

# NAMES OF PLACES WITH PAIR SUFFIXES, IN THE TOPONYMY OF MUNTENIA

Iustina BURCI

“C.S. Nicolăescu-Plopșor” Institute for Research in Social  
Studies and Humanities of the Romanian Academy, Craiova

## Abstract

Group names hold a significant position in Romanian toponymy, constituting the etymologic solution for a large number of denominations. In the present article, based on a structural and statistical analysis, we intend to present a particular situation: that in which, starting from formal identical words (appellatives, anthroponyms, toponyms), pair group names are formed and later transferred, without any alteration in the form, into toponymy. We will analyse these toponyms-group names, according to the following considerations: *Provenience, Formants, Object of denomination.*

**Key words:** *common origin, group names, toponyms, suffixes, statistics*

## Résumé

Les noms de groupe détiennent une position significative dans la toponymie roumaine, en constituant la solution étymologique pour un grand nombre de dénominations. Dans cet article, en base d’une analyse structurale et statistique, on a pour intention de présenter une situation spéciale: à savoir celle où à partir des mots formellement identiques (appellatifs, anthroponymes, toponymes), on forme des noms de groupes paires et qui sont ultérieurement transférés, sans aucune modification dans leur forme, en toponymie. On va analyser ces noms de toponymes-groupes, selon les considérations suivantes: Origine, Formants, Objet de nomination des dénominations.

**Mots-clés:** *origine commune, nom de groupe, toponymes, suffixes, statistiques*

In the *Introduction* to DTRO<sup>1</sup>, Gh. Bolocan argued that a special dictionary of the *group names*, formed from toponyms (“any name of a place, from which a collective name derives”, generally), on the entire territory of our country, could easily have more than 30,000 words. So far, the richest collections of group names can be found in the published toponymical dictionaries – integrally or partially – on regions, the project of making such a lexicon remaining, for the time being, an intention. Therefore, until we have the possibility to study the entire material, researches are carried out separately, on “small samples”, different as volume and type of information, according to the purpose, considered by each author.

*Group names* appeared from the necessity to explain the denominations of localities, formed with the (plural<sup>2</sup>) suffixes (-ești (*Adămești, Bălănești* etc.), -eni

---

<sup>1</sup> *Dicționarul toponimic al României. Oltenia – DTRO* (coord. prof. Gh. Bolocan, PhD), vol. 1 (A-B), Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 1993, p. 30.

<sup>2</sup> See also Gh. Bolocan, *Categoria „nume de grup” în toponimie*, in LR, XXV, (1976), no. 1, p. 89. In *Introducere to Tezaurul toponimic al României. Moldova*, vol. II. *Mic dicționar toponimic al Moldovei (structural și etimologic)*, Part I, *Toponime personale* (coord. Dragoș Moldovanu), Iași, EUAIC, 2014

(*Alexeni, Aluneni* etc.), *-ani* (*Bădicani, Băltani* etc.), *-ari* (*Băjenari, Blidari* etc.), etc., whose direct origin is always based on appellatives, their connection with anthroponymy and toponymy being an indirect one. The micro-toponym *Chiscăneni* (from the village of Ulmeasca, Traian commune-BR), for example, has an etymological route that includes successive changes of category: toponym *Chiscăneni* < group name *chiscăneni* < toponym *Chiscani* < group name *chiscani* < proper name (p.n.) *Chiscă*. One can notice the fact that, both the anthroponym *Chiscă*, for the toponym *Chiscani*, along with the place name *Chiscani*, for *Chiscăneni*, occupy secondary positions, in this direction.

A root-word usually generates a single derivational chain, similar to that presented above. Yet, we can find situations in which the prototype follows dichotomic evolutions, and, even more than this, it happens that it benefits (actually in a small number) by a wide variety of toponymic occurrences. Here are, for the beginning, two examples, in which the suffixes *-ani* and *-ești* are attached, both of them, to the name of a person and a place, without considering any “specialisation”<sup>3</sup> of theirs:

p.n. <i>Bădan</i>	↗	group n. <i>bădani</i> → top. <i>Bădani</i> (part of village, Cornățel v. Buzoiești c., AG)
	↘	group n. <i>bădănești</i> → top. <i>Bădănești</i> (village, town Fieni, DB)
toponym <i>Piscuri</i>	↗	group n. <i>piscurani</i> → top. <i>Piscurani</i> (part of village, Tătărăști v.t., TR)
	↘	group n. <i>piscurești</i> → top. <i>Piscurești</i> (part of village Negrenii de Jos v. Tătărăști c., TR)

The direct origin of the toponyms with a plural form, previously quoted, *Bădani* / *Bădănești* and *Piscurani* / *Piscurești*, also stops, within the class of appellatives, being fixed on the homonymous group names. Nonetheless, indirectly, they have a common element in the tree family: the anthroponym *Bădan*, on the one hand, and the toponym *Piscuri*, on the other hand. This type of names with common lexical origin, is our object of analysis in the present work, having DTRM<sup>4</sup> as a source.

Before presenting the information, we ought to make a few comments:

1. Due to the form identity between the toponyms and the group names from

---

(further quoted as: *Tezaurul toponimic al României. Moldova...*), it is contested that the plural aspect of toponyms would represent the consequence for their provenience from the *group names*, owing to the fact that “in our case, as much as at the Slavic people, the concept of «village» was bivalent, simultaneously designating both the territory and its dwellers. Consequently, the oiconyms would cumulate the two designation functions too, being both *nomina colectiva* and *nomina loci*” (p. XVI).

<sup>3</sup> In the literature, there was a debate around the value of these suffixes (*-ești* and *-ani/-eni*), initially considering that the first one has the attribution to express the belonging to a person, while the last ones reflect the local belonging. Yet, the practice demonstrated that their attributions are often overlaid, because otherwise we would not be able to register “examples that prove how easily the two functions can be mixed, regarding one and the same suffix” (Iorgu Iordan, *Toponimia românească*, București, Editura Academiei Române, 1963, p. 159). In the cases of affixal synonymy, the fact that one of the formants is preferred within a certain region (*-ești*, more frequent in Muntenia, and *-eni, -ani*, in Moldova), requests, once more, its double functionality (*Ibidem*, p. 160-161).

