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GEORGIAN FAMILY-NAMES AS A SOURCE FOR THE STUDY OF NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS UNITY (ACCORDING TO THE BAGHDADI MATERIALS)

In the east Georgia mountainous population, as different from the plain areas, because of the discrepancy in the socio-political development levels Christianity was rather a formal religion merging pre-Christian beliefs into the Christian. The degree of syncretism was reflected on the socio-economic level of the development of particular region. In this respect in the west Georgian we can tell the differences between the population inhabiting high mountains, those who dwelt at the foot of the mountains and those who resided in the plain areas.

The number of pre-Christian edifices in "The Baghdadi Country" is smaller than cultic architecture. Later people of one and the same family names see themselves as serfs to their own churches each dedicated to a particular saint.

They performed ritual rites according to the demand of the Christian religion. At the same time they had the cultic shrines dedicated to the saints to whom the particular group of peoples, united by family-names, worshipped and who saw themselves as serfs to the saint to whom they belonged to before migration to Baghdadi.