

Historical Overview of the South Caucasus Nahorno-Karabakh

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Colchis - Caucasus

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





Early history

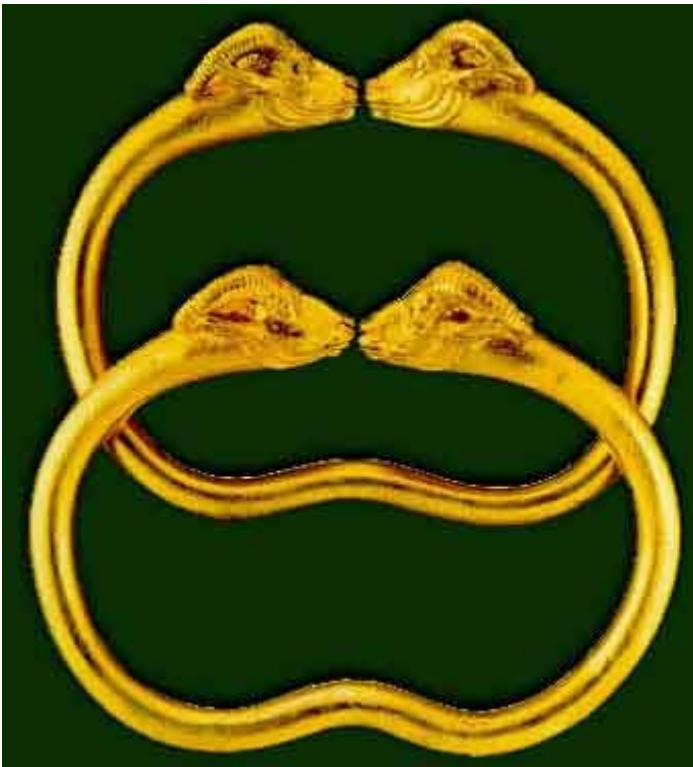
- The advanced economy and favorable geographic and natural conditions of the area attracted the Byzantine, Persian, Mongol, Ottoman and Russian empires.
- Ancient countries of Caucasus: Armenia, Iberia, Colchis and Albania.



Culture

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

Golden bracelets, c 5-4 centuries BC.



Religion

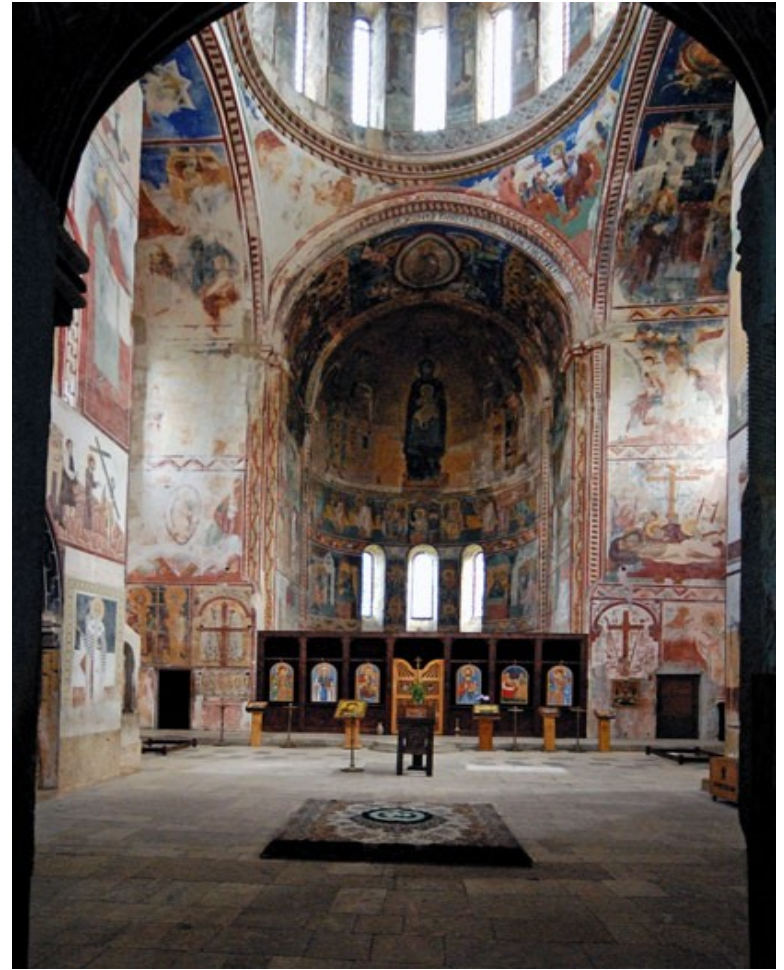
Azerbaijan - a nation with a Turkic and majority-Muslim population.



