

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project number	FR/409/2-141/13
Project Title	Speech, Lifestyle and Culture of the Population of Georgian Origin in Mazandaran Province (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Research subdirection/ subdirections	2-141 Oriental / Asian Studies; 2-153 Ethnology/ Ethnography; 2-120 Linguistics;
Name of the leading organization	Akaki Tsereteli State University
Web	atsu.edu.ge
Name of the co-participating organization	
Web	
Project Budget (Lari)	143970
Project duration (in month)	36

Personnel

	Surname, name (affiliation, position)	Position in the project	Academic degree	Date of birth
1	Paata Japaridze	Principal Investigator	Doctor	1976-08-17
2	Zviadi Tskhvediani	Main Personnel	Doctor	1977-10-27
3	Grigol Beradze	Main Personnel	Doctor	1943-03-05
4	Giorgi Gotsiridze	Main Personnel	Doctor	1946-09-07
5	Tamar Demetrashvili	Main Personnel	Doctor	1976-09-22

Project Summary

The life and culture of descendants of Georgians that settled in Mazandaran province in the 16th-17th centuries has not been actually studied to date.

Implementation of the project seems important due to the following circumstances:

Among Georgian settlements in Iran, the scientists have focused on gathering and studying ethnic and linguistic data related to Georgians relocated to the central Iranian provinces. A lot of important studies have been conducted in this respect. However, the language, life and culture of Georgian Iranians in Mazandaran province actually have not been studied. Therefore, the project will be the first attempt at comprehensive scientific research into the life and culture of the Iranian Georgians living in the province.

Moreover, the study and description of life and culture of Iranian Georgians in Mazandaran is important because in case of project implementation new scientific data on material and spiritual heritage of the Georgians living beyond Georgia's borders (in this case in Mazandaran province, Iran) will become available.

The work to be conducted as part of the project is valuable for Kartvelology and Oriental (Iranian) studies, ethnology, comparative linguistics, interference, folklore studies, historiography, as well as for interdisciplinary and integrated studies.

Research into the language, daily life and culture of Mazandarani Georgians is of vital importance to better understanding of common schemes and models of convergence, as well as isomorphism and divergence at the early stages of ethno-linguistic contacts and under interference.

The prospective findings, if examined in the context of ethnic cultures and historical stages of Western Asian and Eurasian integration, will have great significance for further research into the history of Georgian-Oriental cultural relations and integration.

For the purpose of this study, fieldwork will be conducted in the villages of Mazandaran province: Gorji Mahalleh, Gorji Keili, Gorji Sara, Gorji Qala, Kusane Gorji and Gorji. The collected material will be arranged by geographical areas and type of sources. The goals of the project are: to detect diverse material, which has not been explored so far; study it from the historical, philological and ethnographic perspective; and make the findings freely available to scientific society.

Considering modern globalization and urbanization processes, the timely implementation of the given scientific project is one of the most important tasks and obligations of Georgian science.

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