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SURNAMES IN DIKHASHKHO–ISRITI (ACCORDING TO ETHNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS)

Based on the analysis of historical documents and extant legends concerning the surnames the paper is dealing with the results of ethnohistorical and linguistic research on the surnames spread in the villages of Vani region – Dikhashkho and Isriti such as Chjavadze, Kapatadze, Tabatadze, Eremeishvili, Gogorishvili, Mamasakhlisi, Kavtaradze, Jincharadze, Verulashvili, Saghrishvili, Supatashvili, Shalamberidze, Gabunia, and Tutashvili.

The study and comparison of historical-ethnographic data confirms the following reasons for migration of indigenous surnames of the said villages at different times: economic and social factors, class conflict, natural-geographic conditions and pursuit of better places to live. A religious factor is identified among migration reasons. In order to maintain the Christian faith the population migrated from the historical Meskheta to Vani. The anthroponyms (GogorishvilebisUbani (the district of the Gogorishvilis), KavtaradzebisUbani (the district of the Kavtaradzes), cemetery of the Jincharadzes, etc.) of Dikhashkho and Isriti again attest that the population of Georgia used to choose their places of settlement according to their surnames.

Second hereditary surnames, adopted for different branches of the same surname, are frequent.

We can conclude that not only the surnames of Dikhashkho and Isriti but also those of the entire Vani are common Georgian in terms of history, ethnography and language.