The Armenian Apostolic Church



Georgia – Orthodox Christianity

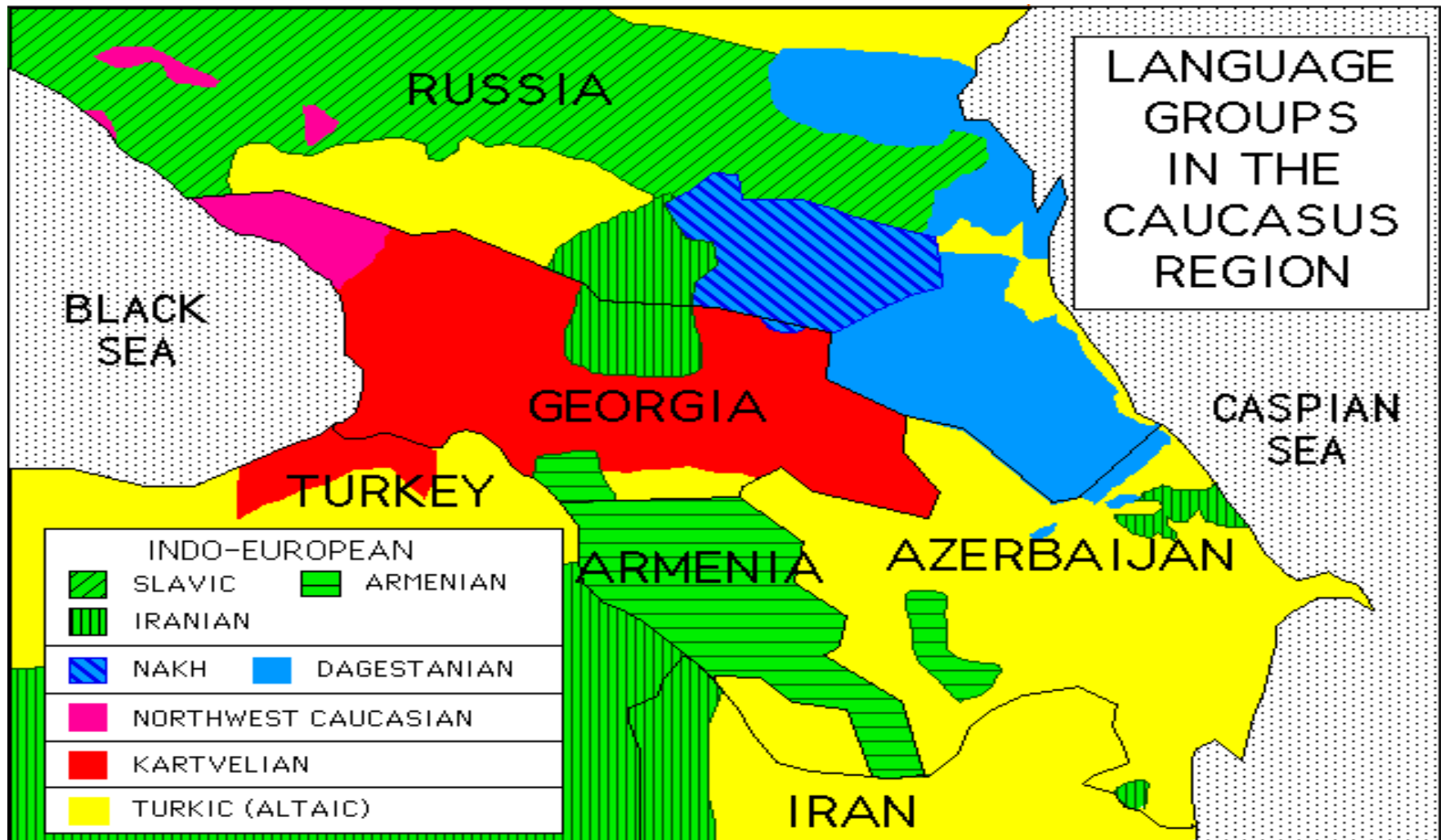


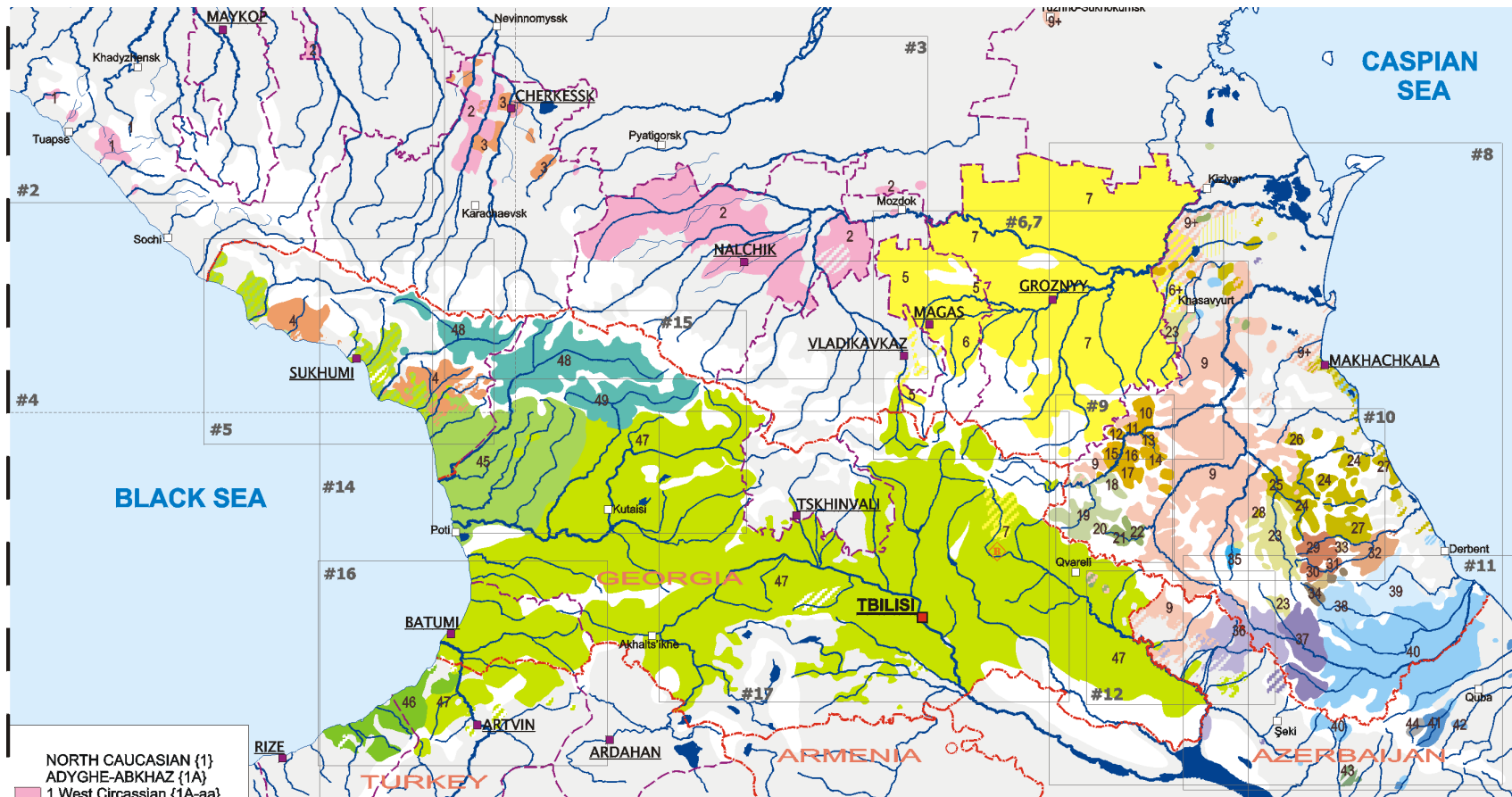


Ethnolinguistic Groups in the Caucasus Region



Languages





NORTH CAUCASIAN {1}
 ADYGHE-ABKHAZ {1A}
 1 West Circassian {1A-aa}
 2 Kabardian {1A-ab}
 3 Abkhaz {1A-ca}
 4 Abaza {1A-cc}

