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ONE LITERARY PARADIGM OF THE LEXEME 'BOAT'

Cultural life of ethnic groups living on the coastline logically implies the existence of the maritime vocabulary in linguistic discourse. According to Georgian and foreign historical sources, the activities of Kartvelian tribes since ancient times meant the development of navigation. That is demonstrated by the thesaurus of Georgian language which covers a very wide range of semantic materials.

The lexeme 'boat' in the dictionary by Sulkhani-Saba Orbeliani is polysemantically defined. It was the term generalizing all maritime means known by that time. The same meaning is found in 'The Knight in the Panther's Skin'. Lexemes are found in several places and are used as the term with its modern meaning as well as the word denoting a passenger, a cargo (trade) and a warship. However, only three concepts are attested in the poem, 'a boat', 'a ship' and 'a warship'. The definition provided by Saba is identical to Rustavelian understanding of the terms.