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# Profession names in old Hungarian settlement names[*]

Ethnonyms and demonyms, along with profession names, belong to the set of social group names. Profession names also often figure in toponymy.The present paper discusses the connection between profession names and early Hungarian toponyms, and compares their features to the structural and chronological features of the former two types of names, to which they are semantically related.

Keywords: profession names, typological analysis, chronological and structural characteristics, topoformants.

**1.** In recent years, in several of my works I have dealt with two major name groups of the Hungarian toponymicon, i. e. I have studied the stratum of names originating from ethnonyms and tribe names. Ethnonyms and tribe names belong to social group names, as do profession names. The latter also occur frequently as toponyms. In my study I will analyse the relationship between profession names and early Hungarian settlement names, taking into account the most important aspects. I will compare its characteristics with those of semantically related name groups.

**2.** Among the different naming methods of the Hungarian language there is a possibility to transform profession and craft names into settlement names. Our earliest toponyms of this kind can be found in the deed of gift of the Veszprémvölgy nuns, around 1020 or 1109: *Σαμταγ* ('földműves' [farmer]), *Γριντζαρι* ('fazekas' [potter]). This name type was used for the first time as a widespread source by HECKENAST in his historiographic monography (1970: 32–51). My paper is based on this data corpus. As this work gives a comprehensive overview of the name group within the entire Carpathian Basin, its corpus is also suitable for carrying out an analysis of the history of names. HECKENAST has tried to collect the first occurrences of settlement names representing this name type. The inventory of suzerains' servants includes 38 entries with settlement names whose genesis, according to HECKENAST, might have been motivated by the name of a profession that existed in the Middle Ages. Those entries are: *Ács* (< 'carpenter'), *Ardó* (< 'ranger'), *Bocsár* (< 'cooper, cup-bearer'), *Csatár* (< 'shield maker, arm maker'), *Daróc* (< 'game catcher'), *Esztergár* (< 'turner'), *Fazekas* (< 'potter'), *Fonó* (< 'twiner'), *Födémes* (< 'beekeeper, hive owner'), *Gerencsér* (< 'potter'),

*Halász* (< 'fisherman'), *Hodász* (< 'beaver hunter'), *Horó* (< 'cook'), *Hőgyész* (< 'weasel hunter'), *Konyár* (< 'stableman'), *Kovács* (< 'blacksmith'), *Lovász* (< 'stableman'), *Madarász* (< 'fowler'), *Márcadó* (< 'person paying taxes with mead'), *Mecsér* (< 'sword beater'), *Mézadó* (< 'person paying taxes with honey'), *Ötvös* (< 'ötvös'), *Peszér* (< 'dog carer'), *Ribnik* (< 'fisherman'), *Sarlós* (< 'sickle maker'), *Solymár* (< 'falconer'), *Szakács* (< 'cook'), *Szántó* (< 'farmer'), *Szekeres* (< 'carter'), *Szűcs* (< 'furrier'), *Takács* (< 'weaver'), *Tárnok* (< 'warehouse keeper'), *Taszár* (< 'carpenter'), *Tímár* (< 'tawer'), *Udvarnok* (< 'farmer'), *Vadász* (< 'hunter'), *Vasas* (< 'person paying taxes with iron'), *Verő* (< 'blacksmith, ironworker').

