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FROM THE HISTORY OF TOPONYMY OF ABKHAZIA II (1953-1965 YEARS)

In the anti-Georgian political-propaganda arsenal of Abkhazian separatists considerable room is given to the accusation of Georgians in Georgianizing Abkhazian place-names during the years of 1943-1952 for the purpose of extirpation the tracks of the life of Abkhazians.

This accusation is not attested by facts. During the said ten-year period out of the 110 place-names that were changed in Abkhazia, only fourteen were Georgian names, at the same time three new Abkhazian place-names appeared on the map substituting one Russian and two Georgian place-names and the result of the so-called Georgianizing totalled 10% (11 toponyms) of the changed names.

Greater part of changed place names (53%) were Russian, Turkish and Armenian.

If we consider the fact that Abkhazia is Georgia and many historically Georgian place names here were substituted with non-Georgian toponyms during this 10 year period throughout the country the said change cannot obviously be regarded as the event against Abkhazians. The attitude of separatists has become openly anti-Georgian against the toponyms in Abkhazia after I.B.Stalin.

Thirty-five Georgian names changed into non-Georgian and only one toponym "Novi Afon" from Russian was named in Georgian "Akhali Atoni".