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LIPĀNALI (ლიფანალი)

Special respect towards the deceased represents one of the most important traditions of the Georgians. In Svaneti the holiday of ლიფანალი is celebrated on January 15 which, according to narrators, means “remembrance of souls”, “giving them their share”.

The word concerned is not indicated either in the *Etymological Dictionary of the Kartvelian Languages* by H. Fähnrich and Z. Sarjveladze or in M. Chukhua's *The Comparative Vocabulary of the Kartvelian Languages*.

We believe, the word concerned must be related to “taking something, picking up” rather than “share”.

ლი-ფან-ე food/drink for the deceased, prepared by the family; დე-ს-ფან-ე/ე-ს-ფან-ე — help yourself, take!; ჯე-ს-ფან-დ — gather from! / ლი-ფან-დ-ი — to gather from; შ-ფან-ე — a person who prepares and hosts/sets table for dinner/feast for the deceased; ხო-ფან-ე the process of hosing/setting table for dinner/feast for the deceased; In Upper Svan(ian) the meaning of აიჷ (take!), აჷრიპე (pick up!) is expressed by Jaxik.