

## PAATA TSKHADAIA

### TOWARDS THE ONE PROBLEM OF THE ABKHAZ-MEGRELIAN TOPONIMYC INTEGRATION IN THE PLACE-NAMES OF SAMURZAQANO

Modern ethnical territorial borderline of Abkhazians and Megrelians lead on a small strach of ancient colchis - on the left bank of the river Ghalidzga. In this small district there are mingled population, bearing language and ethnographic features of the two peoples. Abkhaz ethnic group has established in the region since the late 17th century. Megrelians (one of the Kartvelian tribes) are native.

Three centuris-old habitation in the common area served to creat friendship between the said ethnic groups and resulted in the mingling of their rits, customs and traditions; mixed marriages have been auite common moreover.

Wedding was facilitated by the fact that "Abkhazians" of Samurzakhano geneticaly are Kartvelians (namely, Megrelians), who are Christians and not Moslims as ethnic Apsuas (who are ferferred as Abkhazians modern times).

On the ethno-territorial boundary of Abkhazians and Megrelians the work to identify the etimology of place names has been carried out in four diferent direction.