

**Lexico-semantic and word formation peculiarities  
of Balkaria and Karachay geographical names  
formed using the physical-geographical appellative *bash*  
'upper', 'top'**

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**Abstract.** The article is devoted to a multi-aspect study of the Karachay-Balkar toponymic models formed with the help of the physical-geographical appellative *bash* «upper», «top», the analysis of the lexical-semantic, word-formation features of the substantive component of attributive word combinations of a descriptive type, isafet constructions. It deals with issues related to the use of the names of parts of the human body - by similarity to designate physical and geographical objects. The paper draws attention to the problems associated with the morphologization of attributive and isafet topolexemes, the interpretation of toponyms created on the basis of personal names, the connection of the toponym as a whole with the factors underlying the formation of physical and geographical names.

**Key words:** topolexeme, appellative, geographical names, descriptive expressions, toponymic system, isafet construction

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