<sup>4</sup> *Dicționarul toponimic al României. Muntenia* (DTRM) (coord. prof. Nicolae Saramandu, PhD), I (A-B), București, Editura Academiei Române, 2005 and the next.

which they come (as one can notice from the examples above), we opted – for the purpose of not burdening the material – for preserving two segments of the etymological chain. Actually, they also present the process of changing, from the root to the derivate, “the finite product” – the toponym (constructed through conferring<sup>5</sup> the proper name title, to the common one) – being, at present, meaningless; it preserves only the designative function, the speakers losing, many times, the contact with the original motivation. Yet, between brackets, we kept the localisation of the topics, for the purpose of following easily their frequency and territorial distribution.

2. The second observation addresses the connection with the original motivation. As referring to the origin of the anthroponyms, Ștefan Pașca noted that: “The social nucleus, ignoring the circumstances in which an individual was given a mocking name, but preserving this name, by virtue of circumstances, is forming, in time, a vague, artificial conception, on addressing the motive of choosing that mocking name”<sup>6</sup>. The affirmation keeps its validity outside the sphere of toponymy too. The time distance as confronted with the moment the denominations appeared, makes one of them to be uncertain, from the etymological point of view, meaning that their origin can be divided two or even three times. As referring to the material we are going to consider, in DTRM, there are unique etymological solutions (they represent the majority), but also multiple. Regarding the last category, the situations found here are presented as follows:

a) one of the toponyms has a multiple origin: *buturugari* (GR) / *buturugeni* (GR) < p.n. *Buturugă* (or *buturugar* “person who digs up stumps”, the first name), *dichiseni* (IL) / *dichisești* (BZ) < p.n. *Dichis* (or *Dichiseanu*, the first name), *gărdeni* (GR) / *gârdești* (AG) < p.n. *Gardea* (or *Gărdăreanu*, the first name); *ciulinești* (AG) / *ciulini* (DB) < p.n. *Ciulin* (or the appellative *ciulin*, the second name), *drăgoiani* (AG) / *drăgoiești* (AG) < p.n. *Drăgoi* (or *Drăgoiescu*, the second name), *hodorogești* (BZ) / *hodorogi* (OT) < p.n. *Hodorog* (or p.n. *Hodoroagă*, the second name) etc.;

b) both of the toponyms have multiple origin:

– different: *cârciumari* (OT) / *cârciumărești* (AG) < p.n. *Cârciumaru* (or the appellative *cârciumar*, the first name; p.n. *Cârciumărescu*, the second name); *cojani* (BR) / *cojești* (AG) < p.n. *Coja* (or the appellative *cojan* “dweller from the north-western field of Muntenia – Counties of Buzău and Brăila”, first name; p.n. *Coajă*, second name); *colibași* (AG) / *colibășeni* (CL) < p.n. *Colibaș* (or the appellative *colibaș* “person who lives in a hut; loner, person who lives on the mountainside”, first name; top. *Colibași*, second name); *codreni* (AG) / *codrești* (AG) < p.n. *Codrea* (or the appellative *codru*, top. *Codru*, np. *Codreanu*<sup>7</sup>, first name; p.n. *Codrescu*, second name); *gâscani* (AG) / *gâșteni* (BZ) / *gâștești* (GR) < p.n. *Gâscă* (or p.n. *Gâscan*, first name; p.n. *Gâștescu*, last name) etc.

– identical: *albeni* (BZ) / *albești* (AG) < p.n. *Albu* or the toponym *Alba*; *alboteni* (AG) / *albotești* (BR) < p.n. *Albotă* or the toponym *Albota* etc.;

The debatable status – on addressing the provenience – of some of the names, does not disqualify them, from the point of view of the analysis that we are making, as

<sup>5</sup> “The transformation of the common «group names» words into toponyms, represents a transfer of meaning, identical to that which takes place when forming the toponym *Alun* from the word *alun*” (*Dicționarul elementelor românești din documentele slavo-române. 1374-1600* (DERS) (coordinator: Gh. Bolocan), București, Editura Academiei Române, 1981, p. XXXIII).”

<sup>6</sup> Ștefan Pașca, *Nume de persoane și nume de animale în Țara Oltului*, București, 1936, p. 51.

<sup>7</sup> As noticed, the etymological variants can belong to different classes too.

long as, among the possible sources, there is something that is of interest to us directly: a common etymological variant, the one that has also been kept in the article.

3. The moment they appear, the phonetic versions of the toponyms are registered in our inventory, treating them with separate denominative units (either within the same suffix, if the differences address the radical, or placing them under different affixes, if the format suffers variations), due to the fact that they refer to distinct geographical objects<sup>8</sup>, whose names represent the local production, conditioned by the vocabulary and the linguistic format of the denominator: *Cristinești, Cristienești; Groseni, Groșeni; Odăeni, Odăieni; Târseni, Târșeni* etc. In DTRM, there are other toponymic variants that originated from homonymous bases: p.n. *Arsene* > *arsănești* (PH) / *arsenești* (AG, PH, TR); p.n. *Băjenaru* or *băjenar* > *băjănari* (AG, DB) / *băjenari* (AG, BR, BZ, CL, DB, IF, IL); p.n. *Dobrin* > *dobrinești* (AG, OT) / *dobronești* (DB); p.n. *Dragul* > *drăgolești* (AG) / *drăgulești* (AG, BZ, OT, VL); p.n. *Frunză* > *frunzânești* (CL) / *frunzești* (PH); toponym *Salcia* > *sălceni* (DB) / *sălcieni* (PH) etc. This fact does not make them eligible from the point of view of the analysis that we are making, being composed with one and the same suffix.

4. In DTRM, there are pair-toponyms, which have not been mentioned here, due to the fact that their etymology relates them to different referents. Thus, the toponym *Cuibeni* (AG) originates from the personal name *Cuibu*, while *Cuibești* (BZ) has as a toponym *Cuibu*; *Gorgoteni* (DB) comes from the toponym *Gorgota*, and *Gorgotești* (DB) from the anthroponym *Gorgota*; *Decindeni* (DB) – the anthroponym *Decinde*, and *decindești* (BZ) – the name of the place *Decindea*.

