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Cuvinte cheie: multiculturalism, bilingvism, grup etnic, nume creștine, antroponimie

Interferențe române și maghiare în antroponimia din zona Tăuții Măgherauș și Seini

Rezumat

Această lucrare ia în considerare numele de origine maghiară din Maramureș, și anume din Seini și din satele din împrejur: Săbișa, Viile Apei, Cicârlău, Ilba, Bârgău și Ilba Handal, și din Tăuții Măgherauș cu satele: Bozânta Mare, Bușag, Merișor, Băița, Ulmoasa și Nistru. Nu există nici o unitate în domeniul antroponimiei, în vreunul din aceste sate, și acest fapt poate fi un rezultat al multiculturalismului și bilingvismului care este tipic pentru această zonă central europeană, unde mai multe limbi sunt folosite simultan. Acest fapt este reflectat și la nivelul numelor poprii.

Antroponimia românească a fost mult influențată în această zonă din Transilvania, prin împărțirea zonelor cu maghiarii.

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Key words: multiculturalism, bilingualism, ethnic group, Christian names, anthroponymy

Romanian and Hungarian Interferences in the Unthroponymy of Tautii Magheraus and Seini Area

Summary

This paper deals with Christian names of Hungarian origin from Maramures county, namely Seini area with its adherent villages: Sabisa, Viile Apei, Cicarlau, Ilba, Bargau and Ilba Handal and Tautii Magheraus made up of the following villages: Bozanta Mare, Busag, Merisor, Baita, Ulmoasa and Nistru. There is no unity in the field of anthroponymy in any of these villages this fact could very well be the result of multiculturalism and bilingualism that is typical for this Central European area, where several languages are used simultaneously. This fact is reflected at the level of proper names, too.

Sharing the inhabited area with the Hungarians, especially here in Transylvania left a strong imprint in the area of the Romanian anthroponymy.

Romanian and Hungarian Interferences in the Unthronymy of Tautii Magheraus and Seini Area

This paper deals with Christian names of Hungarian origin from Maramures county, namely Seini area, with its adherent villages Sabisa, Viile Apei, Cicarlau, Ilba, Bargau and Ilba Handal and Tautii Magheraus made up of the following villages: Bozanta Mare, Busag, Merisor, Baita, Ulmoasa and Nistru. This area was chosen to be studied, as its ethnic composition is a very appropriate starting point for this paper.

First of all there is no unity in the field of anthroponymy in any of these villages. This fact could very well be the result of multiculturalism and bilingualism or even plurilingualism that is typical for this Central European area, where several languages are used simultaneously. This fact is reflected at the level of proper names, too.

This study focuses on the Christian names given during the last 22 years, namely between 1987 and 2009, a period of time that was influenced by two political regimes: a dictatorship and a democratic administration.

Seini (Hungarian Szinervárja) is a town in Maramures County, northern Transylvania, Romania. Seini town represents 1,48% of the total area of Maramures County. In 1988 Seini became a third rank town, neighboring in the north with Apa village, at west with Ilba both of them being part of the neighbor county Satu Mare. In the east Seini neighbors Cicarlau, a village in Maramures County.

The historical documents from the Xth and XIIth century even before the Hungarian conquest of Transylvania certify a stable settlement where today Seini is located. After the Hungarians came in Transylvania the settlement's name changed in documents from time to time as it follows: Szynervaralja, Varolja, Seinen, Leuchtenburg and eventually Seini. It's population grew very slowly since the Census in 2002 when there were 10.105 inhabitants to 2007 when 10.196 people were counted.

Seini is composed of the town itself with an urban population of 8.333 people and two villages, namely Sabisa with 987 inhabitants and Viile Apei with 876 people. This statistics shows that the urban population is much higher than the rural population.

Tautii Magheraus (Hungarian Míszmogyorós) is a town in Maramures County, Romania. The town administers six villages: Baita (Láposbány), Bozanta Mare (Nagybozinta), Busag (Buság), Merisor, Nistru (Miszbánya) and Ulmoasa (Szilas). Tautii Magheraus was declared town in 2004. In 2002, 84.3% of inhabitants were Romanians, 14.4% Hungarians and 1% Roma.

In what concerns Maramures area, which is mainly conservative, in what the anthroponymy is concerned, the innovations have been making the anthroponyms of Hungarian origin to coexist with the Romanian first names. Among these the ones that are most frequent are those with Christian significance closely competed by first names derived with the helps of diminutive suffixes, attached to the main theme, as well as to the hypocoristic, reduced ones.

After 1989, the pressure exerted by the foreign anthroponymy over the native Christian names intensified.

The causes of their penetration in the Romanian society aim at the democratization of the

society, the opening of the borders, the possibility to travel, work and study abroad, the influence of the media through films, music or social gatherings.

It is obvious that through Romania's integration in the European Union the traditional anthroponymy will be competed increasingly by the foreign names.