However, I approached this series with some criticism on the basis of linguistic criteria. I have decided to include in my own investigation only those settlement names whose basis is constituted by lexemes effectively used as common words in mediaeval Hungarian. In order to establish this specificity I have reviewed the relevant entries of early dictionaries (SZENCZI MOLNÁR, CZUCZOR – FOGARASI), etymological dictionaries (EtSz, TESz, FNESz), philological dictionaries (OklSz, a SzT) and the Ethnographic Lexicon (NéprLex). As a result, I have found out that the names *Csatár* (< 'shield maker, arm maker'), *Konyár* (< 'stableman'), *Mecsér* (< 'sword beater'), *Ribnik* (< 'fisherman'), *Taszár* (< 'carpenter') can be excluded from the above list because they might most probably be considered as borrowings from Slavonic toponyms (and in Slavonic languages they actually had profession names as their basis). Similarly, there is no unequivocal proof on the basis of the early Hungarian language that *Bocsár* (< 'cooper, cup-bearer'), *Márcadó* (< 'person paying taxes with mead'), *Mézadó* (< 'person paying taxes with honey') and *Sarlós* (< 'sickle maker') are based on profession names, since we do not have any data concerning their use as common words meaning professions. The name *Födémes* (< 'beekeeper, hive owner'), whose background as a common word is equally uncertain, has recently been reviewed by HOFFMANN (2010: 157–160). Indeed, I have not only reduced but also extended the above list of profession names. I have verified the earliest data about the enumerated settlement names in four volumes of GYÖRFFY's historical geography from the age of the Árpád dynasty. In addition to the toponyms included in those publications, I consider that the settlement names *Csősz* (< 'herald, proclamator, prison guard'), *Dusnok* (< 'providing services in connection with funeral feasts'), *Fegyvernek* (< 'sword-bearer') and *Lövő* (< 'shooter') can also be classified in this category. In his inventory, HECKENAST mentions the settlement names *Szőlős* (< 'vine-grower'), but does not provide specific data about these names, with reference to the fact that the same name form (*Szőlős* in Hungarian also means vineyard) might have referred to the fact that the area was covered with vine. He also specifies the names of the departments in which the existence of people obliged to provide vine-growing services can be historically demonstrated in connection with the relevant settlements. As those

settlements can be identified on the basis of GYÖRFFY's historical geography, their data are also included in the corpus constituting the basis of my paper.

Thus, the corpus is constituted by the first name data of 344 settlements that can be related to 33 lexemes enumerated in a corrected list of names. However, it should be noted at this point that I myself do not consider this list as final: new studies may exclude certain elements from this list, but may also complement it.

**3.** Several researchers tried to give different explanations to the motivation of name giving: „we have good reason to assume that these words meaning professions are used as toponyms in certain nominative forms, because the land designated by them had originally been the property of one person exercising such profession" (KERTÉSZ 1939: 39). Nowadays, we might as well disagree with this approach. However, it is certain that at the time of name giving the word denoting the individual may become the name of the whole village as a collective noun. The population of the settlement or at least part of the population is obliged to provide a certain service (ministeriales conditionarii). Such places are called servants' settlements and the toponyms are called toponyms with servants' names.

This issue was addressed mainly and at the earliest point in time by our historians. The topic was touched upon a number times by GYÖRFFY as well. He pointed out that the Hungarian servant system has its equivalents in toponyms and charters in the Czech Republic and in Poland: „the toponymic reminiscences of this system can be found in those countries as well, i. e. the village names formed with profession names, which is indicative of a phenomenon that the majority of the inhabitants of the village provided one service type. The Czech, the Polish and the Hungarian research has focused on these toponyms, primarily because of the lack of written contemporary records highlighting the servant system" (GYÖRFFY 1972: 263).

The inhabitants of those villages was classified in two ways. According to the first view all the inhabitants of the settlement were obliged to provide the designated service: „profession names in their nominative form and having the role of toponyms... are grouped settlements of royal domains' people active in a specific servant position" (MAKKAI 1947: 112–113). Others consider that the settlements were inhabited by servants doing different crafts. GYÖRFFY also considers that the Hungarian context is characterised by the latter situation: „Nevertheless, a village settlement that can be considered as general, is a village inhabited by one or more different types of servants and whose name does not reveal anything about the service, like the vast majority of villages donated by King Stephen I to different churches" (GYÖRFFY 1972: 265). The same opinion is also shared by KRISTÓ who, on the basis of church censuses from the 11th and the 12th century and from the early 13th century, emphasises the sporadic location of the service providers (i. e. their location was not concentrated to one village) (KRISTÓ 1976: 78). Furthermore, he

states that there is no substantive difference between the localities denoted by names originating from profession names and from other name types. Each of them were obliged to provide certain services.

Thus, the profession name is just one possible motivation for assigning a name to a settlement (cf. KRISTÓ 1976: 80, KISS L. 1997: 180). It is obvious that not every servants' village has received its name about the service. If a settlement had a name already before the assignment of the service, its name did not need to be changed. The development of the above idea also allows the assumption that on the other hand, not every profession name-based settlement name has received its name directly on the basis of the profession of its inhabitants or the service provided by them. In many cases it cannot be ruled out that the profession name became a personal name first, and this personal name became the basis of name giving. According to the data contained in the Inventory of personal names from the age of the Árpád dynasty (ÁSz), the possibility of this metonymic name giving process might have been valid mainly in the case of the following profession names (also having contemporary personal name equivalents): *ardó, csősz, dusnok, kovács, lovász, madarász, szakács, szántó, szekeres, szőlős, takács, vadász, vasas.* Therefore, as far as the proportions are concerned, it can be proved that about one third of the profession names became part of the system of Hungarian personal names.