9 Avar {1BB-a}
 10 Andi {1BB-b}
 11 Botlikh {1BB-c}

18 Wider Khvarshi {1BC-a}
 19 Dido {1BC-b}
 20 Hinukh {1BC-c}

26 Kadar {1BE-3}
 27 Muirin {1BE-4}
 28 Mecab {1BE-5}

35 Archi {1BF-3}
 36 Tsakhur {1BF-b}
 37 Rutul {1BF-c}

44 Khinalug {1BG-a}
 KARTVELIAN {2}

CASPIAN SEA

BLACK SEA

TURKEY

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN

GEORGIA

RIZE

BATUMI

ARTVIN

ARDAHAN

TBILISI

TSKHINVALI

VLADIKAVKAZ

MAGAS

GROZNY

NALCHIK

CHERKESK

MAYKOP

MAKHACHKALA

Derbent

Quba

Şeki

Qvareli

Kutaisi

Poti

Sochi

Tuapse

Karadagevsk

Pyatigorsk

Nevinnomyssk

Urumkhan

Mozdok

Kizlyar

Khasavyurt

#8

#2

#4

#5

#14

#16

#17

#15

#6,7

#10

#11

Ganja

KARTVELIAN {2}

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
ღ	ყ	შ	ჩ
GH	Q	SH	CH
ც	ძ	წ	ჭ
TS	DZ	TS	CH
ხ	ჯ	რ	ჰ
X	Q	J	H
ჳ	ჴ	ჵ	ჶ
H	F	SH	E

The Armenian alphabet

THE ARMENIAN ALPHABET					
Ա	ա	aip	Մ	մ	men
Բ	բ	pen	Յ	յ	he
Գ	գ	kim	Ը	ն	noo
Դ	դ	tah	Չ	չ	shah
Ե	ե	yech	Պ	պ	vo
Զ	զ	zah	Ք	ք	chah
Է	է	ai	Պ	պ	bay
Ը	ը	yet	Պ	պ	chay
Թ	թ	to	Պ	պ	rrah
Ժ	ժ	zhay	Պ	պ	say
Ի	ի	ini	Պ	պ	vev
Լ	լ	lune	Պ	պ	dune
Խ	խ	kh	Պ	պ	ray
Ծ	ծ	dzah	Պ	պ	tso
Կ	կ	ghen	Պ	պ	hune
Հ	հ	ho	Պ	պ	pure
Ն	ն	tsah	Պ	պ	kay
Շ	շ	ghad	Պ	պ	o
Չ	չ	jay	Պ	պ	fay

Changes in the Azerbaijani Alphabet Sequence in the 20th Century

Arabic 7th century - 1929

English equivalency	Letter
a ^{-ant}	ا
b	ب
p	پ
t	ت
s	س
j	ج
ch	چ
h	ه
kh ^{-Scottish Gaelic}	خ
d	د
z	ذ
r	ر
z	ز
zh ^{-parmesan}	ژ
s	س
sh	ش
s	س
z	ذ
t	ت
z	ذ
ae ^{-cat}	ئ
gh	گ
f	ف
q	ق
k	ک
g	گ
ng ^{-spring}	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	q q
h	H h
i ^{-ice}	I i
i ^{-state}	İ İ
y	J j
k	K k
l	L l
m	M m
n	N n
o ^{-hole}	O o
o ^{-word}	Ө ө
p	P p
q	Q q
r	R r
s	S s
sh	Ş ş
t	T t
u ^{-put}	U u
u ^{-tube}	Y y
v	V v
kh	X x
z	Z z
zh	Ʒ Ʒ
apostrophe	'

