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**LINGUISTIC BASIS FOR DIALECT DIFFERENTIATION IN
SAMKHRULI SPEECH
(IDENTIFICATION OF THE ISSUE)**

In recent years the Georgian linguistics has faced the issue of separation of Taoan, Klarjian and Shavshian dialects among Southern ones. Each of the dialects reveals phonetic, grammatical and lexical specificities which serve as a basis for differentiation. The proposed article provides a detailed analysis of the issue stating that apart from the common features of the Samkhruli dialects, the Klarjian, Shavshian and Taoan dialects have a number of specificities that provide a linguistic basis for identifying them as separate dialects.