The material of our study enabled us to make a classification, according to the nest pairs of formants:

- ACI / -ULEȘTI: p.n. *Butcă* > *butcaci* (DB) / *butculești* (TR);
- ANI / -ANII<sup>9</sup> / -EȘTI / -ULEȘTI / -ULEȘTII: p.n. *Bratu* > *brătani* (IL) / *brătanii* (DB) / *brătești* (AG, DB, PH, TR) / *brătulești* (AG, DB, IF, OT, PH) / *brătuleștii* (DB);
- ANI / -ARI / -ENI: p.n. *Gură* > *gurani* (TR) / *gurari* (TR) / *gureni* (BZ, TR);
- ANI / -ĂȘTI / -EȘTI: p.n. *Cioara/ă* > *ciorani* (BR, BZ, CL, DB, PH, VL) / *ciorăști* (AG, BZ, OT, VR) / *ciorești* (TR);
- ANI / -ENI<sup>10</sup>: toponym *Argeș* > *argeșani* (AG) / *argeșeni* (TR); np. *Bălășa* > *bălășani* (GR) / *bălășeni* (TR); p.n. *Bâcu* > *bâceni* (AG) / *bâcâieni* (TR); apel. *gară* > *gărani* (AG) / *găreni* (AG, DB); p.n. *Gligan(u)* > *gligani* (AG) / *gligăneni* (AG);
- ANI / -ENI / -AȘI: toponym *Lunca* > *luncani* (AG) / *lunceni* (BZ) / *luncași* (BZ);
- ANI / -ENI / -EȘTI: toponym. *Buda* > *budani* (AG) / *budeni* (AG, BZ, CL, GR,

<sup>8</sup> Therefore fulfilling as many individualising functions, as the number of toponyms from different localities and counties.

<sup>9</sup> Starting from those enounced at point 3, which is the fact that we registered separately any phonetic modification that occurred in the denomination, we applied the same procedure on addressing the articulated and unarticulated toponyms. Moreover, we considered the plural inflection *-i* a separate formative element too, due to the fact that it “constitutes an equally important category, as well represented in Romanian, as the toponyms with collective suffixes” (Dragoș Moldovanu, *Legile formative ale toponimelor românești cu radical antroponimic. I. Formații de plural*, in „Anuar de Lingvistică și Istorie Literară”, volume XXI, Iași, Editura Academiei Române, 1970, p. 32).

<sup>10</sup> The suffixes *-ani* and *-eni* come from the Bulgarian *-eane*, *-ani* representing actually a variant of *-eni*. From the functional point of view, they differentiated themselves over time, in the present article being classified separately (also see DTRO, p. 39).

PH) / *budești* (AG); p.n. **Gâscă** > *gâscani* (AG) / *gâșteni* (BZ) / *gâștești* (GR); np. **Grosu** > *groșani* (AG, BZ, PH) / *groșeni* (BR, TR)-*groșeni* (TR) / *groșești* (BR, PH);

-ANI / -ENI / -EȘTI / -I / -ULEȘTI: p.n. **Crețu** > *crețani* (DB) / *crețeni* (CL) / *crețești* (GR, OT, PH) / *creți* (BZ, OT) / *crețulești* (AG, DB, IF);

-ANI / -EȘTI: **Bleju** > *blejani* (AG) / *blejești* (TR); p.n. **Boja** > *bojani* (BZ, TR) / *bojești* (AG); p.n. **Ceaușu** > *ceaușani* (AG) / *ceaușești* (AG, DB, VL); p.n. **Chiriță** > *chirițani* (VL) / *chirițești* (AG, PH); p.n. **Chițu** > *chițani* (AG, TR) / *chițești* (AG); p.n. **Coja** > *cojani* (BR, BZ) / *cojești* (AG, CL, DB, IF); p.n. **Curcă** > *curceni* (CL) / *curcănești* (BZ); p.n. **Deju** > *dejani* (AG) / *dejești* (OT); p.n. **Dicu** > *dicani* (AG) / *dicălești* (AG); p.n. **Drăgoi** > *drăgoiani* (AG) / *drăgoiești* (AG, BZ, DB, IL, OT, PH, TR, VL); p.n. **Dușa** > *dușani* (GR) / *dușești* (GR, TR); p.n. **Duță** > *duțani* (AG) / *duțești* (AG); p.n. **Hângu** > *hângani* (BZ) / *hângulești* (VR); p.n. **Iepure** > *iepurani* (OT) / *iepurești* (AG, BZ, GR, VL); toponym **Piscuri** > *piscurani* (TR) / *piscurești* (TR);

-ANI / -EȘTI / -ULEȘTI: p.n. **Chișu** > *chișani* (AG) / *chișești* (AG) / *chișulești* (AG);

-ARI / -AȘI: **lot** “part of land owned by somebody” > *lotari* (AG) / *lotași* (AG, BZ, OT, PH, VL);

-ARI / -ENI: p.n. **Bâscă** > *bâscari* (AG) / *bâsceni* (BZ, PH); p.n. **Braniște** > *brăniștari* (GR) / *brănișteni* (AG, DB); p.n. **Broască** > *broșari* (CL, DB, OT, TR) / *broșteni* (AG, municipality of Bucharest, BZ, DB, IL, PH, TR, VR); p.n. **Buturugă** > *buturugari* (GR, PH) / *buturugeni* (GR, PH);

-ARI / -EȘTI: p.n. **Andron** > *andronari* (DB) / *andronești* (OT, VL, municipality of Bucharest); p.n. **Băltag** > *băltăgari* (BZ) / *băltăgești* (BR); p.n. **Benga** > *bengari* (AG) / *bengești* (AG); p.n. **Bocan** > *bocănari* (TR) / *bocănești* (AG); p.n. **Boașă** > *boșari* (DB) / *boșești* (AG); p.n. **Brândușă** > *brândușari* (VL) / *brândușești* (AG); p.n. **Cocioabă** > *cociobari* (VR) / *cociobești* (AG, BZ, DB); p.n. **Cocoș** > *cocoșari* (DB, VR) / *cocoșești* (PH); p.n. **Erca** > *ercari* (BZ) / *erculești* (BZ); p.n. **Furtună** > *furtunari* (AG) / *furtunești* (BZ, DB); p.n. **Ghinea** > *ghinari* (AG) / *ghinești* (AG, DB, PH, TR); p.n. **Gurban** > *gurbănari* (PH) / *gurbănești* (CL); p.n. **Gurcă** > *gurcari* (VR) / *gurcești* (BR); appellative **reghin** (variant from *reghie* “a document, based on which, the owners of cattle, sheep, etc. could transport them over the border with Transylvania and Wallachia, without paying customs fee”) > *reghinari* (BZ) / *reghinești* (BZ);