**4.** The historical typology of toponyms which developed from the 1930s and 1940s onwards treated the morphological structure of names as a main factor in the description of the system of early Hungarian toponyms. Among our oldest name types the following were enumerated: 1) names developed from tribe names in nominative from, names developed from ethnonyms and personal names, 2) names created with the formants -*i* and -*d*, 3) compounds created with the common geographical names -*falva* 'falu; village', -*háza* 'ház; house', -*laka* 'ház; house', etc., as posterior constituents. However, our toponyms originating from profession names also have to be included in this early stratum of names. After HECKENAST's investigation focusing on historical aspects, linguistic aspects are already observable in KRISTÓ's typological classification work. His work includes a separate chapter dedicated to toponyms developed from profession names. He notes that from a typological point of view these names may also represent the above-mentioned three main types. Thus, among our early Hungarian toponyms it is also possible to find name forms developed from profession names in nominative form, name forms created with a profession name + the formant -*i,* as well as name forms created with a profession name + a posterior constituent (KRISTÓ 1976: 65, cf. BÁRCZI 1958: 161). On the basis of historical factors (by analysing the slowly shaping economic and social system and the development of the organisation of the State), HECKENAST traces back the examined toponyms as far as to the 10th century

(1970). GYÖRFFY also shares the same opinion (1972). KRISTÓ however also reconsiders the general chronological concepts about settlement names originating from profession names, similarly to the other early toponym types. In his opinion, „there is no overriding condition whereby these villages *should* be traced back to the 10$^{th}$ century" (1976: 71). He concludes that in 11$^{th}$ century charters and in censuses carried out in the first half of the 12$^{th}$ century settlement names that can be traced back to profession names appear very rarely. However, if a significant number of those name types had existed in the 10$^{th}$ century (as mentioned both by HECKENAST and GYÖRFFY), they should be found frequently in the 11$^{th}$ and the 12$^{th}$ century. This fact „allows us to conclude that the development of toponyms originating from profession names did not end in the 10$^{th}$ century, nor in the 11$^{th}$ and the 12$^{th}$ century" (KRISTÓ 1976: 74). Moreover, „the profession names which, in general, did not appear in early charters served as the basis for the development of toponyms formed with profession names in the subsequent (14$^{th}$ to 15$^{th}$) centuries of the Middle Ages (KRISTÓ 1976: 77). LAJOS KISS estimates that this kind of name giving was active in the 10$^{th}$ to 11$^{th}$ centuries, but he does not exclude either that the genesis of such types of settlement names might have occurred even later (KISS 1997: 180).

**5.** In the course of the structural analysis of the toponyms included in the database that I have compiled, I have determined two new structural forms besides the three above-mentioned classical historical-typological groups, just as I have done in my work addressing the toponyms of ethnonymic origin (RÁCZ 2010). These five structural types are where: the profession name denotes a settlement 1) in nominative form, 2) in its form created with a formant, 3) with a common geographical name meaning settlement, 4) as an attribute alongside an existing settlement name, and 5) with a common geographical name having a different meaning than settlement. I will present the structural and chronological specificities of these groups below.
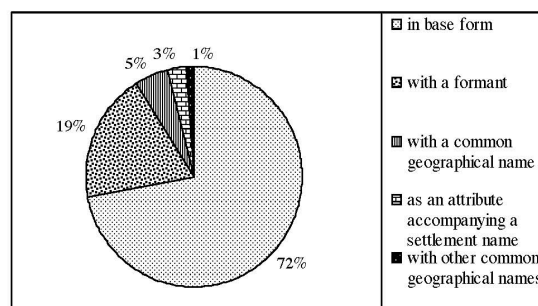


