



**ARTICLES – AN INTEGRAL PART OF TORA NAFASOV’S
SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE**

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Abstract: *In today's modern information society, the dissemination of scientific knowledge to a wide audience is one of the important social tasks. In this process, scientific-popular articles stand out as a significant tool. Such articles convey complex scientific ideas in a simple, clear, and engaging language, thereby not only popularizing scientific thinking but also fostering critical thinking and analytical skills among readers. Scientific-popular articles hold a significant place in the field of education. They assist in integrating scientific information into the educational process and serve as supplementary educational materials to enhance the effectiveness of teaching. Moreover, these types of articles contribute to the formation of a culture of scientific communication between teachers and students and provide regular updates on modern scientific achievements. This thesis presents information about the scientific, scientific-popular, methodological, and journalistic articles of the toponymist professor Tora Nafasov, with an analysis of his articles related to toponymy.*

Keywords: *article, scientific, scientific-popular, methodological, journalistic, toponymy, toponym, hydronym, oikonym, lexical-semantic, nomination and motivation, Balikchi toponym, city, village, residential area.*

Popular scientific articles play a crucial role in the field of education. They facilitate the integration of scientific information into the educational process and serve as supplementary learning materials that enhance the effectiveness of teaching. Furthermore, these types of articles help foster a culture of scientific communication between teachers and students and provide regular updates on modern scientific achievements.

In scholarly activity, the scientific article holds a fundamental and essential position. Researchers produce numerous scientific articles throughout their academic and pedagogical careers. A scientific article is a written form in which a scholar consolidates and presents the results of their research, observations, and experiments to the public. Through this, findings are preserved, evaluated, and serve as a foundation for future studies. Articles enable scientists to exchange experiences, share ideas, and receive critical feedback, which contributes to the development and refinement of scientific approaches within the academic community.

Publishing in high-impact journals demonstrates a researcher’s scientific capability and expertise, positively influencing their academic reputation, recognition, and career.



advancement. The quantity and quality of published articles are key criteria for obtaining scientific degrees and titles (such as PhD or professorship) and play a significant role in securing grants, projects, and scholarships.

Each article may introduce new scientific ideas, methods, or approaches, thus promoting the progress of science and enabling the emergence of new discoveries, technologies, or solutions.

The multifaceted scientist Professor To‘ra Nafasov’s scientific legacy includes a significant portion of scientific and popular scientific publications. He authored over 500 scientific and popular articles in linguistics, literature studies, and toponymy, published both in domestic scientific journals and collections as well as foreign journals.

From 1966 to 2011, T. Nafasov systematically elucidated the meanings, motivations, forms, and etymology of toponyms in each of his articles. He placed special emphasis on accurately interpreting every toponym in his toponymic works. Nafasov endeavored to reconstruct the ancient forms of lexemes and formative morphemes underlying toponyms and to explain them in the context of their original meanings. This approach enables a precise classification of toponyms from lexical-semantic, nomination, and motivation perspectives.

His popular scientific articles dedicated to toponymy primarily addressed topics such as the origin and meaning of geographical names in Uzbekistan, the relationship between toponymy and the history and culture of peoples, dialectical features of the Uzbek language, historical toponymic layers, and their linguistic analysis.

Professor Nafasov significantly contributed to the development of toponymy not only through his scholarly works but also through numerous scientific articles. These include studies on the toponymy of the Kashkadarya region, explanations of place names, investigations into ancient toponyms, and discussions on the terminology and teaching of Uzbek toponymy. Titles of his works include “On Studying the Toponymy of Kashkadarya Oblast,” “Interpretation of Names,” “Ancient Toponymic Studies,” “Loliston,” “Shirkent,” “Names and Legends,” “Norin Hydronym,” “Etnotoponyms of Kashkadarya,” “Names Speak,” “Toponyms with the Qashqa Component,” “On the Naming of Objects,” “Studying Geographical Names in Schools,” “Formation and Development of Uzbek Toponymic Terminology,” “The Secret of Names,” “Ethno-Oyconymy of Balikchi,” “The Echo of Folk Art in Names,” “Ancient Names,” “What Does Uychi Mean?”, “Echoes of the Past,” “Hydronyms with the Jili Component,” “Red Book of Kashkadarya Place Names (project),” “Legend and Reality,” “Monumental Meaning of Place Names,” “Onomastics of Uzbekistan,” “Is Orthographic Culture Necessary for Place Names?”, “The Meaning of the Word Balikchi,” “Why Do We Say Dukchi?”, “Reflection of Flora in Place Names of Southern Uzbekistan,” “Boysun – The Great Mountain,” “Toponyms Derived from Ancient Turkic Lexemes,” “Uzbek Onomastics: Research Directions and Methods,” “Linguistic Explanation of Place Names Mentioned by Navoi in Southern Uzbekistan,” “Conference of Uzbek Onomasticians,” “Creating Programs and Manuals from Uzbek Onomastics,” “Babur



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Professor Nafasov approached each studied place name from geographical, historical, etymological, and linguistic perspectives, providing explanations based on sources. He researched numerous toponyms located in the Kashkadarya and Surkhandarya regions.

Our observations indicate that T. Nafasov’s articles are relevant not only to linguistics but also to etymology. He paid special attention to the etymology of each toponym, considering not only the history and composition but also the origin of each name.

For example, in his article titled “The Meaning of the Name Balikchi,” the onomastician emphasized the importance of understanding the creation, use, meaning, and function of compound toponyms formed with the word “Balikchi” for linguistics, history, and ethnography. Upon reading the article, it becomes clear that the word “balikchi” is not connected to the word “balik” (fish, an aquatic animal) but belongs to ancient Turkic, Mongolic, and Tungusic-Manchu languages. The word is also cited in ancient sources such as the Tonyukuk monument, Manichaean and Turfan texts, and Manichaean writings in Uighur script. It is stated that the word carries meanings such as city, village, and fortress. Nafasov provides information on various forms of the word “balik,” such as Baliq, bal., baliq, balaqasun, balg‘as, balg‘ashan, balq, balaqa, balag‘an, balag‘a miya, balg‘ahun, falg‘a, balg‘ad, palg‘, palg‘a, baylabaliq, uchaga‘an baliq, baranas, quzbaliq, boybalx, baliqs, which denote walls, walled barriers, places surrounded by walls, cities, new cities, villages, fortresses, fortifications, dwellings, wooden houses, huts, winter or summer



residences, dwellings made of reed or wood, residential quarters, buildings, summer homes, the Uighur city by the Selenga river, hill names, sedentary populations, and fortified towns.

It is evident that T. Nafasov examined numerous sources to find explanations for a single word, thoroughly analyzing the many meanings and synonyms of “balikchi.” Thousands of such examples can be cited.

T. Nafasov’s articles, being an integral part of his scientific work, serve as valuable sources for future onomastic research.

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