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FROM TOPONYMS OF KUTAISI: BUĞISUBANI/BAĞISUBANI/ VAĞISUBANI (ETYMOLOGICAL ANALYSIS)

Vağisubani is one of the districts of Kutaisi. Its various alternative variants are indicated in historical documents dated back to different centuries: *buğisubani*, *bağisubani*, *vağisubani*. M. Alavidze who first dealt with the etymology of this toponym provided several points of view. According to the researcher, *buğisubani* must be the older form denoting the place where a bugle (trumpet) was played. M. Alavidze also makes an assumption that *baği* which is the first elements of *bağisubani* may originate from “batği” (a baby goat).

We believe, the basic form of the proposed toponym must be *buğisubani*, however, *buği* must be denoting “a beehive, bees” rather than “a bugle”. Thus, a place with lots of bee-hives and bees was called *buğisubani*.

Elders residing in the district concerned confirm that hundred-year-old bee-trees with lots of bees indeed existed there. *bağisubani*, *vağisubani* must have originate from the form *buğisubani* due to phonetic changes.