**Figure 1**
**Percentages of structural types of names**
**among profession name-based toponyms**

**5.1.** According to our data, the vast majority (72%) of profession names figure in nominative form in settlement names (type 1) in the Old Hungarian era. On the one hand, in names belonging to this category, profession names may complete the linguistic function of a toponym without any formant, e.g. *Ács* (< ’carpenter’), *Ardó* (< ’ranger’). *Daróc* (< ’game catcher’). On the other hand, in the course of time, names initially created without any name formant might have been enriched with an attributive anterior constituent as well. In such cases the profession name figures as the second constituent (the main constituent) in an unchanged form. The name forms having two constituents, such as *Kisács* (< ’the smaller settlement among the ones called *Ács*’), *Szőlősardó* (’the settlement called *Ardó* whose inhabitants dealt with vine-growing’), *Hídvégardó* (’the settlement called *Ardó* which is located at the end of a bridge’) might have been created in this way.

Behind the above-mentioned name type the second most frequent (19%) name type is the one created with a topoformant morpheme (type 2). It has to be noted that the formant *-i* played a significant role in the creation of name forms containing a formant, whose occurrence is not very frequent. This must have been influenced by the original function of the formant, since the semantic content of the settlement name was ‘the settlement of people exercising (mainly) x profession’ or maybe ’the settlement bearing the name of the profession x of a person’). For instance, *Halászi* (the profession name *halász* ’fisherman’ or the personal name *Halász* + the topoformant *-i*), *Kovácsi* (the profession name *kovács* ’blacksmith’ or the personal name *Kovács* + the topoformant *-i*), *Lovászi* (the profession name *lovász* ’stableman’ or the personal name *Lovász* + the topoformant *-i*). Among our data the morpheme *-d* appears only at the end of four settlement names: in two names containing *Szántód* (the profession name *szántó* ’farmer’ or the personal name *Szántó* + the topoformant *-d*), in one name containing *Szűcsöd* (the profession name *szűcs* ’furrier’ or the personal name *Szűcs* + the topoformant *-d*) and in one name containing *Lovászad* (the profession name *lovász* ’stableman’ or the personal name *Lovász* + the topoformant *-d*). Other topoformants cannot be found in the data we collected. A similar distribution (i. e. the significant role of the morpheme *-i*) can be observed in the case of the name of another social group, the ethnonyms.

Behind the two name types already mentioned the number of settlement names showing three different name structures is far less significant. The rate of occurrence of names created with a profession name as their anterior constituent and with a common geographical name meaning settlement as their posterior constituent (type 3) is very small (5%). However, despite the limited number of occurrences, we cannot ignore the relatively simple use as common geographical names. The most frequent topolexeme in this regard is the lexeme *-telek* (‘land, estate’) (e. g. *Csősztelek* (the profession name *csősz* ’herald, proclamator, prison guard’ + *telek*), *Halásztelek* (the profession name *halász* ’fisherman’ + *telek*), *Lovásztelek* (the profession name *lovász* ’stableman’ + *telek*). In addition the

lexemes -*egyház* 'church', -*föld* 'land' and -*falva* 'village' can also be observed, mostly in an unmarked form, without a possessive determinant (e. g. *Szekeres-egyház* (the profession name *szekeres* 'carter' + *egyház* 'church'), *Halászföld* (the profession name *halász* 'fisherman' + *föld* 'land'), *Lovászfölde* (the profession name *lovász* 'stableman' + *föld* 'land').

It can be stated with certainty that the settlement names in which the profession name is linked to an already existing toponym as an attributive anterior constituent (type 4) are secondary. This toponym type is represented in a very small proportion (3%). Those name forms in which both the denoting main constituent and the attributive anterior constituent can be traced back to a profession name are worth noting. This is the case with *Ácsteszér* (the profession name *ács* 'carpenter' + the profession name *teszér* 'carpenter') and *Udvarnokteszér* (the profession name *udvarnok* 'farmer' + the profession name *teszér* 'carpenter'). Furthermore, in the first settlement name the Turkish-based Hungarian denotator and the Slavonic denotator of the same craft are chained one after another.

