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SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BULGARIAN NOMENCLATURE OF THE WORLD BIRD AND MAMMAL FAUNA

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Abstract

A review of Z. Boev's publications from 2025 '*Terminologia ornithologica bulgarica*. Vol. I. Taxonomia. Illustrated trilingual dictionary of the birds of the world. English–Latin–Bulgarian. Part 1. Non-Passeriformes and Part 2. Passeriformes,' as well as '*Terminologia theriologica taxonomica bulgarica*. Illustrated trilingual dictionary of the mammals of the world. English–Latin–Bulgarian.' The review contains an analysis of the forms of Bulgarian names of birds and mammals of the world in dictionaries compiled by Z. Boev. For more than 80% of the species of the world's fauna of these animals, the author proposed Bulgarian names for the first time. The national names of the orders showed features that are inherent in the names of this level in Latin. All Bulgarian names of bird orders are unified with the use of the final morpheme *-подобни*, which is the equivalent of the ending *-formes* in Latin. But, as in the Latin names of mammal orders, there is no unification in the corresponding Bulgarian names. The Latin names of bird and mammal families are formed through the use of the suffix ending *-idae*. Most of the Bulgarian names of families are also unified with suffixes *-в(и)*, *-ев*(*и*), *-ов*(*и*). Significant part of the Bulgarian family names are formed similarly to English definitions, from a plural noun and an adjective in a preposition. Bulgarian species names are also formed according to the English ones: the preposition contains adjectival definitions, and genus name is in the postposition. In terms of the number of words in a species name, Bulgarian definitions are also similar to English ones. Three-word names predominate in Bulgarian species names, followed by four- and two-word names, and one-word names are also found. An essential feature of Bulgarian species names is the presence of a significant number of five- and six-word definitions. Up to three adjectives can be found in the specific part of a species name. The generic part of the name sometimes consists of four or five words. The considered dictionaries also contain synonyms. The compiler rightly noted that it is inappropriate to use eponyms as biological species names, because these names do not indicate their features. But he did not do without eponyms, but listed them mainly as synonyms.

Cite as

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Важливий поступ у розробці болгарської номенклатури світової фауни птахів і ссавців

Геннадій Фесенко

Резюме. Огляд публікацій З. Боєва, 2025, *Terminologia ornithologica bulgarica*. Vol. I. Taxonomia. Illustrated trilingual dictionary of the birds of the world. English — Latin — Bulgarian. Part 1. Non-Passeriformes і Part 2. Passeriformes, а також *Terminologia theriologica taxonomica bulgarica*. Illustrated trilingual dictionary of the mammals of the world. English — Latin — Bulgarian. Огляд містить аналіз форм болгарських назв птахів і ссавців світу у словниках, укладених З. Боєвим. Для понад 80 % видів фауни світу цих тварин болгарські назви автор запропонував вперше. У національних назвах рядів проявилися риси, які притаманні назвам цього рівня в латині. Усі болгарські назви рядів птахів уніфіковано із вжитком кінцевої морфеми *-подобни*, що є відповідником закінчення *-formes* у латині. Водночас, як в латинських назвах рядів ссавців, у відповідних болгарських назвах також немає уніфікації. Відомо, що латинські назви родин птахів і ссавців утворено через вжиток суфіксного закінчення *-idae*. Більшу частину болгарських назв родин також уніфіковано із вжитком однотипних суфіксів *-в*(*и*), *-ев*(*и*), *-ов*(*и*). Однак значна частина болгарських назв родин утворено подібно до англійських означень, з іменника множини і прикметника у препозиції. Болгарські назви родів у словниках З. Боєва не наведено. Аби їх визначити, потрібно порівняти назви видів і виокремити спільний для них елемент, тобто назву роду. За формою англійських назв укладено і болгарські назви видів: у препозиції поставлено прикметникові означення, а у постпозиції назва роду. За кількістю слів у назві виду болгарські означення також багато чим подібні до англійських. У болгарських назвах видів переважають тристівні, другу позицію займають чотиристівні та двослівні назви, трапляються й однослівні назви. Суттєвою ознакою болгарських назв видів є наявність помітної кількості п’ятислівних і шестислівних означень. У видовій частині назви виду трапляється до трьох прикметників. Родова частина назви інколи складається з чотирьох або п’яти слів, з яких єдиний іменник стоїть у крайній постпозиції. Оглянуті словники містять і синоніми. Укладач З. Боєв слушно зауважив, що недоцільно користуватися епонімами для означення біологічних видів, бо такі назви не вказують на їхні особливості. Проте він не обійшовся без епонімів, але навів їх переважно як синоніми.

