

## MAIA MIKAUTADZE

### CHANGES IN IMERKHEVIAN OCCURRED DURING THE CENTURY- II ACCORDING TO DATA BY N. MARR AND THOSE OF MODERN TEXTS

*For almost 80 years Niko Marr's Journal of a Tour of Shavsheti and Klarjeti* has been the only reliable source for the study of folklore, ethnography and speech of the historical *Shavsheti* and *Klarjeti*.

Following the publication of *N. Marr's Journal* many things have changed in Imerkhevi, some have disappeared, others - have been forgotten.

Modern Imerkhebian speech has been recorded and studied by various researchers. During 2006-2012, extensive materials were obtained within the framework of expeditions organized in Tao and Imerkhevi by the Research Institute of Kartvelian Dialectology affiliated to Akaki Tsereteli State University. The analysis of the very materials has revealed an interesting picture in terms of the comparison between the modern and century-old Imerkhebian speech data.

The proposed article discusses the ongoing processes in the morphology of the Imerkhebian, namely, noun declension and functions.

Naturally, researchers have delivered a more detailed analysis of the Imerkhebian materials; as for the present article, it only deals with the data obtained as a result of comparison with the materials recorded in *N. Marr's texts*.