Settlement names containing lexemes of profession names as anterior constituents are very rarely (1%) linked to posterior constituents being common geographical names having a different meaning than settlement. Only the following four examples can be cited from our corpus: *Kovácskút* (the profession name *kovács* 'blacksmith' + *kút* 'well, artificial watering point'), *Vasverőszeg* (the profession name *vasverő* 'ironworker' + *szeg* 'coin, angle, nook'), *Halászszeg* (the profession name *halász* 'fisherman' + *szeg* 'coin, angle, nook'), *Darócpatak* (the profession name *daróc* 'game catcher' + *patak* 'small watercourse'). These settlement names might have developed from microtoponyms by way of metonymic name giving.

Based on the above it is evident that within a given semantic name type the Hungarian name creators used only part of the linguistic tools for the creation of settlement names. The metonymic name formation method received absolute priority in name giving (with the profession name as base form). In addition, morphematic name giving (toponym formation) seems to be significant. At the same time, the three other denomination patterns played a rather insignificant role in the genesis of this stratum of the early Hungarian toponym system. On the basis of the above, a name type system showing a relatively closed structure is outlined.

**5.2.** Subsequently, it may be useful to examine the chronological characteristics of each type. The issue that the first written appearance of the different name data will rarely coincide with the time of their linguistic genesis must be addressed here. It is possible that a significant time might have passed between the two events. However, there is no scientific tool available that could be used to determine without doubt the date of genesis of each name. In our analyses we can only rely on data gathered from charters at hand. Indeed, this problem might concern all names. Therefore, when working with a larger quantity of names the first occurrences may

adequately represent the relative chronology of the different name types. I will present those types in the order of their occurrence in time below. (Structural types with less frequency have not been included.)
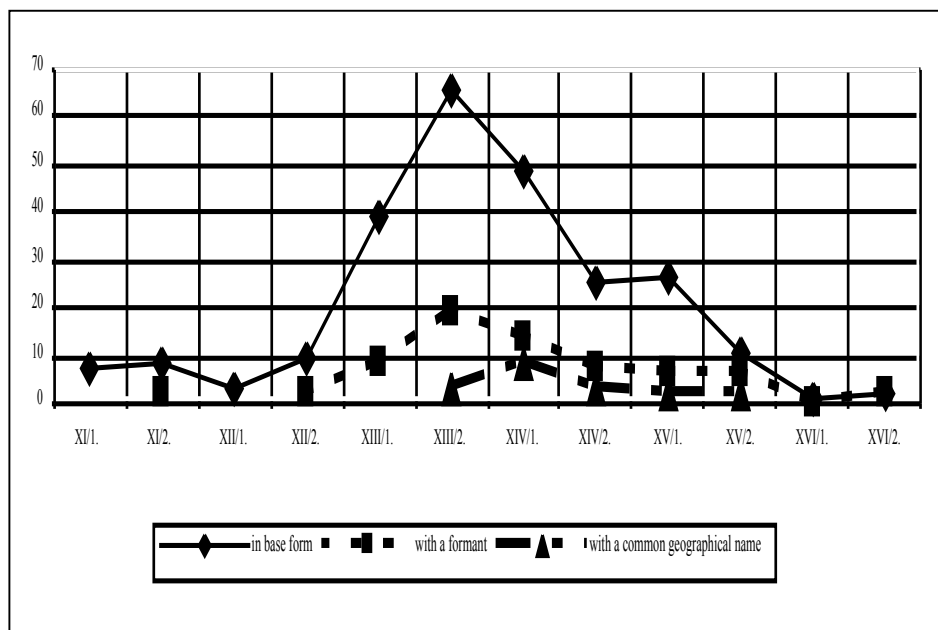


**Figure 2**
**Aggregated chronology of types 1 to 3 in settlement names formed**
**with profession names**

It is evident that between the 11th and the 16th century there is no such period when the profession names in nominative form would not have contributed to the creation of settlement names. The upward phase of metonymic name giving starts in the first half of the 13th century and reaches its peak during the following 50 years. An equally significant number of settlement names were created by this name giving method during the following 150 years. In the second half of the 14th century and in the first half of the 15th century the name data belonging to this type appear in a roughly equal proportion.

The settlement names formed with a topoformant draw practically the same span as the elements of the previous category. Although their total percentage is smaller, the start of the upward phase (the beginning of the 13th century) and the peak period (the second half of the same century) overlap in the case of the two name groups. In the first half of the 14th century practically the same percentages can be observed, and the downward phase can be followed from the second half of the century onwards.

