

Historical Overview of the South Caucasus states

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Colchis - Caucasus

- Large mountainous zone,
- Small republics of the huge Soviet Union,
- Conflict countries from headline news.





Early history

- The advanced economy and favorable geographic and natural conditions of the area attracted the Byzantine, Persian, Mongol, Ottoman and Russian empires.
- Ancient countries of Caucasus: Armenia, Iberia, Colchis and Albania.



Culture

The area was home to the well-developed bronze culture known as the Colchian culture.

Golden bracelets, c 5-4 centuries BC.



Religion

Azerbaijan - a nation with a Turkic and majority-Muslim population.



The Armenian Apostolic Church



Georgia – Orthodox Christianity





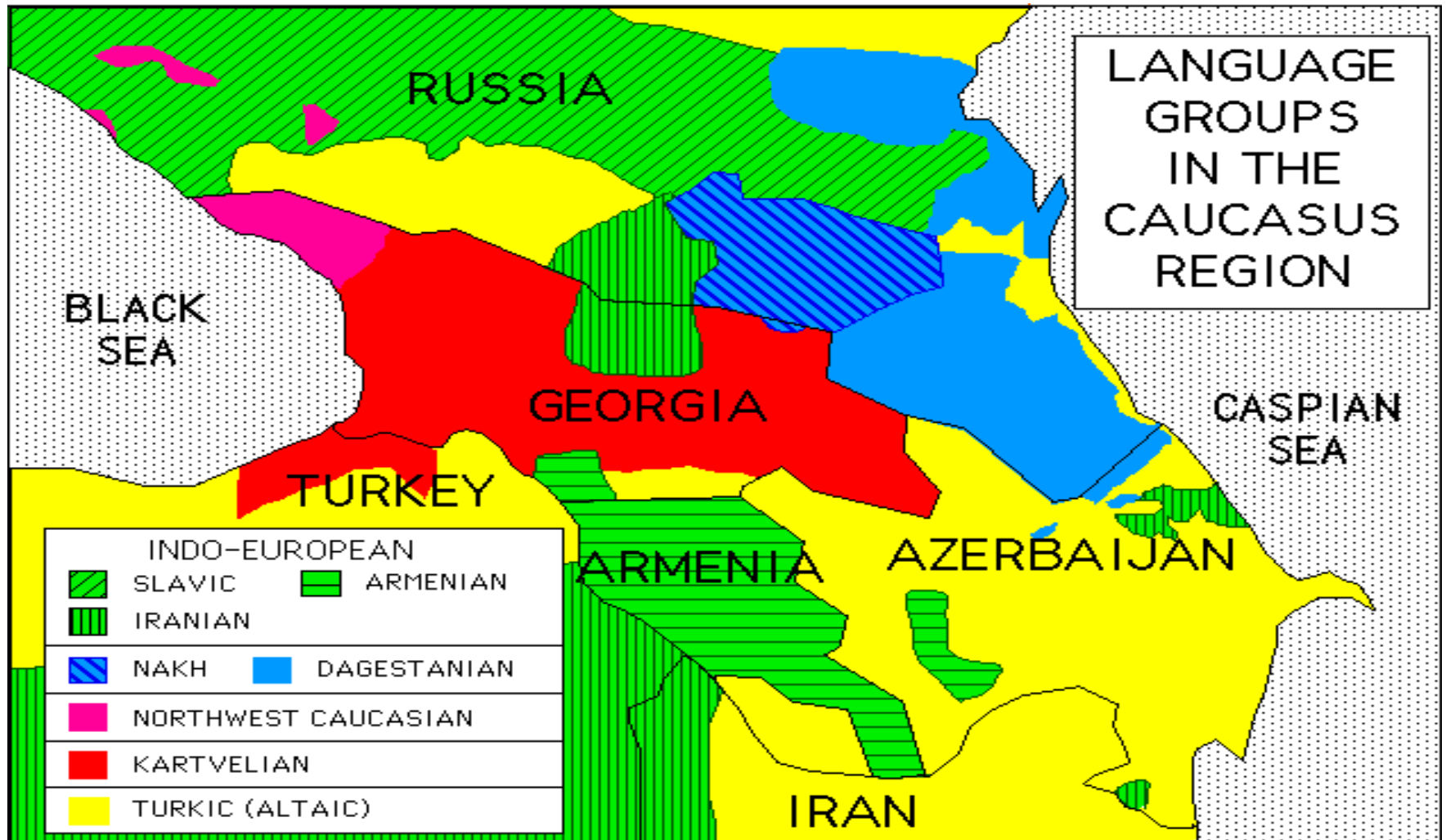
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Ethnolinguistic Groups in the Caucasus Region



