

Summaries

Karim OULDENNEBIA: *The Toponym Tessala: Symbol of an Appropriation of the Territory*

The mythical mountain of Tessala in the region of Sidi-Bel-Abbès preserves its name since the departure of the Romans and perhaps well before. Therefore, it is interesting to restore this toponymic question and rewrite its history. The word Tessala is neither Latin nor French; it wouldn't be Arab either. This designation of Tessala also exists in other localities in Algeria, what leads us to think that the name would probably be a Berber toponym. Tessala is the name of an entire region between Tlemcen and Mascara, a river (also called Sarno), an ancient city of the same name and sometimes even of a lake.

Tessala would be a Berber word which means “brushwood”. It might also be possible that the word belongs to the Tuareg dialect “Tessalra” which means “Diss” (Scirpus), a plant well known in Algeria. This signifies that “Tessala” can be a deformation and therefore one of the dialectal variations of “Tesselra” or perhaps also of “Tassili” by the phenomenon of metathesis.

Keywords: Tessala - toponymy - patrimony - graphy - Amazighity.

Houda DJEBBES: *Ethnographic Approach of some Toponyms of Constantine*

Constantine has been designated/named under different toponyms that have given it numerous identifiers (identity configurations): Cirta, Constantine, the City of the Hanging Bridges, City of the Old Rock, City of the Eagles Nest, Pearl of the East, City of Knowledge/ City of Sciences and Scholars, City of Air and Passion, Mother of Metropolises (Oum El Hawadhir).

This article aims to present an ethnographic reading of Constantine toponyms, as well as the names of some of its spaces charged with distinct semantics (caves, bridges...).

Keywords: Constantine - ethnography - toponym - onomastics - signification.

Lynda ZAGHBA and Rima BENKHELIL: *The Toponymic Heritage of the Ancient City of M'sila*

This article is interested in the toponyms (macro and micro) of the ancient city of M'sila and questions the relationship between history and toponym or how the history of spaces can leave traces on place-names. The changes or transformations of toponyms appear on the surface in the form of an intervention on the meaning or the form of the name, but substantially, they denote a relationship to space, a knowledge of space or ideological underpinnings which underlie human relations.

This research is rather descriptive; it focuses on the modes of formation and the dynamics of transformation of place-names. This research is therefore part of a historical perspective to grasp the role of context in toponymic production/reproduction, which is also a linguistic formation and an important paradigm of the collective identity.

Keywords: macro/ micro - toponym - history - space - M'sila.

Hadjer MERBOUH: *Urban Sociotoponym in Algeria: Characteristics and Identity Readings. Case of the Cities of Sidi Bel Abbès and Ain Temouchent*

More than a toponym, the sociotoponym is a widespread onomastic phenomenon. The present study attempts to analyze the sociotoponyms present in two neighbouring Algerian cities Sidi Bel Abbès and Ain Témouchent. The places in these cities are allonyms and the naming practices reveal the predominance of popular toponyms. What characterises these common toponyms? What reading can be made of them? To answer this question, we have collected toponyms in discourse. The results of a plurilinguistic analysis reveal a multiform and plurilingual sociotoponymy, which allows to read the imbalances and socio-identity mutations of the cities in question.

Keywords: sociotoponym - urban toponym - identity - derja - language contact.

Nacéra SAHIR and Ouerdia YERMECHE: *Libyco-Berber Onomastics: Elements for the State of Art*

This article discusses the state of research on Libyco-Berber onomastics from its ancient Libyan origin to the modern period. Without wishing to be exhaustive, we wanted to conduct a diachronic study of the state of research.

The first part of the article reviews the sources of Libyan onomastics, ancient and medieval literary sources and epigraphic archaeological literary sources concerning Greek, Latin and Arab authors known from the classical antiquity to the Middle Ages; the epigraphic archaeological sources relate to Libyan, hieroglyphic, Punic, neo-Punic and Latin inscriptions. Then, in regard to contemporary and modern times, we have tackled studies of reference on the Libyco-Berber onomastics; including: dictionaries and lexicographical articles

on proper nouns. The article ends with a brief presentation of the current state of onomastic research in Algeria.

Keywords: *historiography - Libyco-Berber onomastic sources - literary sources - ancient epigraphy - contemporary and modern research.*