

**IGOR KEKELIA, SOPHIKO GATSERELIA,
KHATUNA DZIRIA**

ON THE MEANING OF *TANJ*-STEM PLACE-NAMES

Satanjo is the name of mountain in Samurzakano. Five villages of Gali district are located around the mountain. The etymology of *Satanjo* was discussed several times by specialists (I.Kipshidze, T.Beradze, K.Samushia, J.Rogava, A.Tughushi, Z.Chumburidze, P.Tskhadaia, V.Jojua, M.Nachkhebia...)

Lexeme *tanj* has acquired certain meanings. The name of the mountain can be related semantically to the circum-cutting of a tree bark for withering purpose or for removing its bark.

To confine their own estate or private wood or to orientate through the rough wood the locals cut marks on the tree with an axe or knife or some other tools.

In this view we find interesting a micro-toponym "mtavrobash ja//natanja ja" (a tree of government, marked tree), in the village of Khantska of Chkhorotsku district.