-ARI / -EȘTI / -I: p.n. **Brebene** > *brebenari* (TR) / *brebenești* (AG, DB) / *brebeni* (OT); p.n. **Coconu** > *coconari* (BZ) / *coconești* (OT) / *coconi* (BR); p.n. **Cojoc** > *cojocari* (BR, PH) / *cojocști* (BR) / *cojoci* (IL, OT);

-AȘI / -EȘTI: toponym **Padina** > *padinași* (PH) / *pădinești* (AG);

-AȚI / -EȘTI: p.n. **Bogatu** > *bogați* (AG) / *bogătești* (AG, BZ, IF); p.n. **Cernat** > *cernați* (AG) / *cernătești* (AG, BZ, PH); p.n. **Degeratu** > *degerați* (AG, PH) / *degerătești* (TR);

-ĂȘTI / -ENI: p.n. **Saru** or toponym. **Saru** > *sărăști* (IL, PH) / *săreni* (BZ);

-ĂȘTI / -ÎȚI: toponym \*Pojaru > *pojorăști* (IL, BZ) / *pojorâți* (BZ);

-EI / -ENI: toponym **Sibiciu** > *sibicei* (BZ) / *sibiceni* (BZ);

-EII / -EȘTI: p.n. **Cătănă** > *cătăneii* (OT) / *cătănești* (AG, BZ, DB, OT);

-ENI / -ENII: p.n. **Pădure** or toponym \***Pădure** > *pădureni* (AG, BZ, DB, GR, OT, VR) / *pădurenii* (BZ, DB); appellative. **râpă** > *râpeni* (BZ, PH) / *râpenii* (DB); toponym **Plopu** > *plopeni* (BR, BZ, PH) / *plopenii* (OT);

-ENI / -ERI: appellative **odaie** „sheepfold” > *odăeni* (AG)-*odăieni* (BR) / *odăieri* (PH);

**-ENI / -EȘTI:** p.n. *Albu* or toponym *Alba* >*albeni* (BZ, TR) / *albești* (AG, BZ, DB, IL, GR, OT, PH, IF, TR); p.n. *Albotă* or toponym *Albota* >*alboteni* (AG) / *albotești* (BR); p.n. *Aldea* >*aldeni* (BZ) / *aldești* (DB, OT, PH, TR, VL); p.n. *Alexe* >*alexeni* (IL) / *alexeschi* (BZ); p.n. *Badea* >*bădeni* (AG, BZ, DB, IL, VL) / *bădești* (AG, DB, OT, PH); p.n. *Bădicea* >*bădiceni* (AG) / *bădicești* (AG, BZ); p.n. *Baiu* >*băieni* (AG, IF) / *băiești* (AG, BZ, IF); p.n. *Băja* >*băjeni* (AG, DB) / *băjești* (AG, DB, GR, IL, OT); p.n. *Bălan* >*bălăneni* (CL) / *bălănești* (AG, BR, BZ, DB, OT, TR, VR); p.n. *Băilă* >*băileni* (AG) / *băilești* (AG); p.n. *Baltă* >*bălteni* (AG, BR, municipality of Bucharest, BZ, IF, OT, TR, VL) / *bălțești* (PH); p.n. *Bălu* >*băluleni* (CL) / *bălulești* (AG); p.n. *Barac* >*bărăceni* (DB) / *bărăcești* (PH); toponym *Bâasca* >*bâsceni* (BZ) / *bâscești* (BZ); p.n. *Belcea* >*belceni* (IF) / *belcești* (AG); p.n. *Bercea* >*berceni* (AG, BZ, GR, PH, TR) / *bercești* (BZ, GR); p.n. *Boboiu* >*boboieni* (TR) / *boboiești* (OT); p.n. *Boantă* >*bonteni* (DB) / *bontești* (AG); p.n. *Borcea* >*borceni* (PH) / *borcești* (DB, PH); p.n. *Bordea* >*bordeni* (PH) / *bordești* (VR); np. *Boldorogea* >*boldorogeni* (Cl) / *boldorogești* (Cl); p.n. *Borovină* >*boroveni* (AG) / *borovinești* (AG); p.n. *Botea* >*boteni* (AG, municipality of Bucharest, BZ, DB, GR, IL) / *botești* (AG, BZ, TR, VR); p.n. *Bou* >*bouleni* (AG, PH, TR) / *boulești* (BZ); p.n. *Bradu* >*brădeni* (AG, BZ, DB) / *brădești* (DB); p.n. *Brăilă* >*brăileni* (AG, DB, GR) / *brăilești* (BZ); p.n. *Brâncă* >*brânceni* (CL, TR) / *brâncești* (DB); p.n. *Brânzea* >*brânzeni* (AG, BZ, CL) / *brânzești* (AG, BZ, DB, IL, PH); p.n. *Budă* >*budeni* (BZ, CL, GR, PH) / *budești* (AG, BZ, CL, IL, VL, VR); p.n. *Buduru* >*budureni* (PH) / *budurești* (PH); p.n. *Bujor* >*bujoreni* (AG, CL, DB, TR, VL) / *bujorești* (TR); p.n. *Bumbui* >*bumbuieni* (AG) / *bumbuiești* (VL); p.n. *Burdea* >*burdeni* (TR) / *burdești* (AG); p.n. *Burducea* >*burduceni* (DB) / *burducești* (BZ); p.n. *Buric* >*buriceni* (AG) / *buricești* (AG); p.n. *Călugăru* >*călugăreni* (BR, DB, GR, OT, PH, TR) / *călugărești* (GR, TR); p.n. *Cărbune* >*cărbuneni* (PH) / *cărbunești* (BZ, DB, PH); p.n. *Câine* >*câineni* (BR, DB) / *câinești* (BZ, DB, IL, IF); p.n. *Ciocea* >*cioceni* (IL, PH) / *ciocești* (AG); p.n. *Codrea* >*codreni* (AG, CL, DB, OT) / *codrești* (AG, BZ, GR, VR); p.n. *Colțan* >*colțăneni* (BZ) / *colțănești* (BZ); p.n. *Cornea* >*corneni* (IL) / *cornești* (DB, IF, IL, OT, TR); p.n. *Costea* >*costeni* (CL, IL, PH) / *costești* (AG, BZ, DB, TR); p.n. *Coțofana* >*coțofeni* (CL, GR, OT) / *coțofenești* (BZ, GR, PH); p.n. *Crăcea* >*crăceni* (CL) / *crăcești* (CL, OT); p.n. *Cristian* >*cristieni* (AG) / *cristienești* (AG, BZ)-*cristinești* (BZ); p.n. *Curat* >*curățeni* (BZ) / *curățești* (CL, GR); appellative *descoperi* (vb.) “to leave somebody without a roof above their head” >*descopereni* (IF) / *descoperești* (CL); p.n. *Dichis* >*dichiseni* (IL) / *dichisești* (BZ); p.n. *Dobre* >*dobreni* (AG, IF, GR, IF, PH, TR) / *dobrești* (AG, CL, DB, IF, OT, PH, TR, VL); p.n. *Dobrotă* >*dobroteni* (BZ) / *dobrotești* (AG, GR, TR); p.n. *Drăcea* >*drăceni* (TR) / *drăcești* (AG, CL, IL, TR); p.n. *Dumbravă* >*dumbrăveni* (AG, BZ, IF, VR) / *dumbrăvești* (AG, PH); p.n. *Dumitru* >*dumitreni* (VR) / *dumitrești* (AG, BZ, DB, IL, OT, PH, VR); p.n. *Florea* >*floreni* (AG) / *florești* (AG, BZ, DB, GR, PH); toponym *Galicea* >*galiceni* (VL) / *galicești* (BZ, VL); p.n. *Gagea* >*găgeni* (BZ, PH) / *găgești* (TR); p.n. *Gardea* >*gărdeni* (GR) / *gărdești* (AG); p.n. *Gârbaciu* >*gârbăceni* (TR) / *gârbăcești* (PH, TR); p.n. *Gherase* >*gherăseni* (BZ) / *gherăsești* (OT); p.n. *Ghindă* >*ghindenii* (CL) / *ghindești* (OT); p.n. *Ginea* >*gineni* (OT) / *ginești* (DB); p.n. *Gogea* >*gogeni* (PH) / *gogești* (AG, DB, PH); p.n. *Gomoiu* >*gomoieni* (BZ) / *gomoiești* (BZ, PH); p.n. *Gorgan* >*gorgăneni* (PH) / *gorgănești* (BZ); p.n. *Gorun* >*goruneni* (IF) / *gorunești* (AG, PH); p.n.

