

KESO GEJUA
MEGRELIAN-LAZ VOCABULARY
ACCORDING TO NOVELS BY KONSTANTINE GAMSAKHURDIA
(THE SMILE OF DIONYSUS)

Konstantine Gamsakhurdia provided a clear representation of his attitude towards the world of the Kartvelian languages and stated a national concept that is relevant for the present: “the twentieth century literature should ensure a total synthesis of Ilia’s Kartlian, Akaki’s Imeretian, Vazha’s Pshavian, and Megrelian and Gurian linguistic elements. That would make an ideal literary Georgian”.

The article discusses the Megrelian-Laz dialect forms applied in *The Smile of Dionysus*. The most part of the material is presented in the eight-volume Explanatory Dictionary of the Georgian Language. However, the entry does not indicate the fact that, apart from other regional idioms, a particular lexical item also belongs to Megrelian. It would be reasonable to enrich an updated edition of the Explanatory Dictionary of the Georgian Language by expanding the Megrelian and Laz data, and to specify Megrelian and Laz (Megr., Laz) among other indicated dialects (Gur., Imer., Adjar.).

The following unattested items could be recommended for the inclusion in the Explanatory Dictionary: **tutaši**, **mordu**, **muruzi**, **niga**, **noče**, **maħaria**; the explanation of certain words should be expanded by the meaning attested in Megrelian, for example, **landi** – phantom, ghost; **leḡuri** - unhalated sword; **šana** - engagement jewellery.