

SUFFIXES THAT CREATE HYPOCORISTIC FEMININE NAMES IN THE SERBIAN ANTHROPONYMY

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Abstract. The Serbian system of personal names contains three major categories of anthroponyms: traditional names, Christian names and modern names.

In the present paper we are submitting to analysis the formation of the feminine hypocoristic forms through the process of derivation with suffixes. The inventory of Serbian feminine names is rich in derivatives and derived hypocoristic names. Feminine hypocoristic forms created through derivation present the following structure: *a vowel root*, extracted usually from the theme of compound names, *a suffix* and a *feminine desinence*, such as is the example of the feminine names *Ra-č-a*, *Ra-j-a*, *Ra-š-a*, created with the suffixes *-č-a*, *-j-a*, *-š-a* from the vowel root *Ra-*, extracted from the theme *Rad-* of the compound names *Radmila*, *Radoslava*.

Key words : Serbian anthroponymy, feminine names, suffixation.

The Serbian system of personal names contains three major categories of anthroponyms: traditional names, Christian names and modern names.

From the structural point of view the Serbian feminine anthroponymy presents the following categories:

1. **Full names** that cannot be analysed structurally. This category includes two subgroups: calendar names (*Aleksandra*, *Ana*, *Marija*) and names that originate from common words of the vocabulary (*Bistra*, *Košuta*).

2. **Traditional two-component or compound names:** *Dragoslava*, *Miroslava*.

3. **Simple hypocoristic forms** that come from compound names: *Rada* < *Radmila*, *Radoslava*; *Slava* < *Slavomirka*, *Tiha* < *Tihomirka*.

4. **Derived hypocoristic forms** created through the process of suffixation: *Boća* < *Bosanka*, *Bosiljka*; *Raša* < *Ratimirka*, *Radoslava*.

5. **Derivatives with simple or compound suffixes:** *Aničica* < *Anica*, *Miličica* < *Milica*, *Stanojka* < *Stana* < *Stanislava*.

Before we present the list of suffixes we found in the researched material, we will explain a few aspects regarding the structure and terminology of the derived feminine personal names.

The inventory of Serbian feminine names is extremely rich in derivatives and derived hypocoristic forms. Feminine hypocoristic forms created through derivation present the following structure: a *vowel root*, extracted usually from the theme of compound names, a *suffix* and a *feminine desinence*, such as is the example of the feminine names *Ra-č-a*, *Ra-j-a*, *Ra-š-a*, created with the suffixes *-č-a*, *-j-a*, *-š-a* from the vowel root *Ra-* extracted from the theme *Rad-* of the compound names *Radmila*, *Radoslava*.

The creation of a simple hypocoristic form is a less complex process, the theme extracted from the compound name together with the feminine desinence create a simple hypocoristic form, which can lead, through further derivation, to the formation of other derivatives. We can take the example of *Slavka* created from the theme *Slav-* from *Slavomira*, which through suffixation with the suffix *-ka* creates the derivative *Slavka*.

In analysing the derived hypocoristic forms there are a few aspects that need to be taken into consideration. For example, from the vowel root *Vi-* (<*Vidoslava*, *Viktorija*, *Vitomirka*) we can create with the suffixes *-ca*, *-ja* the hypocoristics *Vica*, *Vija*. Therefore, the same way we can extract the same vowel root from more than one name, the same vowel root can form through suffixation different hypocoristic names with different suffixes. Thus, for example, a hypocoristic form like *Goja* can be analysed in two ways: if we regard it as a hypocoristic from the compound name *Gojislava*, then it is created from the theme *Goj-* and has the status of a *simple* hypocoristic form, but if it is created from *Gordana*, then it is a *derived* hypocoristic form with the suffix *-ja* from the vowel root *Go-*.

-b-a

This suffix is part of the series of suffixes that create hypocoristic forms from vowel roots extracted from compound or full names and it is among the less productive from this category. Based on the researched material we found the following names: *Biba* (Novaković 1875: 46) <*Biljana*, *Bisenija*, *Biserka*; *Boba* (Grković 1977: 223) <*Bogdanka*, *Bosiljka*; *Buba* (Grković 1977: 226) <*Ljubinka*, *Ljubica*. Many of the derivatives that present the suffix *-ba* are formed through the morphological process of reduplication characteristic to the language of children. The names that are too long or contain sounds that are very hard to pronounce are shortened by little children by eliminating sometimes full syllables or by reduplicating the ones that are easier to pronounce.

