



GEORGIA V. LINGUISTIC CONTACTS WITH IRANIAN LANGUAGES

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Due to many centuries of close contacts between Georgia and Persia, a large number of Iranian loanwords came into the Georgian language. These belonged to various spheres of vocabulary and were borrowed at different periods and from different dialects: from Eastern Iranian Scytho-Alan-Ossetic, and from Western Iranian Median, Parthian and, to an even greater extent, from the Middle Persian of the Sasanian period (3rd-7th cent.) and New Persian. Only a brief survey of these loanwords can be given here, but analysis of the borrowed vocabulary reveals its versatile semantic character: technical terms, basic vocabulary pertaining to all aspects of everyday life, and expressive vocabulary.

Among the loanwords, nouns are most common: e.g., *aug-i* “shame” (from Mid. Pers. *āhōg* “blemish”); *guman-i* “thought, opinion, suspicion, suggestion” (< NPers. *gomān*); *mizd-i* “price, payment, rent” (from Mid. Pers. *mizd* < Av. *mižda-*; NPers. *mozd*). However, there are also adjectives—*sust-i* “weak” (NPers. *sost*); *m-subuk-i* “light” (NPers. *sabok*)—as well as verbal stems: *šen-*



“build” (from Mid. Pers. *šēn, cf. Av. šayana- “home”; šen in Georgian is present like a component in toponyms such as *Axalšen-i*, lit. “New city”); *tr-, *treva* “pull, drag” was introduced from Scythian as early as the Kartvelian period. Most of the loanwords came directly from the original language, but some were transmitted through other languages: thus, via Armenian, the proper name *Bagraṭ* (proper name, Old Pers. *Bagadāta-*); *č’ešmarit-i* “true, real” (Mid. Pers. *čašmdīd*), etc.

Many loanwords became organic parts of the Georgian language and subject to its grammatical rules. Often a compound word is treated as a single stem: *šara* “avenue” (from NPers. *šāh-rāh* “straight and wide road,” lit. “royal road”). As can be expected, loanwords are not subject to the phonetic changes taking place in the original language. For example, Georgian *speṭak-i* (from Mid. Pers. *spēdag* “white, clean”) differs from NPers. *sapīd*, *safīd*.

The following are significant categories of Georgian vocabulary affected by Iranian languages.

Proper names. Borrowed proper names often had a military or heroic connotation: *Arsok/Arsuká* (from OP/Av. *aršan-* “man, male, hero,” is equivalent to the OP/Av. proper name *Aršak*, where *-ok/-uk* is a polysemantic suffix); *Varaš* (from *Walaš*, late form of the Parth. *Walagaš*, cf. Arm. *Walarš* < *wal-* “strength, might”); *Vardan* (from Mid. Pers. *Wardā*; apparently, this name, so popular in the Middle Persian period, is not attested in New Persian); *P’erozh/P’eroz* was introduced into Georgian twice, in its Middle Iranian form (Parth. *Pērōž*, Mid. Pers. *Pērōz*) and in the New Persian form (*Pīrūz*, Arabicized form *Fīrūz*); *Palavand* and the family-name *Palavandišvil-i* (< NPers. *pahlavān*; the introduction of *-d* after *-n-* is characteristic of Georgian, cf. Georgian *durbīd-i dūrbīn*, “telescope”).

Of Iranian theophoric anthroponyms, the following are represented in Georgian: *Bagraṭ*Â (*Old Pers. *Bagadāta-* “created by god, god’s gift,” Mid. Pers. *Bay/gdād*, Av. *Bayō.dāta-*, Parth. *Baydāt*; the Arm. form *Bagraṭ* and the change *d > ḍ > r* testifies that this name came to Georgian via Armenian); *Baaman* (Av. *Vohu Manah*, Parth. *Vahmanak*, Mid. Pers. *Wahman*, NPers. *Bahman*, q.v.; in intervocal position *h* is reduced, cf. Georgian *Mirian*); *Vaxušt-i* (< OIr. *vahišta-* [“paradise,” superlative of *veh* “good,” i.e., “superb, excellent”], Mid. Pers. *wahišt*, NPers. *behešt*); *Trdaṭ* is derived from *Tīr*, the name of an Iranian deity (Parth. *tyrydyt*, Mid. Pers. *Tīrdād* “created by the god Tīr”); *Khudada* (< NPers. *koḍādād*, “given by God”). The Georgian name *Ražden* may be a composite: its