Languages



Languages

The Georgian alphabet

ა	ბ	გ	დ
A	B	G	D
ე	ვ	ზ	თ
E	V	Z	E
ი	კ	ლ	
I	K	L	
მ	ნ	ო	პ
M	N	O	P
ჟ	რ	ს	ტ
ZH	R	S	T
უ	ფ	კ	
V	U	P	K
გ	ყ	შ	ჩ
GH	Q	SH	CH
ც	ძ	ც	ჭ
TS	DZ	TS	CH
ხ	ც	ჯ	ჰ
X	Q	J	H
ჟ	ფ	გ	ც
H	F	SH	E

The Armenian alphabet

THE ARMENIAN ALPHABET					
Ա	ա	aip	Ա	մ	men
Բ	բ	pen	Բ	յ	he
Գ	գ	kim	Գ	ն	noo
Դ	դ	tah	Դ	շ	shah
Ե	ե	yech	Ե	չ	vo
Զ	զ	zah	Զ	խ	chah
Է	է	ai	Է	պ	bay
Ը	ը	yet	Ը	զ	chay
Թ	թ	to	Թ	ր	rrah
Պ	փ	zhay	Պ	ւ	say
Ղ	ի	ini	Ղ	վ	vev
Ճ	լ	lune	Ճ	տ	dune
Ծ	խ	kh	Ծ	ր	ray
Կ	ծ	dzah	Կ	ց	tso
Լ	կ	ghen	Լ	լ	hune
Ն	հ	ho	Ն	փ	pure
Շ	ա	tsah	Շ	ֆ	kay
Չ	ղ	ghad	Չ	օ	o
Պ	ն	jay	Պ	ֆ	fay

Changes in the Azerbaijani Alphabet Sequence in the 20th Century

Arabic 7th century - 1929	
English equivalency	Letter
a	ا
b	ب
p	پ
t	ت
s	س
j	ج
ch	چ
h	ه
kh	خ
d	د
z	ذ
r	ر
z	ز
zh	ژ
s	س
sh	ش
s	س
z	ز
t	ت
z	ذ
ae	آ
gh	غ
f	ف
q	ق
k	ک
g	گ
ng	نگ
l	ل
m	م
n	ن
o	و
h	ه
y, i	ی