Ключові слова: огляд, словник, номенклатура птахів і ссавців, різноманіття, болгарська мова.

Introduction

In all languages, the degree of development of terminology for describing objects and phenomena in any field of knowledge testifies to the depth of understanding by certain language communities of people of what entities exist in nature that can be operated in a certain field of knowledge. In biology, since the time of Carl Linnaeus, an unshakable rule has been established to designate animal and plant species with two-word Latin names, which provide basic initial information about the species to any researcher, regardless of what languages he or she speaks. Even when, at first, a researcher may perceive the Latin name only as a symbol, without knowing the meanings of its words. At the same time, against the background of the establishment of Latin nomenclature, a number of languages began to form their own naming systems, which arose as a result of the existence of biological species and through attempts to classify them. In some languages, species names have been established slowly and spontaneously, largely in a chaotic manner, such as in English, which has contributed to the emergence of rows of synonymous names for certain species. In other languages, the development of a system of names, for example, for bird species of the world, took place purposefully, in particular in Polish [Mielczarek & Cichocki 1999], in Slovak [Kovalik *et al*. 2010], as well as another.

The mentioned proprietary naming systems that have now been formed in certain languages are not competitors and cannot replace Latin names in scientific usage, which scientists will continue to use. National naming systems, particularly for animals, arose primarily to meet educational needs in certain languages [Fesenko 2025]. Thus, in natural history museum exhibitions, Latin names are usually indicated under the exhibits. However, according to visitors, this is not enough. They express the wish that the national names of the exhibits be also given. There is an even greater need for national

names in the publishing industry, especially in the translation of foreign publications of natural science content into the native language. So, if a system of names has been formed in a certain language, for example, for the birds of the world, then this language becomes self-sufficient in descriptions of the avifauna of any region of the planet. Therefore, in scientific works, species are necessarily presented with Latin names and may include equivalents from a certain language as accompanying information. At the same time, in achieving general educational goals, the names of species in a certain language may be the main ones, and the Latin names listed next to them are additional information.

Available data

Author of the considered dictionaries compiled a system of national names for birds and mammals (Fig. 1), understanding the educational goals for the Bulgarian-speaking community [Boev 2025*a–c*]. The primary sources of their species composition, valid Latin and English names were publications *All the Birds of the World* [del Hoyo 2020] and *All the Mammals of the World* [Lynx 2023]. As in the above-mentioned reference books, in total, Z. Boev's dictionaries provide Bulgarian names for 11 533 species of recent birds and 166 species extinct after 1600, as well as for 6580 species of mammals, including 103 species that disappeared after 1500 and 19 species currently known only by domestic forms. These handbooks contain the most recent and complete data on the currently recognized species of bird and mammal fauna of the world. In a number of cases, data from the American Society of Mammalogists was used.

When choosing Bulgarian names for exotic species, the author most often used translations from foreign languages, rather than transliteration of names from them. Translations were used from Slavic languages such as Polish, Ukrainian, Serbian, Czech, Slovak, as well as from Western and Northern European languages, namely English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Finnish, and Swedish.