second component, *-dēn*, comes from Mid. Pers. *dēn* “creed, religion,” while the first one is perhaps Ir. *rōž/rōz* “day, light, happiness,” i.e., **Rōždēn*- “happy religion.” The component *rōz* is also present in the Georgian family name Berozashvili (< NPers. *Behrūz* “happy, fortunate”). *Adarazan* or *Adrazan*, is also a compound, where the first element is the noun *ādar* “fire,” and the second is derived from the pres. stem of the NPers. verb *zadan* “beat, strike,” i.e., probably “striking fire.” *Adarnase* (< Mid. Pers. *Ādurnarsēh*; for the second component cf. Av. *nairyō.sanya-* and Mid. Pers. *Narseh*; the latter exists also in Georgian as the name *Nerse*). To this group also belongs the popular name *Xosro*, *Xuasro* (Av. *husravah-*, Mid. Pers. *Husraw*, Arm. *Xosrov*; a compound of *hu-* “good, kind” and *sravah-* “glory, fame”).

Many Iranian names incorporate the names of celestial bodies or words indicative of light, radiance, or good fortune. Some of these can also be found in Georgian: *Roshnia* (< *rōšn*, *rōšan*, cf. Scythian *Rōksanē*, Av. *rauxšna-* “light, glittering,” NPers. *Rowšanak*); *Bevroz* (the first component is derived from OIr. **baivar*, another derivative of which is *bēvar* “ten thousand”; cf. Av. *baēvar-*, Mid. Pers. *bēwar-*, Sc. *Baiormaios* [see Justi, *Namenbuch*, p. 60]); *Navroz*, as in the family-name *Navrozashvili* (< NPers. *nowrūz*, “the first day of the new year” and the proper name *Nowrūz*).

Other personal names derive from stems which denote qualities or characteristics: *Arjevan* and the family name *Arjevanidze* (cf. Av. *arəjanhant-*, *arəjavan-* < Av. *arəjah-* “price, value, worth,” and the suffix *-vant-*; Mid. Pers. *arz*, *arzānīg* “worthy”); *Ramin* (Mid. Pers. *rāmēn* < OPers. *rām-*, Av. *rāman-* “peace, silence”); *Ramaṗan* (< Ir. **rāmaṗāvan-*, with the adjective *-pāvan* “protecting peace, tranquility”); *Dilardukht* (the second component, Mid. Pers. *duxt*, NPers. *doḳt* “daughter,” is often present in women’s names; the first component is probably derived from NPers. *dīlār* or *delārā* “adorning hearts.” The Georgian female name *Nazi* can be found in Iranian languages as a male name (Med. **Nazuka-*, Mid. Pers. *Nāzūk*).

Of Iranian anthroponyms indicating colors, those containing the word “black” are especially popular in Georgia. There are several forms: *Siaush*, *Shioash*, *Shiaosh*, *Shioaosh* (*s* > *sh* in Georgian). Similar names are known in Old-, Middle-, and New Iranian languages. Closest to the Iranian form is the Georgian *Siyaush* (< NPers. *Sīāvakš*); cf. also *Saurmag* (< Scythian *Sawarmag* “black-armed”).

Zoonyms include: *Varaza*, *Varaz*, *Varaz-Baḳur* (cf. Av. *varāza-*, Med.