**Graur** >grăureni (DB) / grăurești (AG); p.n. **Grigore** >grigoreni (AG, VL) / grigorești (AG, BR, TR); toponym **Gruiu** >gruieni (IF, PH) / gruiesti (AG); p.n. **Gulie** >gulieni (BR) / guliești (AG, DB); p.n. **Gușoiu** >gușoieni (TR) / gușoiești (DB); p.n. **Hagiu** >hagieni (IL) / hagiști (IL, TR, TR); p.n. **Iacob** >iacobeni (DB) / iacobești (AG); p.n. **Jupânu** >jupâneni (AG) / Jupânești (AG); p.n. **Margine** or toponym **Marginea** >mărgineni (AG, BZ, DB, IL, IF, OT, PH) / mărginești (BZ); appellative **sârb** or p.n. **Sârbu** >sârbeni (BZ, GR, PH, TR) / sârbești (BR, BZ); appellative **sobor** “crowd of people” >soboreni (IF) / soborești (TR); toponym **Predeal** >predeleni (BZ) / predelești (BZ, DB); toponym **Prundu** >prundeni (BZ) / prundulești (BZ); toponym **Târșă** >târșeni (AG)-târșeni (PH) / târșești (AG);

-ENII / -EȘTI: p.n. **Bărbuncă** sau np. **Bărbuncea** >bărbuncenii (BZ) / bărbuncești (BZ); p.n. **Bârlea** >bârlenii (TR) / bârlești (BZ, OT, TR); p.n. **Bria** >brienii (DB) / briești (TR); p.n. **Groza** >grozenii (OT) / grozești (IL, PH, TR);

-ENI / -EȚI: toponym **Păcura** >păcureni (PH) / păcureți (PH);

-EȘTI / -OCI: p.n. **Homocea** >homocești (m. București) / homoci (BZ);

-EȘTI / -OI: p.n. **Bogdan** >bogdănești (AG, BZ, DB, GR, PH, TR, VL) / bogdănoi (CL);

-EȘTI / -ULEȘTI: p.n. **Banu** >bănești (AG, DB, GR, PH, VL) / bănulești (BZ); p.n. **Danciu** >dăncești (PH) / dănciulești (GR) p.n. **Dan** >dănești (AG, BR, CL, DB, OT, PH) / dănulești (BZ); p.n. **Dicu** >diconești (AG, OT) / diculești (AG, BZ);

-EȚI / -ULEȘTI: p.n. **Dadu** >dădieți (TR) / dădulești (PH);

-I / -ANI: p.n. **Călărașu** >călărași (CL IL, GR) / călărășani (GR); toponym **Căldărușa** >căldăruși (BZ) / căldărușani (BZ, DB, IF, IL);

-I / -AȘI: appellative **dârvar**<sup>11</sup> “wood worker” >dârvari (municipality of Bucharest, CL, DB, GR, PH) / dârvași (TR); appellative **scutar** “shepherd in charge of a sheepfold” >scutari (PH) / scutași (PH);

