

Research and Teaching of the Kartvelian Languages at Tbilisi State University – Results and Perspectives

Ramaz Kurdadze

Institute of the Georgian Language, Faculty of Humanities, Tbilisi State University

The given paper is of informative character. It describes the research and teaching of the Kartvelian languages in the first Georgian higher educational institution – Tbilisi State University, established 101 years ago in 1918. One of the chief missions of the first Georgian university was to research and teach Kartvelian languages: Georgian, Megrelian, Laz and Svan. With this aim, as soon as the University was opened, the Chair of the Georgian Language was established. In 1945, this Chair was divided into two parts – The Chair of Old Georgian Language and the Chair of New Georgian Language. Currently, based on these two Chairs, an Institute of the Georgian Language has been founded. It consists of two Chairs: The Chair of Kartvelian Linguistics and the Chair of Old Georgian Language and Textological Research. This institute also includes the Scientific Research Center of Kartvelian Onomastics and the Scientific-Research Center of Old Georgian Manuscripts „Orioni“. The Institute of the Georgian Language of Tbilisi State University publishes a scientific journal „Kartvelian Linguistics“.

The paper briefly outlines the current state and future perspectives of the research and educational activities undertaken by the above-mentioned Institute.