# A STUDY OF THE AYONYMS WITH THE TOPOFORMANT -OBOD IN THE "BOBURNOMA"

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## **Abstract**

"Boburnoma" by Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur in the article the explanation of the symbols with -obod topoformant in his work is explained.

**Keywords**: Toponymy, toponym, oikonym, formant, topoformant, affix, morpheme.

## Introduction

The work "Boburnoma" is also important for us in this respect, as it provides valuable information on the toponymy of Central Asia, Afghanistan, and India. Among the more than 1,200 toponyms recorded in the memoir, there are also toponyms with the abod component, which are toponymic word formation tools.

Formant (from Latin formans, "forming") is an element that forms a word but is not used independently. An affix often found in place names and is part of a geographical name. According to A. L. Khromov, place names are suffixes or equivalent auxiliary morphemes used to form place names. They differ from other suffixes in the language in that they are used to form geographical names <sup>1</sup>. Toponymic formant – 1. An affix formally present in the composition of a place name, which actually belongs to the lexeme (appellative) that is the basis for the toponym. 2. Speech morphemes (adjectives, components) participating in the formation of a toponym<sup>2</sup>.

Scientists have long identified the repetition of the same elements in geographical names, as mentioned above. For example, Yakut Hamavi, who lived and worked in the 13th century, wrote that the element abod, which is repeated in the names of cities and villages, means a place of inhabited places in the Persian-Tajik language<sup>3</sup>.

The memoirs contain names of cities and villages formed with the form -obod. Such symbols were actively used in India. The work mentions: Aliabad, Astrobad, Secandarabad, Tuglaqabad, Khairabad, Shamsabad, Shahabad – a total of seven icons, and one architectural monument – Ne'matabad. In the Baburnama, the range of icons with Abod elements is quite extensive and widespread throughout Central Asia and South Asia. This can also be observed when studying the work. Aliabad is a district in Samarkand, while Secunderabad, Khairabad, Shamsabad, Shahabad, and Tuglaqabad are names in India. In his work "General Toponymy," linguist S.N. Basic links the wide range of toponyms containing the element -abad with the spread of Islam in the Middle Ages<sup>4</sup>. Linguist Kuchkor Hakimov explains the high number of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Басик С.Н. Общая топонимика. – Минск, 2006. – Б.148.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hakimov Q. Toponimika. – Toshkent: Mumtoz soʻz, 2016. – B.64.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Бегматов Э., Улуков Н. Ўзбек ономастикаси терминларининг изохли луғати.— Наманган, 2006. — Б.81.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hakimov Q. Toponimika. – Toshkent: Mumtoz soʻz, 2016. – B.64.

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toponyms in India and Pakistan containing the formant "abod," typical of Iranian languages, by the widespread use of Persian in the region until the beginning of the 20th century.<sup>5</sup>.

We believe the reason for this lies in the spread of Islam and the Persian language, as well as the strong trade and cultural ties between the countries, and the fact that these cities were influenced by different cultures and civilizations.

Aliabad is a district surrounding Samarkand and a fortress of the same name. When Babur captured Samarkand for the second time, the surrounding districts and fortresses recognized his authority one after another. Shaybani Khan was in the Khojadiydar and Aliabad regions at the time, and upon seeing the situation described, he headed toward Bukhara. 6:

Shaybak Khan Khoja was located in the Diyar and Aliabad regions. (81-b). The toponym Aliabad consists of two parts: the combination of the anthroponym Ali and the topoformant Abad.

Place names in India are not just names, but have enormous historical, cultural, and social significance. They reflect the influence of rulers, cultural elements, and linguistic diversity, and express the uniqueness of the nation. In particular, the city of Tuglagabad, mentioned in the memoirs, is associated with the Tughlaq dynasty, which ruled the Delhi Sultanate from 1320 to 1413: "On Thursday, Tuglaqabad, after crossing the Andes, arrived directly on the banks of the Juun."<sup>7</sup>. The founder of this city was Ghiyasiddin Tughlaq, during whose reign (1320-25) the city of Tuglaqabad was founded.<sup>8</sup>. So, the city was named after the ruler Tughlaq and his name was immortalized. The word "Abod" in Tajik means "water", "abod" means "a place with enough water". This word is used in relation to cities, villages, and settlements in general. Its main meaning is "flowering"<sup>9</sup>.

Thus, Tuglaqabad means the city of Tughlaq.

As we have seen, the names of cities in India are often based on historical figures, rulers, or geographical features. For example, the city of Secunderabad (Sekandarabad) is associated with the name of Iskandar Bahlul Lodi (1489-1517): On Sunday we went to the house of Ravuy Serwani in Secunderabad. (233-b). Secunderabad is a settlement in India on the Ganges River, which Babur also calls Secunderabad: On Saturday, the twenty-eighth of the month of Safar, my Fakhrijahan Beg and Hadicha Sultan Beg—the begs—came. I went by ship and paid a higher tribute to Secunderabad. (233-p.) The third son of Bahlul Lodi, the founder of the Lodi dynasty, his real name was Nizam Khan, and after his accession to the throne, he adopted the title of Iskander Shah, and founded the city of Agra. He played an important role in the spread of Islam in India<sup>10</sup>.

The city of Secunderabad – Alexander – is named after him and bears the name in his honor. Another place name containing the element -abad is Shahabad. We, too, were determined and reached the banks of the Juun River three kilometers from Shahabaddin, from where we headed toward Sarsawa. (p. 191) The Arab geographer and philologist Yakut Hamavi, who worked in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Бобур энциклопедияси. – Тошкент: Шарқ, 2014. – Б.271.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Hakimov Q. Toponimika. – Toshkent: Mumtoz soʻz, 2016. – B.240.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Бобур енциклопедияси. – Тошкент: Шарқ, 2014. – Б.33.

<sup>7</sup> З.М.Бобур. Бобурнома.—Тошкент: Шарк нашриёти, 2002. – Б.194. Мазкур нашрга яна мурожаат қилинганда жилди ва сахифаси қавс ичида кўрсатилади.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ўзбекистон миллий энциклопедияси. – Тошкент, www.ziyouz.com кутубхонаси. – Б.808.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> O'zbekiston joy nomlarining izohli lug'ati. –Toshkent, 2022. – B. 15-16.

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the 13th and 14th centuries and compiled the ten-volume "Mu'jam ul-buldan" ("Dictionary of Countries"), wrote that "the element abod in the names of cities and villages means 'populated place' in Persian" — wrote. So, the name Shahabad is mainly derived from the Persian words Shah (king) and abad (city), meaning royal city.

The range of combinations of the -abad component is quite wide, and it was freely added to the names of regions, cities, and villages to form place names: Aroyishkhan and Sheikh Gurani were sent, and words of grace and mercy were spoken. Shamsabad was promised to the Chanderi's emissary. (234-b) Shamsabad is the name of the region, which means the city of the sun, formed from the combination of the words Shams (Arabic sun) and abad (Persian city).

Khairabad is a region located in the middle basin of the Ganges River. Babur, while listing the possessions under his control in India, also mentions Khairabad: After this disaster, they went to Khairabad, stayed for several days, and then burned down. (231-b). The oikonym is made up of two parts: the combination of the topoformant Khayr and the topoformant -obod.

In conclusion, geographical names that appeared with the topoformant -obod are considered ancient toponyms and their range is very wide, being widespread in Central Asia and South Asia.

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The topoformant -obod, which is the second component of the oikonym, is mainly combined with nouns (names) in the work.

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 $<sup>^{11}</sup>$  Qorayev S. Toponimika. – Toshkent, 2006. – B. 31.