The compiler of the considered dictionaries took into account the experience of all predecessors who used Bulgarian names for birds and mammals in their works. Before him, only 18.2% of the world's mammal fauna species and 12.9% of the world's bird species were named in Bulgarian. In fact, Z. Boev was the first to propose Bulgarian names for the remaining species of warm-blooded vertebrates in the world. In addition, he named not only species, but also families and orders in the classification systems of these animals, given in the two mentioned publications [del Hoyo 2020; Lynx 2023]. Moreover, in most cases, for one taxon, he cited several synonymous names of his own authorship. In general, he used 44 sources in compiling the Bulgarian nomenclature of birds of the world, and 17 sources for mammals of the world.

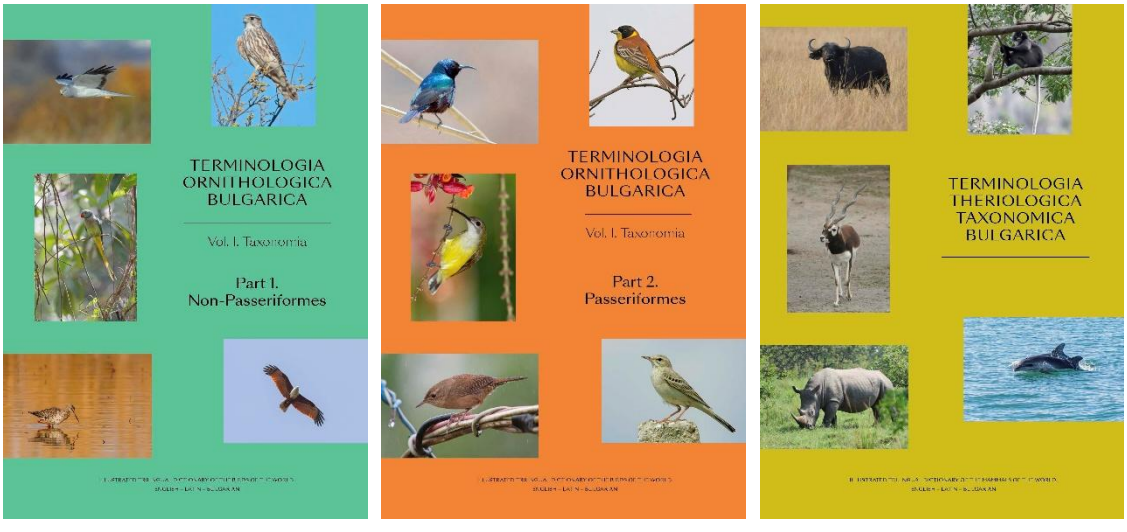

Fig. 1. Covers of Z. Boev's dictionaries.

Рис. 1. Обкладинки словників З. Боєва.

The author compiled a system of Bulgarian names for birds of the world and a similar system of names for mammals, using the same methods. So, both naming systems can be analysed simultaneously.

Discussion

However, an exception must be made regarding names of orders. All scientific names of bird orders in Latin have for some time been formed according to one of the main principles of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, the principle of unification. At the same time, this principle is not applied to the scientific Latin names of mammal orders. They are not unified in form. This difference between the Latin names of the orders of birds and mammals also affected the form of the names of the orders in the Bulgarian language.

Complete unification of Latin bird names was carried out using the final morpheme *-formes*. For corresponding Bulgarian names, the morpheme *-подобни* was used (e.g. *Кокошоподобни*, *Пеликаноподобни*, *Врабчоподобни*). In his explanations regarding the methods of name formation, Z. Boev did not indicate his intention to adhere to the principle of unification, so it can be assumed that the unification of Bulgarian names of bird orders occurred spontaneously. This was prompted by the unification of Latin names of orders. This is also indicated by the nature of the formation of mammal names.

Among the Latin names of the mammal orders, there is a small group of those in which unification is observed, similar to the form of the names of the bird orders. The names of this group have a final morpheme *-morfia* (e.g. *Didelphimorphia, Notoryctemorphia, Dasyuromorphia*). At the same time, in the Bulgarian system of names we see several designations of orders, which are unified, as in birds, also by the morpheme *-подобни* (e.g. *Опосумоподобни*, *Сънливцовидноподобни* (*Чилийски опосуми*), *Тупайоподобни*). The remaining names of the mammal orders are not unified in either Latin or Bulgarian. Some Bulgarian names of mammal orders are the same as the family definitions within them (e.g. order *Нумбатови* and family *Нумбатови*, order *Тръбозъбови* and family *Тръбозъбови*, order *Даманови* and family *Даманови*). This sameness violates the rule of specificity of taxon names, according to which each of them is characteristic only of a specific taxon. The inconsistency of the form of the mammal order names in the Latin was also reflected in the Bulgarian nomenclature of this group of animals.