**Varāzaka-*, Scythian *Oyadzacos*, Oss. *Waraz*, Mid. Pers. *warāz-*, NPers. *gorāz* “wild boar”); *Gorg*, *Gorgaká*, *Gurgen*, *Gorgine* (cf. Old Pers. *vṛka-*, Mid. Pers. *Gurgēn* < OIr. *vṛkaina-*, NPers. *gorg* “wolf”). The term *asp* (horse) occurs in many compounds, but the family name *Aspanidze* is derived directly from the plural *aspān*. Georgian *Tamaz* derives from Av. *Tumāspa-*, patronymic *Tumāspāna-*, Mid. Pers. *Tuxmāspān*, Pāzand *Tahmāspā*, NPers. *Ṭahmāsb*, Arm. *Tahmaz*. Its first component is OPers. *taxma-* “brave.” It is noteworthy that *asp* > *az* does not usually occur in other Georgian names of this type, i.e., *Gorjasp*, *Jamasp*, etc. Obviously, the Georgian *Tamaz* and the Arm. *Tahmaz* derive from the same source. In the case of *Luarsab* (< NPers. *Lohrāsb*, Mid. Pers. *Luhrāsp*). Authors such as Eskandar Beg Monšī did not recognize the derivation of this name from the Persian *Lohrāsp* and transliterated it as *Lūāršāb* (e.g., pp. 206, 271, 818-19, 874-79, etc.) *Jamasp* (Av. *Jāmāspa-*, NPers. *Jāmāsb*; probably “branded horse”) occurs in the family name *Jamaspishvili*. Names containing the element *šer* “lion” include: *Shermazan*, family name *Shermazanashvili* (< NPers. *Šermazan* “lion-killer”); *Shergil*, Arm. *Šergir* “lion-catcher, brave” (< NPers. *širgīr*, where the second component, *gīr-*, is the present stem of the verb *gereftan* “to take, to capture”); *Shervazh*, (the second component, *vazh*, may be derived from the Ir. *vāč/vāž* “voice,” i.e. “having the voice of a lion”); and the family name *Shervashidze* /*Juansher* (< N.Pers. *Jovānæʿr*, where the first component is *jovān* “young”).

Some personal names contain the names of plants and flowers, most often the rose (NPers. *gol*): *Gulamshar*, *Gulashar*, and *Gushar* all derive from NPers. *Golšahr*, where the second component is *šahr* “city,” i.e., “the land of roses”; *Gulchora* (< NPers. *Gol-čehra*, where the second component is *čehra* “face,” i.e., “rose-faced”); *Gulbahar*, where the second component is *bahār* “spring.” (*Golbahār* “spring rose”).

Two somatic anthroponyms are *Sharukh* (NPers. *šāhroḵ* “having a royal face,” i.e. “majestic, beautiful”) and the family name *Varsidze* (from *vars*, Av. *varāsa-*, Mid. Pers. *wars* “hair”).

Ethnonyms as components of anthroponyms: *Eraj* (Mid. Pers. *ĒŪraj*, NPers. *Īraj*); *Erashahr* (< Mid. Pers. *Ērānšahr*, “land of the Aryans”; cf. Arm. *Eranšahik*); *Koiar* (from Mid. Pers. *kōhyār* < *kōfdār* “the lord of the mountain”).

A large number of Persian names came into Georgian from the versions of the *Šāh-nāma*: *Givi* (< *Gēv*); *Goderdz-i* (< *Gōdarz*); *Zurab-i* (< *Sohrāb*); *Ketevan* (< *Katāyūn*); *Zaal* (< *Zāl*; cf. the family name *Zaldastanishvili*), etc.



Iranian anthroponyms are represented in the epic *Vepkhistqaosani* (The knight in the panther skin) by Shota Rustaveli (12th/13th cent.): *Pridon* (Mid. Ir. *Frēdōn*, NPers. *Farīdūn/Fereydūn*, < Av. *raētaona-* < *tritá:* i.e., “of triple strength”); Nestan-Darezhan (NPers. *nīst andar jahān* “unlike any other in the world”), etc.