-I / -EȘTI: p.n. **Aprodu** >aprozi (CL) / aprodești (BZ); p.n. **Arbănaș(u)** >arbănași (BZ) / arbănești (PH); p.n. **Armeanu** >armeni (TR, VR) / armeniești (DB); p.n. **Bădan** >bădani (AG) / bădănești (DB); p.n. **Bădiță** >bădiți (AG) / bădițești (AG); p.n. **Bărăgău** >bărăgăi (AG) / bărăgăiești (TR); p.n. **Băjan** >băjani (BR, BZ, DB) / băjenești (AG); p.n. **Bărcan** >bărcani (DB) / bărcănești (AG, BZ, GR, IL, OT, PH); p.n. **Belciug** >belciugi (BZ) / belciugești (DB); p.n. **Boboc** >boboci (AG, BZ, DB, OT, PH) / bobocești (AG, BZ, TR); p.n. **Borcan** >borceni (AG) / borcănești (BZ); p.n. **Borșaru** >borșari (PH) / borșerești (IL); p.n. **Bucșan** >bucșani (BR, DB, GR, PH) / bucșănești (AG)-bucșenești (AG, IF); p.n. **Bumbac** >bumbaci (BZ) / bumbăcești (AG); p.n. **Căliman** >călimani (DB) / călimănești (BZ); p.n. **Cârciumaru** >cârciumari (OT, PH) / cârciumărești (AG); p.n. **Cârlanu** >cârlani (AG) / cârlănești (DB); p.n. **Cârștian** >cârștieni (AG, AG, BZ) / cârștiennești (AG, BZ, municipality of Bucharest); p.n. **Ciobanu** >ciobani (AG) / ciobănești (AG, DB, PH, TR); p.n. **Ciocan** >ciocani (GR) / ciocănești (AG, BZ, CL, DB, OT); p.n. **Ciolpan** >ciolpani (DB, IF, PH) / ciolpănești (AG); p.n. **Ciubuc** >ciubuci (PH) / ciubucești (DB); p.n. **Ciulin** >ciulini (DB) / ciulinești (AG); p.n. **Ciungu** >ciungi (CL) / ciungești (AG); p.n. **Cizmaru** >cizmari (AG, PH, TR) / cizmărești (PH); p.n. **Crăciun** >crăciuni (PH) / crăciunești (AG, BZ, DB, OT); p.n. **Crăsan** >crăsani (IL) / crăsănești (AG); p.n. **Dogaru** >dogari (AG, BZ, DB) / dogărești (AG, DB); p.n. **Dorobanțu** or appellative **dorobanț** (“infantry man”) >dorobanți (AG,

<sup>11</sup> With the variant *dârvaș* “dârvar”, Jordan, *op. cit.*, p. 226.

municipality of Bucharest, BZ, DB, PH) / *dorobănțești* (AG, DB, PH); p.n. **Gheordun** >*gheorduni* (AG) / *gheordunești* (AG); p.n. **Gherman** >*ghermani* (BZ, AG, IF) / *ghermănești* (IF, VL); p.n. **Glăvan** >*glăvani* (TR) / *glăvănești* (PH); p.n. **Hodorog** >*hodorogi* (OT) / *hodorogești* (BZ);

**-I / -ENI**: p.n. **Bătrânu** >*bătrâni* (AG, PH) / *bătrâneni* (BZ); p.n. **Belețu** >*beleți* (AG) / *belețeni* (BZ); p.n. **Colibaș** >*colibași* (AG, BZ, DB, GR) / *colibășeni* (CL); toponym **Crivățu** >*criveți* (CL) / *crivețeni* (DB); p.n. **Gârbovu** >*gârbovi* (BZ, IL, PH, VR) / *gârboveni* (BZ, DB);

**-I / -ENI / -ENII / -EȘTI**: p.n. **Breazu** >*breji* (AG) / *brezeni* (IL) / *brezenii* (DB) / *brezești* (AG);

**-I / -II**: appellative **josean** “person who lives in the lower side of a village” >*joseni* (AG, BZ, DB) / *josenii* (GR); adj. **pârlit** “settled in a burnt, scorched place” >*pârliți* (BZ, DB, GR, IL, OT, PH) / *pârliții* (TR); appellative **pietrar** “stone worker, carver, builder, etc.” or p.n. **Pietraru** >*pietrari* (AG, DB, PH) / *pietrarii* (BZ); appellative **românați** “land of the Romanians”<sup>12</sup> >*romanați* (AG) / *romanații* (TR); appellative **rudar** “worker (gypsy) that used to extract gold from the sand of a river”; “gypsy artisan who makes troughs, spoons or spindles out of wood” >*rudari* (AG, DB, IF, PH, TR, VR) / *rudarii* (AG, PH, TR);

**-I / -II / -ULEȘTI**: p.n. **Greco** >*greci* (AG, PH, CL, DB, GR, IL, IL, OT, TR) / *greculești* (PH) / *grecii* (AG, DB);

**-II / -EȘTI**: p.n. **Bobic** >*bobicii* (AG) / *bobicești* (AG, PH); p.n. **Baros** >*baroșii* (AG) / *barosești* (OT);

**-ORI / -ANI**: toponym **Lapoș** >*lăpoșori* (BZ) / *lăpușani* (AG);

The material presented above needs some observations referring to:

**The provenience of the names.** If we regard the entire information in general, we can notice that the great majority originates from anthroponyms; thus, from the two hundred registered toponyms, around 170 are based on proper names, the rest of the etymologies, in an approximately equal number, is shared between toponymy and the common lexis. Moreover, in the cases of etymological “doublets”, the anthroponyms invariably occupy at least one of the positions. The situation is actually harmonised with the entire Romanian toponymy, in which the involvement of the proper names in the “existence” of the names of places is a massive one, much more important, from the quantitative point of view, than that of the toponyms from the category of anthroponyms<sup>13</sup>.

**Formants** (types and territorial distribution). In a large proportion, the source-names have double toponymic materialisation, constituted into the following situations: *-aci / -ulești, -ani / -eni, -ani / -ești, -ari / -ași, -ari / -eni, -ari / -ești, -ași / -ești, -ați / -ești,ăști / -eni, -ăști / -îți, -ei / -eni, -eii / -ești, -eni / -enii, -eni / -eri, -eni / -ești, -enii / -ești, -eni / -eți, -ești / -oci, -ești / -oi, -ești / -ulești, -eți / -ulești, -i / -ani, -i / -ași, -i / -ești, -i / -eni, -i / -ii, -ii / -ești, -ori / -ani*. Unlike the other denominations, the toponym *Buda* and the anthroponyms *Bratu, Brebene, Breazu, Coconu, Cojoc, Chișu, Crețu, Cioară, Gâscă, Grosu, Gură, Luncă* register a ramified derivative map, encompassing up to five types of formants: *-ani / -anii / -ești / -ulești / -uleștii; -ani / -ari / -eni; -ani / -ăști / -ești; -ani / -eni / -ași; -ani / -eni / -ești; -ani / -eni / -ești / -i / -ulești; -ani /*

<sup>12</sup> From *român* + Slavic suffix *-ăț*, cf. Iorgu Iordan, *op. cit.*, p. 301.