The typical structural change which occurred in the meantime in the Hungarian toponym system, i. e. the appearance of the compound structure is also reflected in our settlement names originating from profession names, but does not seem typical at all. In accordance with the general trend, the earliest period for obtaining data is the 13$^{th}$ century in this case as well. Data about names formed with common geographical names meaning settlement can be presented in our database already as early as from the first half of the century. In contrast, the denominations showing the structure where an attribute originating from a profession name and an already existing settlement name are combined appear only in the second half of the century. Settlement names in which the profession name is not followed by a common geographical name having a different meaning than settlement are even less significant. Their number is so negligible that it is not possible to draw conclusions about the chronological characteristics of their genesis either.

Therefore, we can conclude that the name group under review demonstrates the general onomatosystemical thesis that metonymic and morphematic name giving appeared earlier in time than name formation by the creation of compounds. Differences between the name types may be found in the differing percentages of the name formation methods in name giving, as well as in their role in the creation of the different name types.

**5.3.** Onomastic literature considers tribe names, ethnonyms and profession names as social group names. Among their common characteristic features the one that receives primarily emphasis is that the representatives of all these three semantic groups, even in their base form, are suitable for denominating groups of people and therefore also settlements. While this study does not allow for an exhaustive analysis, I will, keeping in mind applicable restrictions, compare two characteristic features of these three semantic groups below: their chronological characteristics and their structural organisation.
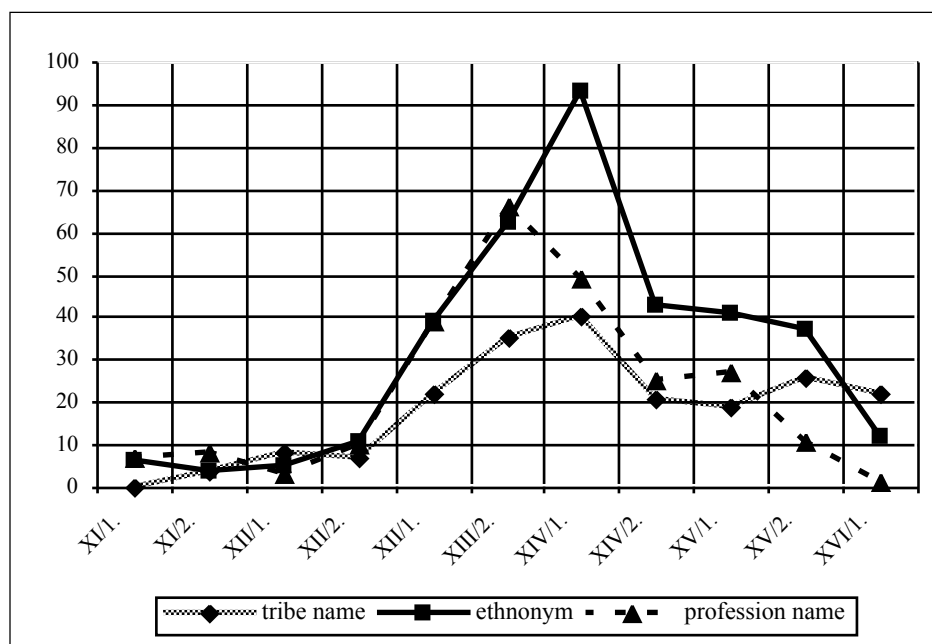
**Figure 3**
**Social group names in toponyms: chronological occurrence**
**of names in base form.**

During my research work so far I have observed that metonymic name giving played a major role in the creation of the three old Hungarian name types. The long-highlighted feature, i.e. that tribe names, ethnonyms and profession names in nominative form might have easily developed into settlement names have also been demonstrated statistically by the corpuses that I have compiled. The relevant chronological relationships are illustrated in Figure 3.

As far as chronological and structural characteristics are concerned, an opportunity opens now to clarify and sometimes even correct the previous positions taken in reference literature. I will do this by individual semantic groups below.

