for the child. For example, if the father's name is Ilkay and the mother's name is Emine, then by adding the parts of the two names, Ilkem is obtained.

Unusual Turkish names include «names on the contrary»: when a man is called a female name, and a woman - a male. This happens when parents are expecting a child of the opposite sex and come up with a name in advance.

Not so long ago, a new tradition of naming spread among the Turks. New names are formed in a rather unusual way: it can be the Arabic words from the Qur'an that you like, or any other symbolic or beautiful word. Thus, some interesting Turkish names are translated as oath, fairy tale, frost, etc.

In recent decades, cases of foreign marriages, including Russian-Turkish ones, have become more frequent in Turkey. In such international families, contradictions often arise when choosing a name for children, and parents find a compromise – neutral Russian-Turkish names, such as Murat, Yasmina, Sofia. Such names sound traditional and equally beautiful in both languages.

Despite the tacit ban on the use of borrowed European names, there has been a recent trend, along with national Turkish names, to give newborns foreign names. Thus, among the traditional names you can increasingly find names of various origins (English Melody, Greek Melissa, Spanish Linda, etc.).

However, most Turks are still faithful to tradition – modern Turkish names mostly consist of Muslim names of Arab, Turkic and Persian origin.

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The language context in Morocco

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The population of Morocco consists of Arabs, Arabized Berbers, Berbers, French and Spanish. The language context here plays an essential role in determining the general state of domestic policy.

A language context is a set of forms of existence of one language or a set of languages in their territorial and social relationship and functional interaction within the boundaries of certain geographic regions or administrative political formations [4; P. 266].

Morocco is home to 33.8 million people, about 60% of the population are Arabs, about 40% are Berbers. Also, Europeans (about 60 thousand people) and a small number of Jews (7 thousand people) live on the territory of Morocco. The process of merging various tribes and peoples into a single Moroccan nation is not fully completed. Therefore, one of the main characteristics of the language context in Morocco, as in the whole of modern Africa, is the presence of languages that are used simultaneously by several ethnic groups, or the use of several languages by one ethnic group.

Describing the language context of Morocco, one should single out, on the one hand, local languages (Berber or Amazigh and dialects, Arabic in classical and modern versions and dialectal Arabic with dialects) and, on the other hand, foreign languages borrowed and introduced into Morocco in the colonial era (French and Spanish together with English, which is international and therefore also gaining ground) [1; P. 63].

The Amazigh language, also called Berber in the Western European dialectological tradition, or Tamazigh, is the language of the most ancient part of the