-c-a

It is one of the most productive suffixes used to create feminine hypocoristic names (Klajn 2003: 200). It creates derivatives from vowel roots extracted from calendar, full or two-component names: *Bica* (Grković 1977: 222) <*Biljana*, *Bisera*; *Boca* (Grković 1977: 225) <*Bojana*, *Bosiljka*; *Daca* (Grković 1977: 241) <*Danica*; *Doca* (O(stojić) 1895: 62) <*Dobriča*, *Dobričava*; *Foca* (Grković 1977: 318) <*Jefrosima*; *Gaca* (Grković 1977: 236) <*Galina*, *Gavrila*; *Goca* (Grković 1977: 238) <*Gordana*; *Jeca* (Karadžić 1966: 286) <*Jelena*; *Joca* (Grković 1977: 263) <*Jovana*; *Juca* (Novaković 1875: 119) <*Julija*; *Kica* (Grković 1977: 226) <*Kraljica*, *Krstina*; *Koca* (Grković 1977: 267) <*Kosana*, *Kostadina*; *Laca* (Grković 1977: 270) <*Latinka*; *Leca*

(Grković 1977: 271) <*Jelena, Jelica*; *Maca*¹ (Grković 1977: 277) <*Marija, Marina*; *Mica* (Grković 1977: 282) <*Milena, Milica*; *Peca* (Grković 1977: 293) <*Petra, Proca* (Novaković 1875: 92) <*Prodana, Raca* (Grković 1977: 299) <*Radmila, Radoslava*; *Taca* (Grković 1977: 313) <*Tatijana, Teca* (Grković 1977: 313) <*Teodora, Teofana*; *Tica* (Grković 1977: 314) <*Tiosava, Tihoslava*; *Veca* (Grković 1977: 230) <*Velislava, Vesna*; *Vica* (Grković 1977: 232) <*Viktorija, Vuca* (Grković 1977: 235) <*Vukosava*; *Žica* (Grković 1977: 253) <*Živana*.

This suffix also leads to the creation of reduplicated forms: *Caca* (Grković 1977: 320) <*Stanislava, Stanica*; *Ceca* (Grković 1977: 321) <*Svetlana*; *Cica* (Grković 1977: 321) <*Milica*; *Coca* (Grković 1977: 321) <*Sofija*.

Subsequently, these forms create other derivatives especially with the suffixes *-ika* and

-ka: *Dacika* (Grković 1977: 241), *Micika* (Grković 1977: 282), *Docka* (Grković 1977: 245), *Micka* (Grković 1977: 282), *Vecka* (Grković 1977: 230).

-č-a / č-e

Creates hypocoristic names from vowel roots and other derivatives from themes extracted from full or compound names.

The category of derived hypocoristic forms contains the following anthroponyms: *Dača* (O(stojić) 1895: 62) <*Danica, Danilka*; *Vuča*² (Grković 1977: 235) <*Vukosava*; *Zoča* (Grković 1977: 255) <*Zorka, Zorislava*.

Very frequently, the suffix *-č-* appears in combination with the vowel *-e* which brings the diminutive value to the derivatives: *Dajče* (Grković 1977: 240) <*Daja* (<*Danica, Dara*), *Danče* (Grković 1977: 241) <*Danica, Darče* (Grković 1977: 241) <*Dara, Jelče* (Grković 1977: 261) <*Jela* (<*Jelena*), *Lenče* (Grković 1977: 271) <*Lena, Marče* (Grković 1977: 277) <*Mara, Milče* (O(stojić) 1895: 63) <*Mila*.

-ć-a

Its function is to form hypocoristic feminine names from vowel roots extracted from compound, full and derived anthroponyms. It creates the following names that come from:

- calendar names: *Kića* (Grković 1977: 266) <*Kira, Kristina*; *Maća* (Grković 1977: 277) <*Marija*; *Nića* (Grković 1977: 287) <*Nikolija*; *Saća* (Grković 1977: 303) <*Saveta*; *Taća* (Grković 1977: 313) <*Tatijana*.

- compound names and derivatives from old Slavic themes: *Buća* (Grković 1977: 227) <*Budislava, Doća* (Grković 1977: 245) <*Dobrila, Žića* (Grković 1977: 253) <*Živana*.

- names that are created from common words of the vocabulary: *Boća* (Grković 1977: 225) <*Bosanka, Bosiljka*; *Neća* (Grković 1977: 286) <*Nevena, Nedeljka, Nerandža*.

¹ The name is identical with the hypocoristic form *maca* which comes from the noun *mačka* and is used as a name of endearment.