**5.3.1.** The database of settlement names of ethnonymic origin (RÁCZ 2010) consists of 1352 name forms of 943 settlements. Hungarians have created settlement names with ethnonyms already in the early times. However, the number of names that can be classified here starts to grow spectacularly from the 13th century. They reach their highest popularity in the first half of the 14th century. By analysing the structural organisation of these names it can be seen that during the creation of the denominations Hungarian language users have exploited the possible name formation methods in a rather balanced way. The name data of the corpus of names that I have compiled reveal that among the formants the most frequent one is

*-i*, followed by *-d*. Hence, it can be concluded that LORÁND BENKŐ's and ÁGNES BÉNYEI's related opinion that negated the use of the formant *-d* alongside an ethnonym (BENKŐ 1998: 150, BÉNYEI 2012: 63), cannot be maintained on the basis of my research. As far as the formation of compound names is concerned, *-falu ~ -falva* ('village') and *-telek ~ -telke* ('land, estate') appear in the highest proportion among the common geographical names meaning a settlement. These lexemes figure predominantly in their form without a possessive determinant. This phenomenon merits particular attention also because VALÉRIA TÓTH mentions in one of her works the marked forms of two-part names in those times (TÓTH 2008: 91). It seems that two-part denominations of ethnonymic origin represented an exception to this trend. As an expression of a co-settlement or a division of a settlement, ethnonyms were widespread in use as attributes placed before already existing settlement names. Only one structural type seems somewhat insignificant within this semantic group: there are only a few examples illustrating the structure formulated with an ethnonym + a common geographical name having a different meaning than settlement.

**5.3.2.** Settlement names that can be traced back to tribe names also played a role in name giving during the whole Old Hungarian era. However, the creation of a significantly smaller number of settlement names can be linked to this semantic group than to ethnolexemes. In the case of settlement names formed with tribe names no such rich corpus is available as in the case of settlement names originating from ethnonyms. The reference literature estimates that the number of the relevant settlements is approximately 300. For the examination of the name type I relied on the corpus of names contained in the Etymological Dictionary of Geographical Names (FNESz), and mostly the corpus of names contained in the volume entitled *Adatok* (Data) by the three authors KRISTÓ, MAKK and SZEGFŰ (RÁCZ 2006, 2007). This latter work published the first data about toponyms belonging to the type in question. From these data I filtered the corpus of settlement names and carried out an analysis comparing the settlement names of ethnonymic origin. On the basis of the corpus of names it can be concluded that the upward phase of the creation of denominations starts in the first half of the 12th century. It reaches its peak in the second half of the 14th century, and shows a relatively high frequency even in the 15th century. This chronological description presents a picture that corresponds less to the general concept of the reference literature (vid. MELICH 1925–1929: 360, KNIEZSA 1938: 371, BÁRCZI 1958: 157), it corresponds more to the chronological extension made by KRISTÓ (1976: 42).

In the structure of settlement names originating from tribe names the overwhelming majority of nominative forms is evident, in this case metonymy was a prominent method of name giving. In my corpus of names collected from the FNESz only the following names with formants can be cited: *Kércs* (the tribe name

*Kér* + the topoformant *-cs*), *Megyercs* (the tribe name *Megyer* + the topoformant *-cs*) and *Kéri* (the tribe name *Kér* + the topoformant *-i*). From the volume entitled *Adatok* (Data) only the following items can be included in this group, with some uncertainty: *Keszö* (the tribe name *Keszi* + the topoformant *-ő*), *Kérd* (the tribe name *Kér* + the topoformant *-d*), *Kéri* (the tribe name *Kér* + the topoformant *-i*) and *Megyerő* (the tribe name *Megyer* + the topoformant *-ő*). Therefore, the role of metonymic name giving can be considered as insignificant within this name type. The complete lack of compound name forms in the latter name group is a differentiating typological characteristic feature of settlement names developed from lexemes expressing ethnonyms and tribe names. While, as indicated above, ethnonyms frequently appear as the anterior constituent of names, the appearance of tribe names with a posterior constituent meaning settlement is not typical. However, this should be no surprise if we superimpose the chronological picture of our settlement names originating from tribe names on the picture of our settlement names having the following structure: ethnonym + common geographical name having the meaning of a settlement. The interval between the most productive period of the two types is approximately one century. While the peak period of the names showing the first type is the first half of the 14th century, the most productive period of the denominations showing the second type is the first half of the 15th century. This means that by the time the trend of compound names became widespread, tribe names did not have a significant productivity in name formation any longer. The appearance or the lack of ethnonyms and tribe names having the function of attributes can also be considered as a difference. It has already been illustrated that ethnonyms can sometimes have this function, but in contrast, tribe names never appear as attributes. The structure presented last, i. e. ethnonym + common geographical name having a different meaning than settlement, can be observed only sporadically in this group as well.

