Reflection of religious vocabulary in toponymy of Elbrus region

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Abstract. The article is devoted to a multi-aspect study of Balkarian-Karachai physical and geographical names formed from historical and cultural (religious appellatives). Lexico-semantic features of the substantive components of the isaphete type, combined with inventory units of morphology in the form of word-forming and inflectional affixes, are analyzed. Based on the study of religious constructions, the article notes that appellative units participate in the organization of the lexical and semantic structure of toponymic names of "secondary representation". The issues related to the functioning of religious geographical names – their transfer to various physical and geographical objects are studied. The structural and semantic analysis of topolexem indicates that from the point of view of the source language, the generating bases can be represented as native Karachay-Balkar religious words and borrowed ones reflecting pagan, Christian and Muslim beliefs associated with a certain historical period of time.

Keywords: religious name, topolexeme, topoelement, appellative, geomorphological features, microtoponyms

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