

MAIA MIKAUTADZE, TARIEL PUTKARADZE

IMNIETI MICROTOPOGRAPHY, SHAVSHETI

Villages of Diobani, Beledie region (Republic of Turkey) hosted student and scholar scientific expedition Kartvelian Dialectology Institute from Georgia in August 4-11, 2006. The content and the format of this expedition is a significant fact as it reflects active mutually beneficial and friendly relationship between Turkey and Georgia.

Presently all the Georgian villages in Imerkhevi are officially renamed. The last period of the place name changes ended in 1980, after the military coup, however, Georgians, assimilated Georgians and even Turkish population in everyday usage refer to these place-names with old, Georgian names. It should be also noted that the majority of micro-toponyms of these villages still remains of Georgian origin. As different from other villages Imnieti is not a Turkish name. Imnieti belongs to Ipkhrevli, Taşköprü. As a rule, neither Turkish documents nor Georgian scholars regard Imnieti as a separate village. Sh. Putkaradze and N. Tsetskhladze refer to it as an area of Ipkhrevli. Imnieti and Ipkhrevli are divided with a small river between them. According to the local population these are different villages each of which has its own summer qishla, (= pastures). It is noteworthy that N. Marr refers to "Imnadze" as a separate village; according to the popular explanation the name of the village originates from the most widespread family name Imnadze, living in this place. Imnieti means the village of Imnadze(s). Cf.: meheles (districts) of Imnieti; Churkveseti [origin of population from Shavsheti], Ipshrienti, Ushareti, Iaghjienti, Japareti, Bojaanti (the same Navanebi)...

The history of records of Ipkhrevli-Imnieti place-names looks as follows: N. Marr registered 5 place-names in Ipkhrevli (where Imnieti is implied). Sh. Putkaradze recorded 96 and N. Tsetskhladze 92 place-names; in the same populated district we recorded 189 place-names.

The difference in the number can be explained by the following reasons: under the conditions of the official expeditions we had the possibility to record micro-toponyms during the whole day and then check the correctness of the records. While other researchers worked informally with very little time. The materials collected by Sh. Putkaradze, and N. Tsetskhladze are of great importance, as modern scholars and the future generation researchers have possibility to compare newly recorded materials to the old ones, and determine the formal and semantic changes of place-names with precise methods.

Our informers were Husein Cheliki (Sagharadze) 27 years old, Enver Atalai (Sagharadze), 75 year old, Husein Gumishi; Ismet Mosidze (43 years old) Isup Mosidze, father of Ismet Mosidze (80 years old); Ismet Tashtani; Niaz Torun 9 Kopiturashvili), 64 years old; Murad Mosidze (Tashtani);

At the final stage of the preparation of the article the information was checked with Shota (Dindar) Japaradze, who comes from Imerkhevi and presently is in Tbilisi.

Place-names are presented according to the Geographic principles: Village microtoponyms sequence is observed and wherever microtoponyms are found with the other author, we mention his name, and in the square brackets we add the comments of the interviewees.