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CERTAIN SPECIFICITIES OF IDIOM ACROSS DEVSKELI GORGE

As is generally known, significant parts of Southern Georgia have been lost due to the vicissitudes of history. Devskeli Gorge is one of them. The idiom of the gorge is interesting due to many reasons.

The paper focuses on some of the apparent morpho-syntactic features, namely, case form changes, instances of use of personal markers, stem marker changes, and specificities of screeve forms.

The Devskeli Gorge idiom has a specific syntactic construction expressed by the use of a syntactical subject in the ergative case with the first series verb forms.

The Devskeli Gorge idiom is interesting also in terms of lexicology. Both archaic and new lexical items are attested. Words and expressions specifically typical to the Gorge are also applied.

A thorough study of the Devskeli Gorge idiom will facilitate the definition of one of the key issues of the historical dialectology, i.e. the profile of South-Western Georgian idiom.