



REVIEW

by the External Scientific Consultant, of the Dissertation of Zharas Turysbekovich TAUBAYEV, titled “Eponyms in Political Discourse: Pragmalinguistic Aspect,” presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy in Foreign Philology

The dissertant, Zharas Turysbekovich TAUBAYEV, during four years under my scientific supervision, completed the aforementioned doctoral dissertation.

According to plan, Mr. Taubayev completed two stages in Washington, DC, at the Joint National Committee for Languages, and at other scientific and research institutions, including the Center for Applied Linguistics and the Library of Congress. He worked on methodological issues in the determination and classification of political eponyms and their functions in a range of sociolinguistic and pragmalinguistic domains. Having completed his preliminary work, it became clear that a focus on the pragmalinguistic aspects of eponyms would be more productive, and the dissertation proceeded along that track.

Successfully and responsibly completing all requirements of his two doctoral stages, and demonstrating no small measure of competency in working with major archives, statistical analyses, and computer programs, Mr. Taubayev developed a database of more than 600 individual political eponyms, drawn from mass media sources from 2011 to 2017, in three languages (Kazakh, English, and Russian). While in Kazakhstan, he elaborated a classificatory framework for political eponyms, and then developed an original associative survey (in Kazakh, English, and Russian), and successfully administered the survey.

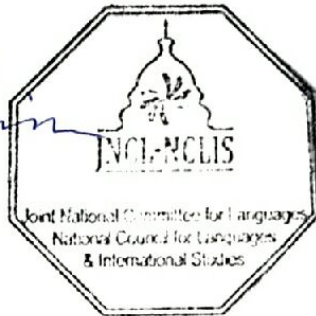
Having gathered data from a representative sample of more than 200 respondents, Mr. Taubayev analyzed more than 4000 reactions to political eponyms. It is particularly worth noting the careful and painstaking analytical work done at the highest scientific level on this large database. This is, to my knowledge, the first analysis of the interaction of pragmalinguistic factors influencing the understanding of eponyms in political contexts. Additionally, Mr. Taubayev has completed *A Short Explanatory Dictionary of English-Kazakh-Russian Political Eponyms*, a fruitful product of



his dissertation research, and a standalone contribution to the scientific literature on the topic.

The scientific value of this dissertation is founded on the large, representative sample, and the careful statistical analysis of the data. Of the results presented by Mr. Taubayev, the most important are his proposed classificatory framework for eponyms and their functions in contemporary political discourse, the methods he developed for gathering eponyms, and for analyzing their pragmalinguistic functions.

The dissertation presented by Mr. Taubayev in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Doctor of Philosophy in Philology, fully meets scientific standards for linguistic research, has a high scientific and social significance, and fulfills all applicable requirements.



William P. Rivers, Ph.D.
Scientific Consultant,
Executive Director,
Joint National Committee for Languages –
National Council for Languages and International Studies