

# MERAB NACHKEBIA

## GEORGIANS FROM PLASTUNKA (HISTORY AND CONTEMPORANEITY)

The Caucasian War ended in 1864 followed by Muhajirism, i.e. a forced deportation of the native population into the Ottoman Empire. As a result of this mass deportation, a vast territory along the Black Sea coast from Bzyb to Novorossiysk became depopulated.

To assimilate this region, the Government of the Tsarist Russia decided to displace the population of the Caucasus and Western Georgia.

Thus, approximately 150 years ago in the valley of the Sochi River, at about five kilometers away from Sochi a Georgian village Plastunka emerged which at present is situated in Russia and is a constituent part of Adler region, the Sochi administrative district of Krasnodar Krai.

The news about the deportation of the Georgian population to Sochi was published in the "Droeba" newspaper in 1875. The migration process further continued in the subsequent period. Settlement areas of the Georgians were in the vicinity of Sochi (i.e. Sochi, Plastunka, Mamaika, and Novaya Zaria).

Who are the Sochi (Plastunka) Georgians? Since when have they lived there and what made them immigrate to the Black Sea coast? To what extent is their native language preserved? What is the present situation? What are their current perspectives in the globalization process? The present article attempts to answer all of these questions.