² It could also be regarded as a simple hypocoristic name from the derivative *Vučica*.

-d-a

It is a less productive suffix in the Serbian feminine anthroponymy. It leads to the creation of the following derivatives: *Boda* (Grković 1977: 244) <*Bogdana*; *Dada* (Grković 1977: 240) <*Danica*, *Darinka*; *Dida* (Grković 1977: 242) <*Dijana*, *Dimitrija*; *Doda* (Grković 1977: 244) <*Dobriča*, *Dostana*, *Teodora*; *Duda* (Novaković 1875: 62) <*Dubravka*, *Duška*; *Đuda* (Grković 1977: 248) <*Đurđina*; *Gida* (Grković 1977: 236) <*Gizdava*; *Stada* (Grković 1977: 308) <*Stanislava*; *Teda* (Grković 1977: 313) <*Teodora*, *Teofana*. The names *Dada*, *Dida*, *Doda*, *Duda* are created by reduplicating the initial syllable.

-đ-a

It is rarely used to the formation of Serbian hypocoristics (Maretić I 1886: 141): *Građa* (Grković 1977: 238) <*Gradimirka*, *Gradislava*; *Kađa* (Grković 1977: 264) <*Katarina*, *Kadinka*; *Vlađa* (Grković 1977: 233) <*Vladanka*, *Vladislava*. The number of masculine names that present the suffix *-đais* also very small: *Drađa*, *Drađeta* <*Dragomir*, *Dragoslav*. Taking into consideration the phonetic processes characteristic to the Serbian language it is possible for the anthroponyms *Građa*, *Vlađa* and *Kađato* be derived with the suffix *-j-* to which we will also refer in this paper.

-f-a

The Serbian system of names contains only one feminine hypocoristic created with this suffix: *Dofa* (Grković 1977: 245) <*Dobriča*.

-g-a

This particular suffix creates only reduplicated forms: *Gaga* (Grković 1977: 236) <*Gordana*, *Dragana*; *Goga* (Grković 1977: 237) <*Gordana*; *Guga* (Grković 1977: 239) <*Dragina*, *Dragutinka*.

-j-a

It is the most productive suffix used to create feminine and masculine hypocoristic forms mainly from vowel roots extracted from full, compound or already derived names as follows:

a) from two-component names: *Baja* (Grković 1977: 220) <*Bratislava*; *Beja* (Grković 1977: 220) <*Belislava*; *Boja* (Bogosavljević 1990: 53, Novaković 1875: 46, Karadžić 1966: 40) <*Bogoslava*, *Draja* (Novaković 1875: 62) <*Dragoslava*; *Raja* (Bogosavljević 1990: 53, O(stojić) 1895 : 64) <*Radmila*, *Radoslava* ; *Staja* (Bogosavljević 1990: 53, O(stojić) 1895: 64) <*Stanislava*; *Vlaja* (Bogosavljević 1990: 53, O(stojić) 1895: 62) <*Vladislava*; *Vuja* (O(stojić) 1895: 62) <*Vukosava*;

b) from calendar names: *Ćija* (Grković 1977: 316) <*Ćiprana*; *Čeja* (Grković 1977: 322) <*Čelestina*; *Gaja* (Grković 1977: 236) <*Gavrila*; *Kaja* (Grković 1977: 264) <*Katarina*; *Koja* (Grković 1977: 266) <*Kostadina*; *Nija* (Novaković 1875: 86) <*Nikolija*; *Paja* (Grković 1977: 291) <*Pavlija*; *Soja* (Novaković 1875 : 102) <*Sofija*; *Steja* (Grković 1977: 310) <*Stevana*; *Taja* (Grković 1977: 312) <*Taisa*, *Tatjana*; *Teja* (Grković 1977: 313) <*Teodora*; *Vaja* (Grković 1977: 228) <*Vasilija*;

c) from names that are created from common words: *Gruja* (Grković 1977: 239) <*Grubana*, *Neja* (Novaković 1875: 85) <*Nevena*, *Nedeljka*; *Proja* (O(stojić) 1895: 64) <*Prodana*; *Ruja* (Grković 1977: 300) <*Rumenija*.

The suffix *-j-* also helps create reduplicated forms such as *Jeja* (Grković 1977: 260) <*Jelena*, *Jevdokija*, *Joja* (Grković 1977: 262) <*Jovanka*, *Juja* (Grković 1977: 263) <*Julijana*.

