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**CHANGES IN EGRISI-ABKHAZIA CHURCH
OF THE 9TH-10TH CENTURIES AND
IN THE PROCESS OF GEORGIA'S POLITICAL INTEGRATION**

Given the observation and subsequent analysis of written sources as well as scholarly literature, the proposed article reveals the changes that occurred in the Egrisi-Abkhazian Church during the 9th-10th centuries which includes the establishment of "the Catholicate of Abkhazia, gaining freedom by the Egrisi-Abkhazian Church from allegiance from the Patriarchate of Constantinople, efforts aimed at international recognition of "the Catholicate of Abkhazia", dissolution of the so-called "old" episcopates while establishing new ones, and assigning the Egrisi-Abkhazian Church a subordinated position towards the Catholicate of Mtskheta, etc. The article demonstrates the positive outcomes of the unified Georgian Church in terms of its efforts towards empowering national consciousness and political integration of the country.