<sup>13</sup> See also Ion Toma, *101 nume de locuri*, București, Humanitas, 2015, p. 30.

*ești* / *-ulești*; *-ari* / *-ești* / *-i*; *-i* / *-eni* / *-enii* / *-ești*; *-i* / *-ii* / *-ulești*. Referring to *-ești* and *-ani* (*-eni*), Iorgu Iordan showed that: “Certain personal themes do not seem to receive the suffix *-ești*, due to phonetic causes, which means «euphonic». ... from *Focșa*, *Pașca*, *Roșca* etc. they are not possible ... the formations in *-ești*. Therefore, we do not have any toponym *Focșești* etc., but only *Focșani*, *Pașcani*, *Roșcani*”<sup>14</sup>. According to this affirmation, it seems that the themes “select” their formants, and, we would add, determine the degree of their multiplication too. On addressing the same relation, radical – suffix, Claudia Tudose was also debating, showing that: “The selection of a suffix is made according to the end of the theme, and the number of syllables that form that specific theme. The monosyllabic themes are usually selected by complex suffixes. From the bisyllabic themes (along with the monosyllabic ones – our comment) we have both derivatives with simple suffixes, and developed suffix derivatives”<sup>15</sup>.

The pair *-eni* / *-ești* (80) is the most frequent in our study, followed, at a significant distance, by *-i* / *-ești* (33), *-ani* / *-ești* (15), and *-ari* / *-ești* (14). The rest of the groups (double, triple, etc.) registers five occurrences or less.

By analysing the presence of each of the formants in particular (*-aci*, *-ani*, *-anii*, *-ari*, *-ași*, *-ați*, *-ăști*, *-ei*, *-eii*, *-eni*, *-enii*, *-eri*, *-ești*, *-eți*, *-i*, *-ii*, *-îți*, *-oci*, *-oi*, *-ori*, *-ulești*, *-uleștii*) within the cited pairs, we can notice that *-ești* (19<sup>16</sup>) occupies the first position, *-eni* (14) the second, and the last position is filled by *-ani* (11). The great frequency of the suffix *-ești* is rooted in the length in time<sup>17</sup> and the wide spreading of the possessive suffix *-escu*, whose form of plural it represents: “The suffix *-escu(l)* has an exclusive onomastic value, owing to the fact that it forms only names of people, it fulfils a patronymic function, of identifying the genealogy, or the filiation. Seldom, in the form of the singular, the suffix can also be found in the names of places. The plural form of the suffix *-ești(i)* also has an anthroponymic value, forming collective appellations that express the common origin (from the same ancestor) of a group of people, or their belonging to a certain family. Through the establishment in the names of the villages, the suffix *-ești(i)* gains a specific toponymical value”<sup>18</sup>.

On addressing the localisation, the situations in which the two members (or more) of the denominative pair are preponderant, are found in different counties. Here are a few examples: p.n. **Bumbui** > *bumbuieni* – AG: village and estate commune of Lunca Corbului, commune // *bumbuiesti* – VL: village c. Boișoara, commune; toponyme **Gruiu** > *gruieni* – IF: estate v.c. Gruiu; PH: estate c. Ceptura // *gruiești* – AG: hamlet v. Cireșu c. Căteasca; p.n. **Gulie** > *gulieni* – BR: sheepfold v.c. Băraganu // *guliești* – AG: hamlet v.c. Călinești; DB: part of village v.c. Ocnîța, etc. Yet, quite frequently, they can be found within the same territory (and sometimes, even in the same locality): toponym **Piscuri** > *piscurani* – TR: part of village v.c. Tătăraști // *piscuriești* – TR: part of village

<sup>14</sup> Iorgu Iordan, *op. cit.*, p. 160.

<sup>15</sup> Claudia Tudose, *Derivarea cu sufixe în româna populară*, București, Editura Universității din București, 1978, p. 248.

<sup>16</sup> The numbers can increase – without modifying the classification – if we also integrate here the related formations: *-ăști* (3), *-ulești* (6), *-uleștii* (1) to *-ești*; *-enii* (3) to *-eni*; *-anii* (1) to *-ani*.

<sup>17</sup> “First time attested in the 14<sup>th</sup> century in Wallachia (1387) and Moldavia (1392), the onomastic forms derived with *-escu(l)* reappear in the 15<sup>th</sup> century in the Moldavian documentary sources (1409: *Stan Preutescul*), and those from Muntenia (1441: *Stanciul Moenescul*)” (Domnița Tomescu, *Numele de persoană la români. Perspectivă istorică*, București, Editura Univers Enciclopedic, 2001, p. 107).

<sup>18</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 108.

v. Negrenii de Jos c. Tătăraști; p.n. **Buturugă** >*buturugari* – GR: village, estate and valley c. Călugăreni; PH: estate c. Gorgota // *buturugeni* – GR: village and estate c. Buturugeni, commune GR; PH: estate c. Fulga); appellative **reghin** >*reghinari* – BZ: part of village and hill v.c. Vintilă Vodă // *reghinești* – village and estate c. Mânzălești etc. The most productive pair is *dobreni* / *dobrești* its members having in common four counties: AG, IF, PH, TR: *dobreni* – AG: arable land v.c. Mușetești; GR: village and estate c. Vărăști, commune; IF: estate v. Dobreni c. Vărăști, hillock c. Bragadiru; PH: village c. Dumbrava; TR: village and hermitage c. Tătăraștii de Sus // *dobrești* – AG: village, estate, hermitage and forest c. Dobrești, commune, part of village v.c. Mușetești, valley v. Cerbureni c. Valea Iașului; CL: village c. Vasilați; DB: part of village v. Cuparu c. Dragodana, estate v.c. Gura Șuții, valley town Moreni, village, estate and glade c. Moroieni; IF: estate v.c. Dobroiești, hamlet c. Crevedia; OT: village c. Curtișoara; PH: part of village v. Coada Malului c. Măgurele; TR: village; VL: village and estate c. Dănicei.

