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**ONOMASTIC SPACE OF A. P. CHEKHOV'S NOVELLA "DUEL"
(TO THE 160TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WRITER)**

Abstract

The current paper is aimed to give a comprehensive analysis of the onomastic units of A. P. Chekhov's novella "The Duel". All proper names (onomastic space) are studied according to several criteria: 1) denotative content of the names, 2) their significance in the development of the plot of the novel, 3) correlation of the poetic and real names, 4) structure of the poetic names, 5) contextual semantics of the names, their significance and semantic valence in the text. The onomasticon of the narrative is represented by anthroponyms, choronyms, pelagonyms, potamonyms, astionyms, godonyms, urbanonyms, theonyms, agioanthroponyms, artionyms, biblionyms, biblical names, ergonyms, phaleronyms, chrematonyms, contextual names, names of literary characters. The narrative and background names, including allusive ones, have been identified. It has been established that the semantics of anthroponyms is interpreted depending on the nature of the context or associations, as it is indirectly indicated by the productive stems of proper names. It can also be motivated by the productive dialect nomination or etymological meaning of the name. In the semantic structure of some toponyms, due to contextual augment of meanings, the displacement of denotates has been found.

Key words: A. P. Chekhov, onomastic space of a literary text, poetic name, narrative and background names, structural pattern.

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