

ON KARTVELIAN ETYMOLOGICAL MATERIAL I X

1. N. Marr and I. Kipshidze paid due attention to **-ჩ// -kis** postposition in Megrelian-Laz speech. K. Lomtadze and T. Gudava related it to the similar Abkhazian element.

2. **-ჩ// -kis** of Megrelian-Laz is considered to be a functional equivalent of the literary **-მდე** postposition. However, even without it the Adverbial (Ablative) case already expresses the final destination of the action: წყარშა ქიმერთუ (“went to the water // went as far as the water”); წყარშახ ქიმერთუ („went as far as the water”). The only difference is that წყარშახ form does not have a connotation of going to the water.

3. The analysis of verbal affixes (ღინოხ, უიღოხ; ჰაქშახ, სოშახ) and other materials reveals that **-ჩ// -kis** postposition has also another meaning of “more, still(more)” and it must originate as a result of depletion of the word ხოლო (კიდევ (still more), მეტად (more), -ც (too), similar to the ზე (on), ში (in) postpositions. The connotation - (კიდევ (still more), მეტად (more) – of the ხოლო particle-verbal affix is also attested in ancient Georgian texts.