

არქაული ლექსიკური ერთეულები  
მერისის ხეობის  
მეტყველების მიხედვით  
ARCHAIC LEXICAL UNITS  
ACCORDING TO COLLOQUIAL SPEECH  
OF MERISI GORGE

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ნიკო ბერძენიშვილის ინსტიტუტი  
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ABSTRACT

Adjara was isolated from the Georgian linguistic environment for three centuries and was influenced by the Turkish language during that time, which had a noticeable impact on the speech of the Adjarian population. Fortunately, the Adjarians have cultivated the Georgian language, ensuring the preservation of lexical units used by our ancestors in their speech to this day.

For our research, we have chosen the colloquial speech of Merisi, one of the gorges located in Zemo Adjara (Upper Adjara). The dialect texts have been gathered in the gorge's villages such as Gundauri, Garetke, Inasharidzebi, Namonastrevi, Silibauri, and Sikhaidzebi. The local speech in the documented texts shows its diversity in terms of phonetic and grammatical processes. The lexical component is also interesting for understanding the linguistic landscape of the gorge.

Archaic Georgian grammatical and lexical forms abound in the speech of the Merisi Gorge. Some words are used with the same connotations, while others have undergone changes in semantics. Additionally, certain words have been identified that are not found in other gorges.

The presented article analyzes the archaic lexical units attested in the Merisi gorge in terms of both form and semantics.

**საკვანძო სიტყვები:** არქაული ქართული ლექსიკა, აჭარული დიალექტი, მერისის ხეობის მეტყველება.

**Keywords:** Archaic Georgian vocabulary, Adjarian dialect, colloquial speech of the Merisi gorge.