If the most widely spread pair is *dobreni* / *dobrești*, the county in which there were registered the most name pairs is Argeș<sup>19</sup> (42), followed by Buzău (25), Prahova (12), Dâmbovița (9), Teleorman (8), GR (5), Ilfov (3), Călărași (3), Ialomița (2), Olt (2), Brăila (1), Vrancea (1), Vâlcea (1).

**The object of the denomination** (identity, geographic typology). By limiting ourselves to the information related to the subject of our article, we notice the fact that the object of “pair” denomination is usually constituted by the distinct and diverse geographic forms – *baltă, carieră de piatră, cartier, cătun, colină, comună, drum, izvor cu apă minerală, lac, loc, locuință izolată, mahala, măgură, mănăstire, moșie, munte, parte de sat, pădure, pârâu, plasă, poiană, râpă, sat, schit, siliște, stație de cale ferată, stână, surpătură, teren arabil, uliță, vale, vâlcea* (pond, stone career, neighbourhood, hamlet, hill, commune, mineral water spring, lake, place, isolated house, quarter, hillock, monastery, estate, mountain, part of village, forest, stream, small rural district, glade, precipice, village, hermitage, uncultivated land, train station, sheepfold, landslide, arable land, lane, valley, dale), usually localised in different counties. A name can refer to one object: *Alboteni* – village in c. Albota (AG), or more, when the denomination of the “extremely (socio-) geographic importance”<sup>20</sup> toponym, in a certain space, goes beyond other places from the nearby area. For example, the name *Albești* from the commune of Albești-Paleologu (PH) was taken, without formal modifications, by an estate, a train station and a post office, from the same locality. It is the same with *Aldești* (a village in the commune of Cernătești, BZ), a name “adopted” by an estate, a hill and a forest, from the same perimeter.

Extremely few toponyms-pairs refer to one<sup>21</sup> and the same geographic object.

<sup>19</sup> On an individual counting of the names, Argeș keeps its first position, with 175 group names, followed by: BR – 22, BZ – 127, CL – 36, DB – 97, GR – 42, IF – 26, IL – 35, m. Buc – 8, OT – 48, PH – 95, TR – 73, VL – 21, VR – 18.

<sup>20</sup> *Tezaurul toponimic al României. Moldova...*, p. IX.

<sup>21</sup> If we extend the researching area to other periods of time, the list can be very much improved. Nevertheless, referring to Moldova and Transylvania, Gh. Bolocan showed that the number of doublets was very large (*Categoria „nume de grup” în toponimie*, p. 95), and Dragoș Moldovanu asserted that the functional equivalence of these suffixes (-ești, -ani/ -eni, -oî/ -oi, -ari/ -eri) was well documented for the old era, being justified through the patronymic character of their singular forms (*Tezaurul toponimic al României. Moldova...*, p. XVI).

They designate few villages from the communes of: Mălureni (AG): *Bădiceni, Bădicești*; Tămădău Mare (CL): *Boldorogeni, Boldorogești*; Valea Iașului (AG): *Boroveni, Borovinești*; Mihăilești (BZ): *Colțăneni, Colțănești*; Călugăreni (GR): *Coțofeni, Coțofenești*; Păcureți (PH): *Păcureni, Păcureți*; Mârzănești (TR): *Groșeni, Groseni*; Gostinari (GR): *Gostinari, Goșinari*, and also subdivisions of villages: part of village, v.c. Mărăcineni (AG) – *Lotari, Lotași*; village and estate in c. Pătârlagele (BZ) – *Sibicei, Sibiceni*; estate in c. Cilibia (BZ) – *Ciorani, Ciorăști*.

Group names occupy a significant place within the Romanian toponymy, constituting the etymological solution for many denominations. In the present article, based on the structural and statistical analysis, we present a particular situation: that in which, starting from formally identical words (anthroponyms, toponyms, appellatives), group names-pairs have been formed, with different suffixes, which have later become names of places. The motivation for their occurrence and aspect are conditioned by extra-linguistic and linguistic factors: a) the simultaneous existence in several communities of identical (especially proper) names; b) the emergence of favourable particular circumstances (especially social, economic, etc.) that bring to the attention of the community a (the same) proper or common name; c) the local specificity, a decisive factor that imposes the choice of a certain linguistic form, and not another; d) the specificity of the theme, which allows the attaching of a certain type and number or formants.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Academia Română, *Dicționarul elementelor românești din documentele slavo-române. 1374-1600* (DERS) (coordonator: Gh. Bolocan), București, Editura Academiei Române, 1981.
- Academia Română, *Dicționarul toponimic al României. Oltenia – DTRO* (coord. prof. univ. dr. Gh. Bolocan), vol. 1 (A-B), Craiova, Editura Universitaria, 1993.
- Academia Română, *Dicționarul toponimic al României. Muntenia* (DTRM) (coord. prof. univ. dr. Nicolae Saramandu), 1 (A-B), București, Editura Academiei Române, 2005 și urm.
- Academia Română, *Tezaurul toponimic al României. Moldova*, vol. II. *Mic dicționar toponimic al Moldovei (structural și etimologic)*, Partea I, *Toponime personale* (coord. Dragoș Moldovanu), Iași, Editura Universității „Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, 2014.
- Bolocan, Gh., *Categoria „nume de grup” în toponimie*, in LR, XXV, (1976), nr. 1, p. 89-98.
- Iordan, Iorgu, *Toponimia românească*, București, Editura Academiei Române, 1963.
- Moldovanu, Dragoș, *Legile formative ale toponimelor românești cu radical antroponimic. I. Formații de plural*, in „Anuar de Lingvistică și Istorie Literară”, tomul XXI, Iași, Editura Academiei Române, 1970, p. 15-47.
- Pașca, Ștefan, *Nume de persoane și nume de animale în Țara Oltului*, București, Editura Imprimeria Națională, 1936.
- Toma, Ion, *101 nume de locuri*, București, Editura Humanitas, 2015.
- Tomescu, Domnița, *Numele de persoană la români. Perspectivă istorică*, București, Editura Univers Enciclopedic, 2001.
- Tudose, Claudia, *Derivarea cu sufixe în româna populară*, București, Editura Universității din București, 1978.