ABSTRACT

Onomastics is the study of proper names of all kinds and the origins of names. Toponymy or toponomastics, the study of place names, is one of the principal branches of onomastics. Our research is at the junction of cryptonyms and oikonyms, which are branches of onomastics.

In this study we made an attempt to examine the names of the United States of America and their nicknames. Our starting point is the assumption that the names are not occasional, but they reflect the spirit of the "land", its history, and an attitude of mind of people who live there.

In the first chapter we gave a definition to onomastics and examined branches of onomastics in details.

In the second chapter we fully described what toponymy and oikonyms are.

In the third chapter we gave general historical background of the United States. There are official and unofficial nicknames of the states.

The fourth chapter covers special translation methods of a state nickname.