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ON THE USE OF DATIVE CASE IN THE SPEECH OF THE GEORGIAN JEWS

The proposed article is dealing with the specificities of use of the dative case in the speech of the Georgian Jews. Our research is based on both published and unpublished materials. The examination of the above-mentioned materials has revealed the lack of *homogeneity*, namely, the folkloric texts recorded by Rosa Tavdidishvili in Kutaisi during 1937-1938 and the materials of the 1982 expedition carried out under the supervision of Giorgi Japaridze of the Department of Folklore Studies (Tbilisi State University) have revealed that the speech of Kutaisi and Oni Jews mainly features the disappearance of the dative case marker *-s* in *consonant-stem* nouns, while in *vowel-stem* nouns the very case marker is preserved.

In certain cases, the dative case marker does not occur in *vowel-stem* nouns in the aforementioned materials. The texts recorded by the *Institute of Kartvelian Dialectology of Akaki Tsereteli State University* in 2005 are of particular interest. These texts witness that, except for rare cases, the dative case morpheme is preserved in *consonant-stem* nouns.

The comparison of old and new data reveals that the dative case forms both with and without case marker are simultaneously attested in the speech of the Georgian Jews. However, the recent materials show that *consonant-stem* nouns tend to apply the dative case suffix *-s* which, apparently, demonstrates the influence of the Georgian literary language.