Cyrillic 1939 - 1991

English equivalency	Letter
a	А а
b	Б б
v	В в
q	Г г
gh	Г г
d	Д д
e	Е е
ae	Ə ə
zh	Ж ж
z	З з
i ^{-big}	И и
i ^{-small}	Ы ы
y	Ј ј
k	К к
g	К к
l	Л л
m	М м
n	Н н
o ^{-hole}	О о
o ^{-word}	Ө ө
p	П п
r	Р р
s	С с
t	Т т
u ^{-put}	У у
u ^{-tube}	У у
f	Ф ф
kh	Х х
h	Һ һ
ch	Ч ч
j	Ў ў
sh	Ш ш
apostrophe	'

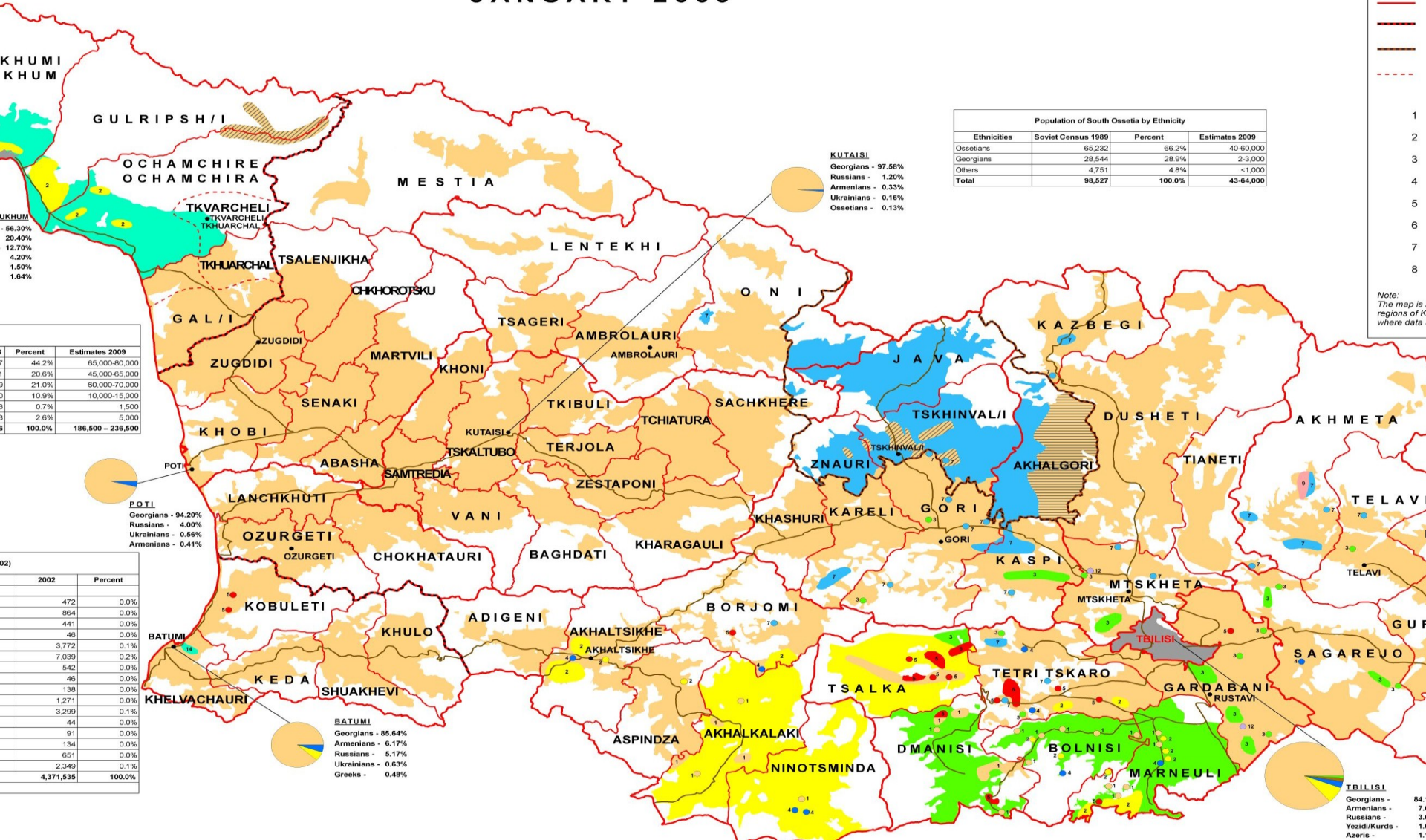
New Latin since 1991

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	G ğ
h	H h
kh	X x
i ^{-state}	İ İ
i ^{-big}	İ İ
zh	J j
k	K k
q	Q q
l	L l
m	M m
n	N n
o ^{-hole}	O o
o ^{-word}	Ö ö
p	P p
r	R r
s	S s
sh	Ş ş
t	T t
u ^{-put}	U u
u ^{-tube}	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.
 Armenians - 7.
 Russians - 3.
 Yezidi/Kurds - 1.
 Azeris - 1.
 Ossetians - 0.
 Roma/Moldovans - 0.
 Greeks - 0.
 Ukrainians - 0.
 Assyrians - 0.
 Estonians - 0.
 Poles - 0.
 Abkhazians - 0.

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



Nagorno-Karabakh



Karabakh - "black garden",
"Nagorno-" is a Russian word meaning "mountain",.

Status: de jure part of the Republic of Azerbaijan, unilaterally declared itself an independent republic in 1991

Capital: Stepanakert.

Area: 4,400 sq km

Main religion:

Christianity **Languages spoken:** Armenian.



AZERBAIJAN

Baku

IRAN



© 1992 MAGELLAN Geographix, Santa Barbara, CA



Why did Stalin give Nagorno-Karabakh to Azerbaijan?



Stalin wanted to pit the ethnic groups in the South Caucasus regions against each other.

„Divide and rule“ principle

Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast was placed within Azerbaijan SSR.

Stalin made concessions to Azerbaijan SSR because of its economic importance, specifically its oil resources.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

- Nationalist demonstrations – transfer Nagorno-Karabakh into Armenia.
- 1988- Nagorno-Karabakh - referendum to unify with Armenia.
- The first cases of mass violence were recorded in Sumgait, February 1988 - 32 dead (26 Armenians and 6 Azeri) during three days 27-29 February.