Among Ukrainian zoologists, a proposal has already been put forward to unify the Latin names of mammal orders with the final morpheme *-formes*, as in the corresponding Latin for birds, and to use the final morpheme *-подібні* in the Ukrainian names of these orders, as in the names of fish and bird orders [Zagorodniuk 2008]. This proposal has not yet gained widespread acceptance, although in our opinion, the feasibility of such unification of the mammal order names is obvious.

Given the aforementioned spontaneity in the formation of Bulgarian names of bird orders, it is interesting to see whether another rule was used, which is guided by the choice of Latin names of taxa higher than the genus, the principle of typification. The basis for the formation of these names is the name of the type genus within a certain family or order (e.g. order Gaviiformes (*Гмуркачоподобни*) and type genus *Gavia* (*Гмуркач*), order Otidiformes (*Дроплоподобни*) and type genus *Otis* (*Дропла*), order Opisthocomiformes (*Хоациноподобни*) and type genus *Opisthocomus* (*Хоацин*)).

The clear adherence to this principle in the Latin of birds contributed to its almost complete adherence in the Bulgarian system of names. But there are a few exceptions. In particular, the order Galliformes (*Кокошоподобни*) contains the type genus *Gallus* (*Петел*), the order Strigiformes (*Совоподобни*) includes the type genus *Strix* (*Улулица*), the order Cathartiformes (*Кондороподобни*) includes the type genus *Cathartes*. In the latter the main nouns are *урубу* and *гриф*, while the definition *катарт* is given in parentheses only as a synonym, and the noun *кондор* refers to completely different genera. The application of the principle of typification is generally not typical for Latin names of mammalian orders. Perhaps that is why it is not followed in the Bulgarian names of mammals of this taxonomic level.

Mandatory adherence to the principles of unification and typification can be considered an exaggerated requirement in the process of creating national naming systems for birds and mammals. However, owing to them, the names formed on their basis are particularly informative, because they immediately indicate both the taxon level and its direct relationship to the type genus.

All family names in the Latin classifications of birds and mammals are formed according to the principle of unification, using the suffix ending *-idae*. This was equally reflected in the corresponding Bulgarian naming systems.

Currently, the Latin language in classifications of biological species is distinguished by a wide variety of suffix endings, using which one can easily unify the names of different taxonomic levels. Almost the same variety of similar endings is characteristic of some Slavic languages, such as Ukrainian, which was used to form the national system of bird names of the world [Fesenko 2018]. Similar plasticity characterizes the Bulgarian language. According to Z. Boev, the mentioned above Latin suffix ending is reflected by a group of single-character suffixes of possessive adjectives: *-в*(*и*) (e.g. in birds *Нандуви*, *Кагуви*, *Какадуви*, in mammals *Току-токуви*), *-ев*(*и*) (e.g. in birds *Козодоеви*, *Тодиеви*, *Шаварчеви*, *Кралчеви*, in mammals *Индриеви*, *Агутиеви*, *Нутриеви*), *-ов*(*и*) (e.g. in birds *Колиброви*, *Албатросови*, *Котингови*, *Скорецови*, in mammals *Ехиднови*, *Дюгонови*, *Хиенови*).

Most Bulgarian family names in bird and mammal classifications have the form of a possessive adjective. In some cases, a two-word synonym consisting of an adjective and a plural noun is added to the main name in this form. However, significant part of Bulgarian family names is formed similarly to English names of this taxonomic level. They are mostly plural nouns with denotative adjectives in the preposition (e.g. in birds *Торни кокошки*, *Совови козодои*, *Скални скакачи*, *Скорецови танагри*, in mammals *Торбести хищници*, *Скачащи мишки*, *Малки кашалоти*). Sometimes two adjectives occur in such Bulgarian family names.

