Georgian toponymy of Gurgistan Vilayet

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Historical Georgia is preferable for great multiplicity of toponyms. But nowadays most of them are kept only in literary works. The most part of toponyms are created in different periods of time.

A lot of interesting toponymic researches, which were held in 20th century, make us say, that every parts of Georgia are studied thoroughly. Despite of a lot of work, subject is not studied deeply.

This work is only one specific aspect of historical toponymy. One of the most important source of studying historical Georgian toponymy is "The Map of Gurgistan Vilayet " by A. Aslanikashvili. This research mostly is based on this source and it is trying to analise the distributing of the toponyms which are held on this map.

This map is made according to "The Great Account of Gurgistan Vilayet", and we were interested, how were the Georgian toponyms described in this Great Account.

This research had some stages:

- 1) We composed the general list of toponyms, according to their analyse we established their geographical origin and comparing to their modern names.
- 2) From the studied toponyms we manifested the Georgian ones and established their analogies in modern borders.
- 3) We also established the idiocrasy of spatial distribution of Georgian toponyms in Gurgistan Vilayet.

It follows that in that end in view with the help of Geoinformational system, the el-version of the map of Vilayet is made, with the data-base which consists different information (such as: geographical situation, administrative prepossession and so on.)

Ultimately the goal of this research was to demonstrate the Georgian substrate in general quantity of toponyms. This research showed the important thing , that the most part of toponyms are Georgian, and lots of facts confirm this. Actually there are the toponyms that evidently are Georgian. For example: Mgeltsikhe, Vartsikhe, Ocrotsikhe, also Sakvelakhevi and Tsisqvilkhevi.

At last according to the map and the "Gurgistan Account", the most of toponyms have Georgian origin.