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HISTORICO-SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF THE WORD *KETSI*

The word "ketsi" is distinguished itself with the variety of semantic transformation in different chronological period and different subsystems. These meanings are: "clay, baked clay vessels, tile".

The meaning of the objects made of clay is the secondary for "ketsi". Originally it denoted the raw material used in ceramic manufacture. Frequent usage of "ketsi" with the meaning of "tikha" (=clay) in the Book of Genesis confirms the fact. The word "ketsi" with the meaning of "tikha" was in use up to the 11th – 13th centuries. Since then we find the meaning of a clay vessel attached to the meaning.

However, "ketsi" with the old meaning "tikha" (=clay) as a raw material appears in 17th – 18th century texts, but this occurrence can be explained by literary tradition rather than its actual usage in the live speech.