In a non-living language, which Latin often represents in scientific use today, it is quite simple to achieve complete unification of classification names. And it is not so easy to do this in a living language, particularly Bulgarian, because it may have certain spelling restrictions. Only time will tell whether the trend of transforming two-word family names into one-word, possessive adjectives will increase. It is unlikely that the currently developed nomenclature of those same birds and mammals in any living language will remain unchanged indefinitely.

In Bulgarian nomenclature, species names are structured according to the English language, in which adjectives are in prepositions and nouns are in postpositions. As it is known, in Latin the arrangement of parts of names is opposite, the noun is placed in the preposition.

Three-word species names predominate in Bulgarian names of birds and mammals (e.g. in birds *отшелническо голямо тинаму*, *син ушат фазан*, *кубинска пальмова врана*, in mammals *голоопашат пухкавокозинест опосум*, *мускусно плъхово кенгуру*, *кавказска скачаща мишка*). Similar three-word names are very common in English nomenclature, which Z. Boev used extensively to compile a list of Bulgarian names.

Four-word English species names are also quite common. After three-word names, four-word Bulgarian names probably rank second in frequency of use (e.g. in birds *танимбарска голямокрака торна кокошка*, *северен сурукуаски американски трогон*, *черна зъбокрила африканска лястовица*, in mammals *капска същинска златна къртица*, *западен колумбийски подоблачен хомяк*).

The proposed Bulgarian nomenclature of warm-blooded vertebrates also includes a note on the number of two-word names (e.g. in birds *малко нанду*, *алтайски улар*, *сив тапаколо*, in mammals *аракаски уакари, андско хомяче*). The volume of these names is comparable to the number of four-word definitions. Their shape is more familiar to those who use Latin animal names.

Perhaps in every living, currently used language there are one-word names for those animals that are common in a certain area, and people refer to them with concise definitions that are easiest to pronounce. There are many of them among English names, some of which are foreign loanwords. They are typical, for example, for the Polish and Ukrainian bird nomenclature [Mielczarek & Cichocki 1999; Fesenko 2018]. The Bulgarian language is no exception. In the reviewed publications, among the one-word titles there are purely Bulgarian ones (e.g. in birds *поточник*, *синьогушка*, *черногушка*,

in mammals *птицечовка*). There are even more of them in foreign loanwords (e.g. in birds *мандаринка*, *каролинка*, *гуахаро*, in mammals *коала*, *гелада*, *бантенг*). The indicated one-word names are species-specific, that is, each such name refers to only one particular species of an animal. They do not need accompanying words.

In view of this, we note that many species-specific one-word names of foreign origin in the Bulgarian nomenclature have become only synonyms for the main multi-word names (e.g. in birds *хавайска гъска (нене)*, *хавайска патица (колоа)*, *хавайска врана (алала)*, in mammals *степен заек (толай)*, *белорък гибон (лар)*). The author put the purely Bulgarian versions of the names of certain species in first place, guided by the stated principle of giving preference to one's own national definition compared to foreign language versions. However, perhaps in these cases it would have been worth making an exception and being the first to suggest borrowed foreign names, taking into account their species specificity. In our opinion, the widespread use of such specific borrowings also enriches a language terminologically.

