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GEORGIAN LITERARY LANGUAGE AND CULTURE AS THE COMMON CREATIVE PRODUCT OF ALL THE ETHNOGRAPHIC PART OF GEORGIA

Georgian literary language and literacy has been created by the common efforts of all the dialects and sub-dialects functioning in Georgia. Among other regions of the country Megrelia, Svaneti and Abkhazeti brought considerable contributions to its formation. The sense of unity among the Georgian tribes can be traced back in XV-XIV cc. B.C. with the formation of the kingdom of Colchis, an ancient Georgian kingdom.

The proclamation of Megrelian and Svan vernacular of the Georgian language as separate languages and declaring Megrels and Svans as people of ethnic and language minorities will tear these ethnic groups off from the Georgian literacy and culture that has always been created by the active participation of these very groups. The propensity of some Georgian and overseas linguists to declare Megrelian and Svan vernaculars as individual languages is in fact the effort for the further disintegration of the country. In their attempts they seem to deprive the rights from Megrels and Svans to take pride in the language and culture they have been creating for centuries. They neglect the huge contribution of these ethnic groups for the creation of the Georgian statehood, Georgian literary language, and the Georgian culture in general.