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ON THE ORIGIN OF THE SVANETI PRINCIPALITY (BASED ON THE FAMILY CHRONICLES OF THE KSANI PRINCES (*ERISTAVIS*) AND THE MATERIALS COLLECTED BY EKVTIME TAQAISHVILI IN *SADADESHKELIANO SVANETI*)

Archaeological expedition carried out in Lechkhumi and Svaneti in 1910 by supervision of Ekvtime Taqaishvili discovered materials in the village of Kurashi about the Dadeshkeliani feudal family church and cemetery in the Enguri valley Svaneti as well as the documents drawn in 14th-15th century all of which confirm the ideas expressed in my earlier papers that minor principality of Svaneti (*Sadadeshkeliano*) emerged by the efforts of Dadeshkeliani feudal family on the political soil of the crumbling Georgian state by way of usurping the power from the strengthened Church community governance and by overcoming the long fought resistance of other feudal families in the close of 17th and the beginning of 18th century.