-l-a

It is rarely used to the formation of hypocoristics³. The bibliographical sources that we studied provided us with the following feminine names: *Bila* (Bogosavljević 1990: 31) <*Bisenija*; *Dala* (Grković 1977: 240) <*Damjanka*, *Danica*; *Dola* (Grković 1977: 244) <*Dobrila*, *Radoslava*; *Dula* (Grković 1977: 246) <*Dubrava*, *Dušanka*; *Đola* (Grković 1977: 248) <*Đorđijana*, *Đorđina*; *Gala* (Grković 1977: 236) <*Gavrila*; *Grola* (Grković 1977: 239) <*Grozdana*; *Kela* (Grković 1977: 266) <*Jelena*, *Paraskeva*; *Tile* (Grković 1977: 313) <*Tihoslava*, *Tola* (Grković 1977: 314) <*Todora*, *Žila* (Grković 1977: 253) <*Živana*.

-lj-a

It is a very rare anthroponymic suffix which helps create the following feminine hypocoristics: *Dolja* (Grković 1977: 244) <*Dobrila*, *Galja* (Grković 1977: 236) <*Gavrila*, *Galina*.

-m-a

Through the morphological process of reduplication it creates the following forms: *Mema* (Grković 1977: 278) <*Spomenka*, *Mima* (Grković 1977: 281) <*Miladin-ka*, *Milosava* and the derived hypocoristic form *Pema* (Grković 1977: 292) <*Pelagija*.

-nj-a

It leads to the formation of the following derived hypocoristic names: *Bon-ja* (Grković 1977: 225) <*Bojana*, *Bosiljka*; *Manja* (Grković 1977: 276) <*Malina*, *Marija*; *Minja* (Grković 1977: 281) <*Milana*; *Sanja* (Grković 1977: 303) <*Aleksandra*; *Vanja* (Grković 1977: 228) <*Vladana*, *Ivana*.

-s-a

The only feminine hypocoristic we found is the reduplicated form *Sosa* (Grković 1977: 307) created from *Sofija*.

-š-a

It is a productive suffix creating the following feminine anthroponyms: *Baša* (Grković 1977: 221) <*Branislava*, *Bratislava*; *Daša* (Karadžić 1966: 120) <*Danica*, *Dafina*; *Doša* (Grković 1977: 245) <*Dobrila*, *Dostana*; *Đoša* (Grković 1977: 248) <*Đorđijana*; *Gojša* (Grković 1977: 237) <*Goja*; *Goša* (Grković 1977: 238) <*Gordana*, *Gorica*; *Ješa* (Karadžić 1966: 287) <*Jelena*, *Jevrosima*; *Joša* (Grković 1977: 263)

³ Mitar Pešikan includes in the category of derivatives masculine names such as *Milo* < *Miloslav*, *Miho* < *Mihal* which he regards as derived form through analogy with other derived hypocoristics that are created with the suffixes *-l-* and *-h-* such as *Raho*, *Rale*, in *Zetsko-humsko-raška imena na početku turskoga doba*, „Onomatološki Prilozi”, III, Belgrade, 1982, p. 17.

<Jovana; Neša (O(stojić) 1895: 64) <Nedeljka; Nevena; Niša (Novaković 1875: 86) <Nikolija; Peša (Grković 1977: 293) <Petra; Proša (Novaković 1875: 92) <Prodana; Raša (Bogosavljević 1990: 53, Karadžić 1966: 723, O(stojić) 1895: 64) <Radmila, Radoslava; Steša (Novaković 1875: 104) <Stevana; Taša (Grković 1977: 313) <Tanasija, Tatijana; Teša (Novaković 1875: 107) <Teodora, Teofana; Veša (Grković 1977: 230) <Veselinka; Vlaša (Grković 1977: 233) <Vladislava, Vlahinja. The only name from this list that does not come from a vowel root is *Gojša*, which is a derived hypocoristic form from *Goja* (<*Gojislava*).

-t-a

The hypocoristic names derived with this suffix are reduplicated forms: *Tita* (Novaković 1875: 107) <*Hristina, Tota* (Grković 1977: 314) <*Todora, Tuta* (Grković 1977: 315) <*Tudora*.

-ž-a

It is used to create the following feminine hypocoristics: *Draž*a (O(stojić) 1895: 63) <*Dragoslava* which could also be regarded as a simple hypocoristic from-*Dražeslava* and *Žiža* (Grković 1977: 253) which constitutes a reduplicated form from *Živadinka, Živana*.

Based on the bibliographical sources that we analysed we found a number of 17 suffixes which lead to the creation of hypocoristic feminine names from calendar, full and two-component names in the Serbian language.

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