**5.3.3.** Concerning the three social group names, the specificities outlined above develop the following picture. According to data from charters, all three semantic groups had a role in the creation of settlement names of the toponym system of the Old Hungarian era from the beginning until the end of the period. Among these groups, the augmentation of the number of toponyms developed from tribe names can be observed at the earliest point in time (in the first half of the 12th century). However, one century later (in the 13th century) the frequency of name data belonging to the two other name types also became higher. The common feature of the three name groups is the fact that their most productive period is the 14th century, but new denominations are created even in the 15th century in the case of all three types. All this is well illustrated in Figure 4.
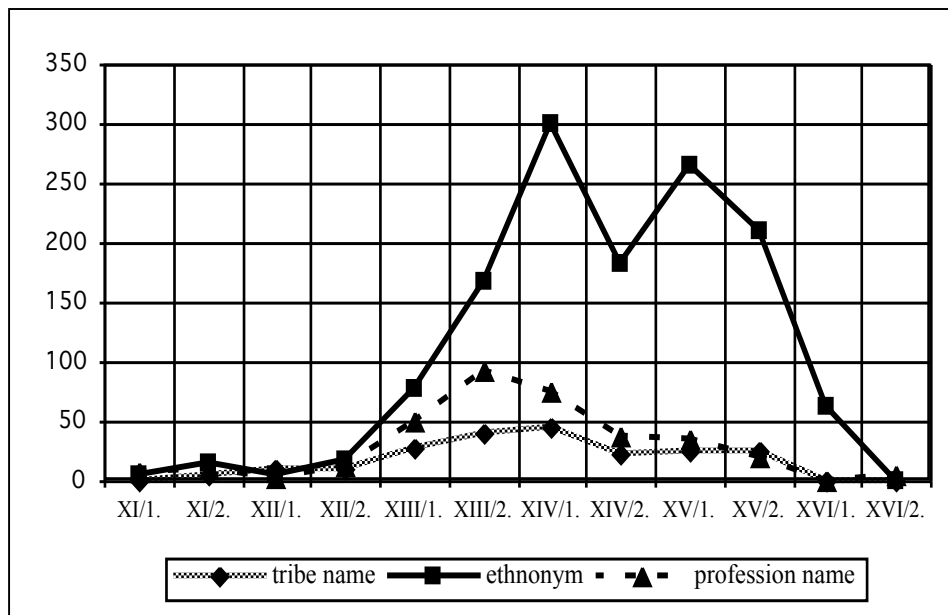
**Figure 4**
**Social group names in toponyms: aggregated chronology of types 1 to 5
in all three semantic groups.**

The structural similarity highlighted above, i. e. the fact that the nominative form becomes a settlement name, is by far the most frequent within all three semantic types. However, a different picture is outlined by the analysis of morphematic name giving. While ethnonyms often figure in settlement names with a topoformant, this is less so in the case of profession names and even less so in the case of tribe names. It has to be noted though that within all three semantic groups the formant *-i* was the most preferred formant, the second most frequent one was *-d*, and the frequency of other formant morphemes can be considered insignificant. Common geographical names having the meaning of a settlement can only be observed together with ethnonyms and profession names, they never appear after tribe names. In addition to the two lexeme types above the appearance of *-telek(e)* 'land, estate' and *-falu ~ -falva* 'village' seem to be the most frequent. As far as the grammatical structures are concerned, the appearance of unmarked forms is typical. Among the social group names under review, ethnonyms figure as attributive anterior constituents in one fourth of the relevant name data. This characteristic feature sharply distinguishes them both from profession names (appearing sporadically as attributes) and from tribe names (where a similar function is not illustrated at all). Another common characteristic feature of all three semantic groups is the insignificant percentage of denominations created by way of metonymy using

their form containing a posterior constituent having a different meaning than settlement.

A conclusion that can be drawn from all the above is that among the three semantic types the most diversified possibilities of name formation can be observed in the case of ethnonyms: the proportion of each structural type is relatively balanced in the corpus of names. The group of profession names seems less productive in the creation of the different linguistic modalities of denominations. Evidently, the most restricted group is the group of settlement names originating from tribe names.

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