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TSOVA-TUSHS

Tsova-Tushs are one of the ethnographic groups of Georgians. They are speaking as well as tsova-tushian and Georgian. There are several views in the scientific literature on the problem of the origins of Tsova-Tushs. According to one view they have been migrated from the North Caucasus – Ingushetia. There is another idea, that Tsova-Tushs are aborigines population and the Georgian lingual Tushs are here the migrants. According to our data nowadays there are existing only 86 Tsova-Tushian surnames, which are united into eight Kinship groups. Among these eight groups seven are of Georgian origins and only one is of Ingushian origin.

Two-three generation of seven Georgian sleepers moved to Ingushetia with their families lived in Jairakh gorge (place Vab). There the Ingushian language became their colloquial language, while they have marital relations with the native Ingushs. To these seven Georgian Kinships later was added one Ingushian Kinship group and they moved to Tushetia. After the settling in Tushetia to these groups were also added the migrants from Pshavi, Skevsureti etc. There were also hired shepherds entered in related to Tsova-Tushs, who stayed together with them after earning some account of sheep. The migration of several surnames from the different parts of Georgia is proved also by the data of cameral census of population in the XIXth century.