

**MAIA KUKCHISHVILI**  
STRUCTURAL AND SEMANTIC SPECIFICITIES OF  
NICKNAMES AND *NICKNAME-TYPE SURNAMES*  
IN SAMTSKHE-JAVAKHETIAN DIALECT  
(ACCORDING TO THE DATA OBTAINED IN THE VILLAGE KHIZABAVRA  
OF ASPINDZA MUNICIPALITY)

The *Great Book of Vilayet of Gurjistan*, the document dated back to 1595 provides extensively rich materials for the study of the history of Georgian names and surnames. The present article discusses a dynamic development, historical process and current form of the names and surnames spread throughout Samtskhe-Javakheti (specifically, village *Khizabavra*) in the course of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Detailed description is given for the forms and formative suffixes of the surnames, *nickname-type surnames*, lineage and kin spread in the *Khizabavra* village.

The ancient anthroponyms are divided into three groups of names: primary (root-based), generated and composed. Semantics and structural features of anthroponyms reflect their specificities.

The Meskhetian idiom replaces the *-shvili* part of the surnames with words ending with suffixes *-at* and *-et*, used as endings attested in the *nickname-type surnames*. As observed, *-ti* ending represents a basic type of surnames in the 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century *Shavshet-Klarjeti*. The *-ti* ending functions as a surname formant. Similar to the *-shvili* and *-dze* endings, *-tiis* added to the already formed derivativestems.

The formation and onymization of the Meskhetian surnames, *nickname-type surnames* as well as nicknames, in its entirety, belong to the Georgian anthroponymic structure.