

ETYMOLOGY OF THE CHRISTIAN SACRED TERMS IN GEORGIAN  
AND SOME ISSUES OF CORRESPONDENCE IN KARTVELIAN LANGUAGES

There are some etymology of Old-Georgian Christian sacred terms in this article, the construction of the root and particular questions of correspondences of pre-Kartvelian period.

1. The Christian sacred terms as *shetseva*, *shetsevna* which mean, to show mercy, patronize, to help. – the word forms should have derived from the Old-Georgian *tseva*, *tsevna* to assist, to help. For the last forms *\*ts-* root is the strong point, which provides derivations for quite a number of terms in old Georgian not only in the Christian meanings. For example: *aghtseva*, *gamotseva*, *gantseva*, *datseva*, *zeda – mitsevna*, *mitsevna*, *motsevna*, ... *mtse*, *shemtse*, *tanashemtse*, *shemtseoba*, ... *mtsevari*, *natsevari*, *tsevr.*, in new Georgian there are words: *amtse*, *mightseva*, *motseva*, *daghtseva*.

Georgian roots *Ts-ev-n-* (*ts-ev-n-a*, *sh-ts-ev-n-a...*) in Zan (Megrelian) correspond to: *ch-a-n-* (*ch-a-n-af-a*, *ch-a-n-a* 'to invite, to call) and (Tchanian) *ch-a-n-* (*ch-a-n-d-a*, *o-ch-a-n-d-u* „id”).

Archetype on the level of Georgian-Zanian proto-language in our opinion would be *\*ts-* root and *\*ts-ev-n-* stem.

2. For the Christian sacred terms *tsirva* 'liturgy, mesa, and *Setsirva* 'to sacrifice' give stem *tsir-*, from our point of view it creates various terms: *mtsiri* 'stranger, comer, *gantsirva*, *tavgantsirva*, *shesatsiri* and so on. *mtsiri* and *mtsirveli* (the words with different semantics) correspond to the common archetype. The stem under analyses in Zan (Megerelian) has corresponding stems *chir-/nchir*: *chir-in-af-a*, *me-chir-in-af-a*, *me-nchir-in-af-a* 'to give, to reach", which can be restored on the bases of *\*tsir-* archetype.