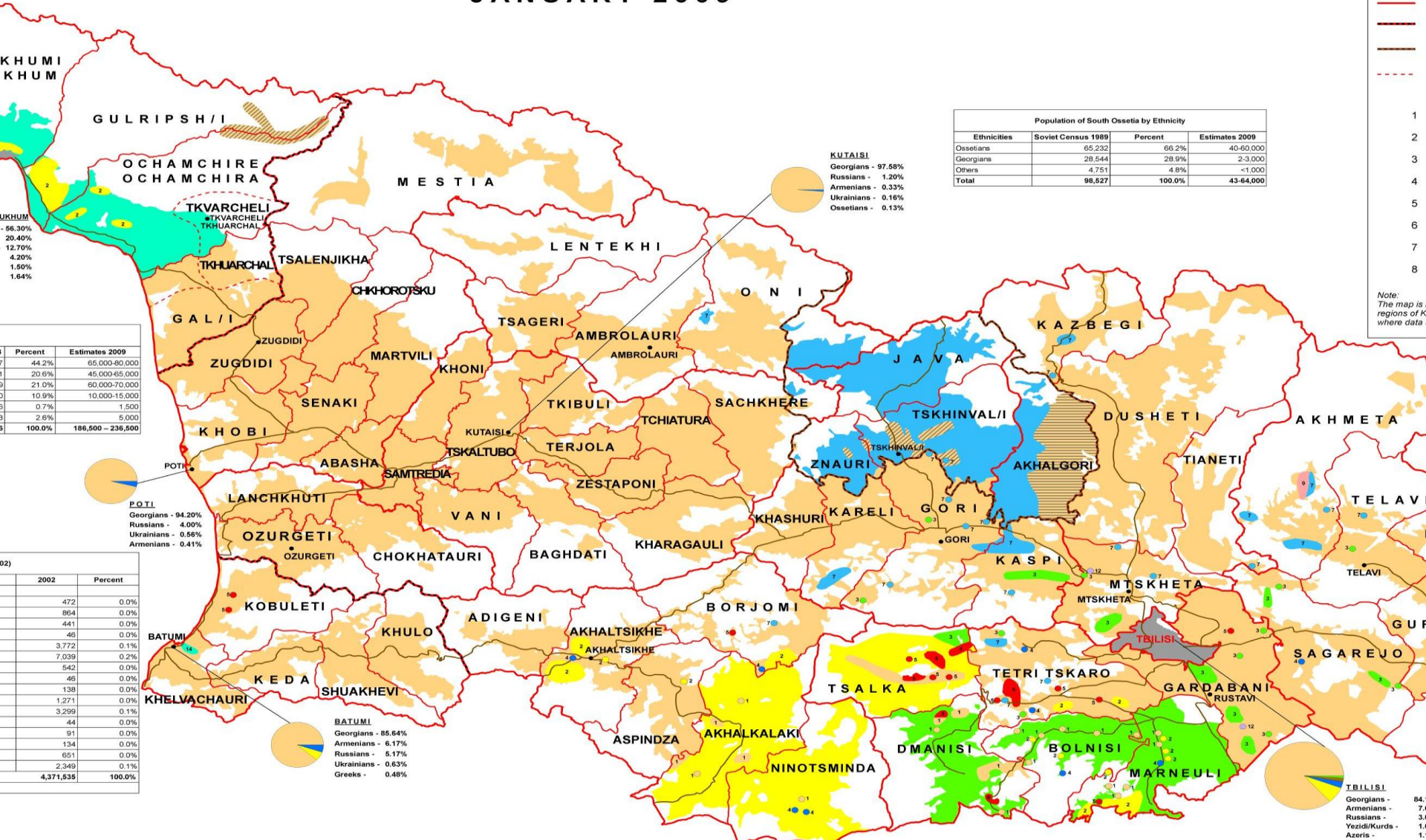
Early Latin 1923 - 1939	
English equivalency	Letter
a	A a
b	B b
ch	C c
j	Ç ç
d	D d
e	E e
ae	Ə ə
f	F f
g	G g
gh	ğ ğ
h	H h
i	I i
i	İ İ
y	J j
k	K k
l	L l
m	M m
n	N n
o	O o
o	Ө ө
p	P p
q	Q q
r	R r
s	S s
sh	Ş ş
t	T t
u	U u
u	Ü ü
v	V v
kh	X x
z	Z z
zh	Z z
apostrophe	'

Cyrillic 1939 - 1991	
English equivalency	Letter
a	А а
b	Б б
v	В в
q	Г г
gh	Ғ ғ
d	Д д
e	Е е
ae	Ə ə
zh	Ж ж
z	З з
i	И и
i	Ы ы
y	Ј ј
k	К к
g	Ҝ ҝ
l	Л л
m	М м
n	Н н
o	О о
o	Ө ө
p	П п
r	Р р
s	С с
t	Т т
u	У у
u	Ү ү
f	Ф ф
kh	Х х
h	Һ һ
ch	Ҷ ҷ
j	Ҹ ҹ
sh	Ш ш
apostrophe	'