- The month of November was one of the great refugees flows. According to unofficial sources, around 180'000 Armenians had left Azerbaijan, and 160'000 Azeri had left Armenia by the end of the month.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

- On 12 January 1989 - 'special government administration' in Karabakh - direct control from Moscow.
- Sporadic clashes became frequent by the first months of 1991.
- On 2 September 1991 - independent republic of Nagorno Karabakh.
- During Autumn, Azerbaijani forces moved to counter Nagorno Karabakh's declaration of Independence.
- 1992-1994 full - scale war.

Images of War



Guerillas in Nagorno-Karabakh.



Source: TASS





**Over 1 million
displaced**

1994 Cease-Fire

- The cease-fire has not been successful, as the goals of both sides have not been met:
- Armenia occupies 20% of Azeri territory;
- Azerbaijan demands its right to self-determination, the end of the occupation and the return of Karabakh to Azerbaijan;
- perceives Russia as aiding Orthodox Armenia.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

- The human sufferings included 25 000-30 000 people dead,
- 250 000-350 000 refugees from Azerbaijan in Armenia, and
- 750 000-1 000 000 refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) from Armenia, Karabakh and occupied Azerbaijani territories in Azerbaijan.

Armenian, Azerbaijani Presidents Agree On Preamble To 'Madrid Principles, Sochi 2010.



Sochi 2011



ITAR-TASS / PHOTOLURE

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

The possibility of war remains on the agenda



Azeri military budget from 2004 - 463 million USD to 1 600 million USD in 2010.



Conclusion



No end to conflict in sight

Both sides unwilling to make concessions

“Primordial” claims over territory by both sides

The unsolved problem of what to do with refugees

Continued fighting despite cease-fire

Russia claiming to uphold cease-fire while arming Armenia; U.S. making oil deals with Azerbaijan

Building of oil pipelines likely to upset Armenia