

FUNCTIONAL POTENTIAL OF ANTONYMS IN THE KARACHAY-BALKARIAN RIDDLE

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The subject of this research is the typology of antonyms which is characteristic of the Karachay-Balkar riddle. Textological analysis with elements of a continuous sample is carried out on the material of the fundamental collection of national riddles in the amount of 1447 units. The compiler of the collection is the Karachay scientist S.Ch. Aliev. One of the important results of the research is the establishment of the law of correlation between riddle and antonymy, since often the heuristic path to truth lies between opposites. The ethnospecific essence of antonyms in the Karachay-Balkar riddles is determined by the binary opposition “up-down”, due to the determination of the mountain landscape. The second position in terms of number is occupied by color antitheses, among which there is a dominance of black-and-white compositional models. According to the qualitative characteristics, all identified antonyms can be subdivided into usual, that is, stabilized in the language, and contextual, which acquire the status of antonyms only in a given context. The overwhelming majority of antonyms in the Karachay-Balkar riddles belong to the second type. Riddles are a valuable source of folklore, mythological, historical, geographical and ethnocultural knowledge about the peculiarities of the spiritual and practical life of the Karachay-Balkar people.

Keywords: Karachay-Balkar folklore, riddle, antonym, binary opposition, unity of opposites, conventional, contextual, antithesis, colorema, cosmo-psycho-logos.

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