The present paper approaches the Romanian-Hungarian connection from the perspective of contemporary first names given in Maramures county.

The linguistic contact is very significant regions like Maramures which is located in close proximity to Hungary.

According to Al. Graur proper names are part of the history and tradition of a country and give information about the culture and the way the ancestors lived.(1965:9)²

Sharing the inhabited area with the Hungarians for centuries, especially here in Transylvania left a strong imprint in the area of Romanian anthroponymy. They have established mixed families and have formed connections with other people.

Perhaps the most common Christian names of Hungarian origin are: Enikő, Janos, Jozsef, László, Noemi, Tünde, Zoltan.

The simple, individual names have the tendency to be replaced by double first names or sometimes even by triple ones.

There are double Hungarian names: Árpád-Alodár, Beata-Helga, Attila-Tamás, Istvan-Levente, Ádám-Lehel, Noemi-Timea, Tamás-Márton, Tibor-Matyas, Tamás-Gábor.

There are mixed Romanian-Hungarian first names: Anamaria-Bertha, Emanuel-Istvan, Katalin-Mariana, Erika-Magdalena, Margit-Beatrice, Krisztian-Ionut, Enikő-Cristina. Triple first names are rarely used: Ernő-Zsigmond-Gábor, Boglarka-Csilla-Eva, Aida-Bianka-Maria.

Christian names derived with the help of diminutive-suffixes attached to the main theme as well as the hypocoristic, reduced ones, can also be encountered: Evike (instead of Eva), Zolti (instead of Zoltan), Lajcsi (instead of László), Berci, Gyuri, Robi Janiko, Lacika.³

The motivated Christian names are not so many and they are derived from common names frequently inspired by nature or the so called colour names (Reaney:27) Gyöngy means pearl, Ibolya means Violet or Lilla means the colour violet, Piroska means reddish, Virag means flower. All these first names coexist with the classic Romanian names and this fact can be noticed here in Maramures an area characterized by multiethnic and multi-religious features.

After the political events from 1989 people gained the freedom to study the Hungarian language as their mother tongue at all educational levels so the Romanian language remained unknown to some of them. Unfortunately for some of the inhabitants of the area even their mother-tongue remained unfamiliar due to living outside the Hungarian borders and losing contact with the literary standards of the Hungarian language.

These reasons led to a very interesting phenomenon: the different spelling have been identified for the same name.

- The hesitation between s, ș or i and j: Ianos/Janos, Ioszeff/Joszeff, (Șandor, Janoș, Ișvan) written after the standards of the Romanian language.

- Romanian names written following the standards of the Hungarian language: Krisztina, Katalina, Klaudia.

- We may also encounter the wrong usage of stress. In the Hungarian language the stress

² This is a translation from Romanian in to English

³ Ka, ke, ko are the most frequent diminutive suffixes

is very important. Sometimes this leads to the so called hypercorrectness and is also the source of misspellings.

- Ildikö instead of Ildiko (a simpler pronunciation) or Gheza written with g-h instead of only g.

After the events of 1989, the pressure exerted by the foreign anthroponyms over the "classic" Romanian Christian names intensified. This could be the reason of the opening of the borders, the possibility to travel, work and study abroad and of course the influence of the mass-media. These foreign first names are used frequently by Romanians and Hungarians as well.

Many examples that reflect the combination of Romanian and Hungarian names with foreign ones have been identified:

- combination with English first names: Istvan-Arthur, Jessica-Maria, Thomas-Zoltan, Zoltan-Benyamin, William-Zsolt, Richard-Attila.

- combination with German first names Rudolf-Csaba, Istvan-Otto, Erich-Istvan, Wilhelm-Attila, Valter-Norbert, Rudolf-Karoly, Kristof-Karoly.

- combination with French first names Irisz-Vivien, Francois-Krisztian, Eveline-Csilla.

- combination with Spanish or Portuguese first names: Ricardo-Miklos, Isabela-Tünde, Luis-Szabolcs.

- combination with Italian names: Margit-Beatrice, Antonia-György, Carlo-Martón, Marco-Ferencz.

As a conclusion it may be stated that this part of Romania, Maramures county, being an area that belonged to the Austro-Hungarian Empire can be considered a typical multicultural area where several ethnic groups can live together in harmony preserving their language, their religion and their traditions and this is well illustrated in the anthroponymy, both in families that are pure from an ethnic point of view and in mixed families.

The anthroponymy is a domain that is very permissive and open to accept new elements from the neighbouring countries.

Crossing borders freely, being members in the European Union, the freedom to travel work and study abroad and the strong influence of mass-media all contribute to the interrelation between various communities. Communities of different ethnic origins tend to use the same proper names after living together for so many centuries.

This phenomenon of accepting and taking over innovations of foreign origin in the anthroponymy characterizes the entire population of our country including the Romanians as well as the Hungarians.

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