New Latin since 1991	
English equivalency	Letter
a	A a
b	B b
j	C c
ch	Ç ç
d	D d
e	E e
ae	Ə ə
f	F f
g	G g
gh	Ğ ğ
h	H h
kh	X x
i	I i
i	İ İ
zh	J j
k	K k
q	Q q
l	L l
m	M m
n	N n
o	O o
o	Ө ө
p	P p
r	R r
s	S s
sh	Ş ş
t	T t
u	U u
u	Ü ü
v	V v
y	Y y
z	Z z
apostrophe	'

ETHNIC MAP OF GEORGIA

JANUARY 2009



Population of South Ossetia by Ethnicity

Ethnicities	Soviet Census 1989	Percent	Estimates 2009
Ossetians	65,232	66.2%	40-60,000
Georgians	28,544	28.9%	2-3,000
Others	4,751	4.8%	<1,000
Total	98,527	100.0%	43-64,000

KUTAISI
 Georgians - 97.58%
 Russians - 1.20%
 Armenians - 0.33%
 Ukrainians - 0.16%
 Ossetians - 0.13%

Percent	Estimates 2009
44.2%	65,000-80,000
20.6%	45,000-65,000
21.0%	60,000-70,000
10.9%	10,000-15,000
0.7%	1,500
2.6%	5,000
100.0%	186,500 - 236,500

2002	Percent
472	0.0%
864	0.0%
441	0.0%
46	0.0%
3,772	0.1%
7,039	0.2%
542	0.0%
46	0.0%
138	0.0%
1,271	0.0%
3,299	0.1%
44	0.0%
91	0.0%
134	0.0%
651	0.0%
2,349	0.1%
4,371,535	100.0%

POTI
 Georgians - 94.20%
 Russians - 4.00%
 Ukrainians - 0.56%
 Armenians - 0.41%

BATUMI
 Georgians - 85.64%
 Armenians - 6.17%
 Russians - 5.17%
 Ukrainians - 0.63%
 Greeks - 0.48%

TBILISI
 GORI
 TELAVI

1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8

Note:
 The map is
 regions of K
 where data

TBILISI
 Georgians - 84.4%
 Armenians - 7.1%
 Russians - 3.0%
 Yazidi/Kurds - 1.1%
 Azeris - 1.1%
 Ossetians - 0.1%
 Roma/Moldovans - 0.2%
 Greeks - 0.2%
 Ukrainians - 0.2%
 Assyrians - 0.2%
 Estonians - 0.2%
 Poles - 0.2%
 Abkhazians - 0.1%

Map 3: Ethnic Settlement Patterns in Armenia and Azerbaijan, 1989



Historical Overview

- The Caucasus is the point where Russia, Iran and Turkey meet. For most of the 19th century, the three powers dueled for dominance of the region.
- Russia – main force which determined the development in the South Caucasus region for more than two centuries.

Russia's interests

- Trade interests,
 - Colonization intentions and
 - Strategic considerations.
-
- Peter the Great - to transform Russia to a great European power.

Historical overview

- In 1801 the Georgian protectorate - Georgia's annexation to Russia.
- Russian attempts to control over the region led to the conquest of a number of Khanates in 1806-1809 and ultimately to the first Russia-Persian war 1812-1813.
- The treaty of Gulistan 1813.
- The treaty of Turkmanchai in 1828.

Persian Territorial Losses after the Gulistan Treaty of 1813 and the Turkmanchai Treaty of 1828



Historical overview

- During the latter part of the 19th century and for most of the Soviet period, the Soviet position in the Caucasus ran along the frontier with Turkey and Persia (later Iran).
- During the Russian revolution 1917 -Transcaucasian Federation was born (the Georgian Mensheviks, the Azerbaijan Musavat party and the Dashnaks).
- The South Caucasus separated from Russia and declare its independence in 1918. In 1918 three democratic republic were declared, Azerbaijan and Georgian and Armenian Democratic Republics.

Historical overview

- By 31.05.1920, Azerbaijan was invaded by Sovietized by Russia's 11th Red Army.
- Four months later, Armenia was invaded by the Kemalist Army of Karabekir Pasa and partitioned between Turkey and Russia.
- The Soviet military campaign against Georgia was launched on February 11th, 1921.
- The region was the part of the Soviet union for 70years.

THE CAUCASUS