One of the specific features of Bulgarian names of bird and mammal species is the presence of a certain number of five- and six-word definitions among them, not including the synonyms given in brackets (e.g. in birds *американски полски белокрил петнист гълъб, дребен бразилски нощен скитащ козодой, северна петниста мечоклюна кълвачова дърволазка, мадагаскарско червеноклюно (горско) дребно шлемоглаво земеродно рибарче, платова (пелценова) източна шистова храстова сврачкова мравколовка,* in mammals *северна голяма летяща торбеста катерица, широкопръст малък австралийски летящ пероопашат кускус*). Without knowing Bulgarian orthography satisfactorily, one might assume that there are seven-word names among the names (e.g. in birds *западна голяма дългоопашата африканска бялокачулата птица носорог*). However, in the given name, the two nouns in the postposition are a single term, actually a two-component word. In particular, according to the rules of Ukrainian spelling, there should be a hyphen between them, which would indicate the indivisibility of the two parts of one term. So, in this case, the Bulgarian name is also functionally six-word. Sometimes the name is a purely two-component noun (e.g. in mammals *макак резус, заек подземник, (европейски) елен лопатар*).

For many Bulgarian names, synonyms are given in brackets, which can be used to replace the part of the name after which they are placed. A set of three synonyms is not uncommon, groups of four synonyms also occur (e.g. in birds *колхидски (обикновен, пръстенчат, кавказски) фазан, огърличен (украсен, дъгов, прекрасен) медотърсач, черноклюн (източен, сибирски, каменен, петнист) глухар* in mammals *петниста (пъстра, очилата, южна) торбеста мишка, турски (задкавказски, азербайджански, брандтов) хомяк*).

In Latin and English definitions of biological species, eponymous names are very common, that is, those that contain the name of a person or character as a specific designation. In the explanatory note to the dictionary of Bulgarian mammal names, Z. Boev noted that eponyms should not be used in the names of species, since they in no way indicate their specific features, but are only a dedication to someone. One should completely agree with this opinion. The name itself should indicate a characteristic feature of a living being. However, the compiler of dictionaries did not do without eponyms, but listed them mainly as synonyms, and if he offered several synonyms, he put them last (e.g. in birds *Columba eversmanni — жълтоок (крайбрежен, източен, еверсманов) гълъб, Caprimulgus fossii — квадратоопашат (мозамбикски, габонски, фосиев) козодой, Corvus edithae — сомалийска (еритрейска, малка, едитина) врана,* in mammals *Papio anubis — маслинов (зелен, анубисов) павиан, Nesoryzomys narboroughi — голямо фернандиново (кратерово, нарбороуво) галапагоско хомяче*). Eponyms have not become uncommon in the main part of some names (exx in birds *Gyps rueppelli — рюпелов (пъстър) лешояд, Cranioleuca baroni — баронова горска шипоопашка, Archboldia papuensis — арчболдова (жълтокачулата) беседкова птица,* in mammals *Scarturus toussi — тусов скокливец, Reithrodontomys rodriguezi — родригесово полско хомяче*). The influence of eponyms in Latin and English names turned out to be quite significant on the Bulgarian nomenclature of birds and mammals.

Of particular interest is the structure of Bulgarian species names. It can be established by comparing the names of species of the same genus. The common element found in all of them will actually

be the name of this genus. Of course, this part will be in the postposition, and the other part of the name, in the preposition, is a characteristic of the species. In the following examples, we will put a '/' between the two parts for clarity.

In Bulgarian names of warm-blooded vertebrate species, the specific designation may consist of not only one, but sometimes two or three words (e.g. in birds *американско дребно / зелено земеродно рибарче*, *гвианско пепелявоглаво / зелено виреонче, западен новогвинейски украсен / пухокрак плодов гълъб, платова (пелценова) източна шистова / храстова сврачкова мравколовка*, in mammals *африкански хамадски / пустинен скокливец, колумбийско централноандско облачно-горско / колумбово хомяче*). Unlike the specific designation in the species name, the generic part of the name sometimes consists of even four or five words (e.g. in birds *парагвайски (петнистокрил, масков) / петнист американски полски гълъб*, in mammals *южна / голяма летяща торбеста катерица, теснопръст / малък австралийски летящ пероопашат кускус*).

