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STORIES OF ORAL TRADITIONS ABOUT THE FAMILY NAMES OF RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGES OF CHKARI AND AKHALI TERJOLA (Terjola region)

Tales of oral traditions abound in every locality of the Georgian provinces that represent one of the treasures of its people. Terjola region is distinguished with multitudes of folklore materials. Even to these days one can find villagers whose memories retain narrations of various genres of the oral traditions, among them are the stories about the local family names.

The paper discusses stories of oral traditions concerning to the family names of two villages Chkhari and Akhali Terjola. These names are: Abzhandadze, Abuladze, Butskhrikidze, Verulashvili, Nishnianidze, Robakidze, and Qipiani.

The collation of the ethnographic materials, written records and specialist literature confirms that the oral traditions and legends about the origin of these family names in many cases can serve to verify the real facts of the past. These oral stories give clear accounts of the historical and ethnographic reflection of the communities inhabiting the area, the reasons of the internal migrations, facts featuring social and political life. All these data whet interests of many faceted studies of the question in folklore and historiography.