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**Turkish Tribal Names in Georgian Dialects and Folklore
(qazaxi, alani)**

Summary

1. The word qazax-i was borrowed from Turkish into the dialects of the Georgian Language long before it became an ethnonym; it means a "robber", 'a brave man', 'a peasant', 'lazy-bones'. This word had the same meaning in Old and Middle Turkish. Etymologically 'qazaxi' is connected with Old Turkish root *kaz* ('to dig' → 'to procure'); by adding the suffix -ak: *kazak* 'possessing nothing' → 'a free person' 'a roamer' → a robber → [ethnonym].

2. In different historical epochs the word 'alani' denoted both Indo-European, and Turkic tribes. But it is a fact of the Turkish Language. Alan//Alaman//Amalan 'robbery' ← al- 'to take away':

In one case it became an ethnonym, in the other (in various linguistic communities) it remained a name of a ritual devoted to the beginning of a battle (cf. Megr. alanuroba-
=alanuroba 'folk-game'; Oss alon-biloni).