Each language may have its own specifics in naming certain objects. Thus, in Latin, exclusively two-word names of biological species have become established. In the Ukrainian language, in the 1980s, it was proposed to replace up to a hundred two-word names of birds of the local fauna with three-word names because certain genera designations were two-word [Markevych & Tatarko 1983]. But this innovation was not supported by ornithologists, and currently the Ukrainian nomenclature of birds of the world contains only two-word and one-word species names [Fesenko 2018]. We see the same thing in the Polish bird nomenclature [Mielczarek & Cichocki 1999]. Three- and four-word species names are common in English [del Hoyo 2020; Lynx 2023]. Perhaps it will become accepted in the Bulgarian-speaking community to use wordy local names for birds and mammals.

The specificity of the name of each taxon in Latin nomenclature is one of the main conditions for creating an unambiguous classification system. A living language may have its own specific features. For example, using different nouns to refer to species of the same genus, that is not possible in Latin. But even in this case, none of the national names of species or genera should coincide either in content or in form. However, then it is necessary to clearly indicate what the generic name is.

We see this need in the Bulgarian nomenclature proposed for use. In particular, each of the genera *Anas*, *Mareca*, and *Spatula* has species for which the nouns *патица* and *бърне* are used. Therefore, it is impossible to establish what the names of these genera are without the author's precise indication. In other cases, the names of several genera at once, as the reader can determine, are completely identical. This applies to the genera *Zoonave*, *Rhapidura*, and *Neafrapus*, for which the same phrase is used — ~ / *иглоопашат бързолет*. The genera *Chlorostilbon* and *Riccordia* also have the same name — ~ / *смарагдово колибри*, as well as genera *Rhinortha* and *Phaenicophaeus* — ~ / *храстова кукувица* etc.

As Z. Boev noted, for over 80% of the world's bird and mammal fauna species, Bulgarian names were proposed for the first time [Boev 2025*a*, 2025*c*]. He became their author. In many cases, he did not limit himself to one name, but chose synonyms for it, sometimes up to four. Thus, it offered users a certain choice. In such bird nomenclatures as the Polish, Slovak, and almost entirely Ukrainian the authors acted, so to speak, voluntaristically, giving only one name for each species [Mielczarek & Cichocki 1999; Kovalik *et al*. 2010; Fesenko 2018]. Time will tell whether the peculiar democracy of the Bulgarian nomenclature of warm-blooded vertebrates will prove justified.

However, perhaps now, the author of this nomenclature will have to decide for himself which Bulgarian names should be the main ones. Certain online resources require Bulgarian animal names, but they usually contain a single national name for the species. A certain exception is the Avibase resource, which often also lists synonyms.

Conclusion

Owing to the enormous amount of research, Z. Boev compiled original dictionaries of Bulgarian names of birds and mammals of the world. They significantly enrich the Bulgarian language, substantially expand its conceptual and object apparatus, contribute to a deeper understanding of the diversity of living things, and encourage the search for new knowledge about the natural environment.

Similar to the unification of the names of bird orders in Latin, the proposed Bulgarian equivalents are also completely unified by the final morpheme. The Bulgarian names of mammal orders are also based on the Latin model, but neither in latter nor in Bulgarian has the unification of these names been introduced.

Most of the Bulgarian family names of warm-blooded vertebrates of the world are unified according to the Latin model. However, a significant part of the family names in Bulgarian are structured similarly to such names in English, namely, they contain an adjective or adjectives in the preposition and a plural noun in the postposition.

Bulgarian names of bird and mammal species have been created based on the forms of English species names. In particular, in multi-word species names, the following word sequence is observed: the adjective part of the definition, which can consist of several words, is placed in the preposition, and the defined noun is in the postposition.

Three-word species names are most common. However, a special feature of the proposed composition of Bulgarian species names is their greater multi-word content, compared to other European languages, including English. Lists of species names in Bulgarian contain five- and six-word definitions.

The dictionaries are illustrated with a large number of original colour photographs of animals taken by Bulgarian researchers, which makes these books very elegant.

Congratulation the author of the considered dictionaries on their release. It can be argued that with their appearance, the stage of formation of the Bulgarian nomenclature of warm-blooded vertebrates of the world fauna was generally completed and the time of its improvement against the background of new taxonomic research began.

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