Religious terminology. Iranian religion has also had an impact on Georgian vocabulary. Borrowings include: *Artošan-i/Atrošan-i* “fire-temple” (< Mid. Pers. *Ādurānšāh*); *Aeshma*, *eshmaḳ-i* “devil” (cf. Av. *aēšma-*; in Mid. Pers., with secondary aspiration, *xē/ēšm* “anger”); *dev-i* “evil spirit” (from Mid. Pers. *dēw*, Old Pers. *daiva-*, Av. *daēva-*); *niš* “miracle, sign” (from Mid. Pers. *nīš* < **niyaš* < *ni-aš* “to look, to watch”; with suff. *ān*; NPers. *nešān* “sign,” Arm. loanword *nšan*; Georgian *nishan-i*); *ṭadzar-i*, *ṭazar-i* “temple” (from Old Pers. *tacara-*, NPers. *tajar*, *tazar* “winter pavilion”; cf. Georgian *ṭadzr-oba-* “feast, bread”); *wnas-i* “sin, misfortune, loss” (< Mid. Pers. *wināh* “sin,” OIr. **vināsa-*, NPers. *gonāh*); *zorva* “sacrificial victim, sacrifice” (from Mid. Pers. *zōhr* “libation, offering” < Av. *zaoθra-* “sacrificial victim, donation, holy water”; from the same stem, *zuarāḳ-i* “animal to be sacrificed,” i.e. calf); *jojokhet-i* “hell” (< Mid. Pers. *dušox* < Av. *daožahva-*; NPers. *dūzak*). *Cheshmarit-i* “true, right, reliable” and *cheshmarit-eba* “truth” derive from Mid. Pers. *čašm-dīd* “visible, obvious”; the change *d > r* proves that this word came to Georgian through Armenian. *Mogv-i*, Old Georgian *mogu* “magus, astrologer” can be traced to Mid. Pers. *mogu*, *mogu-mart* “priest” (< Old Pers. *magu-*; NPers. *moḡ*; Arm. loanword *mog*). The related toponym *mogv-ta* (the suffix *-ta* indicates a general place and is used to form geographic names; i.e., “land inhabited by magi”) may be connected to the corporation, the community of magi (*magūstān*) founded by Kirdēr in conquered lands, among them Georgia/Iberia.

Administrative, social, and military vocabulary. Terms in this category include *aznaur-i* “free,” i. e., a member of a noble family (from Mid. Pers. *āznāvar*; corresponds semantically to Mid. Pers. *āzād*, Av. *āzāta-* “nobility”); *bazh-i* “tax, duty” (from Mid. Pers. *bāž*, Old Pers. *bāji-*, Av. *bāji-* “to give, present”; NPers. *bāj*); *dastāḳ-i* “license, document” (from NPers. *dastak* “account-book”); *dastur-i* “trustworthy person, minister, true” in Old Georgian, “agreement, consent” in New Georgian (cf. NPers. *dastūr* “minister” < Mid. Pers. *dastwar* “religious adviser, judge, member of the Zoroastrian clergy,” cf. Georgian *dastur-xelosan-i* “official, clergyman”); *gumard-i* “viceroy” (from Mid. Pers. *gumārdag* “commissioner, governor,” cf. NPers. *gomārdan*, “to appoint, designate”); *gujar-i* “book, letter, document” (from Mid. Pers. *wizār* “explanation”); *kardag-i*



“estate, allotment” (from Mid. Pers. *kardag* < *kart*, **kert*- “cut,” NPers. *kard*, *kart* “plot of land, estate”); *roartag-i*, *hrovartak-i*, *hroartak-i*, *hroardag-i*, *hroatak-i* “book, letter, royal statute-book” (from Mid. Pers. *frawardag* < \square *var*- “to turn round, roll, change,” i.e., “rolled up,” probably via Arm. *hrovartak* “letter, order, edict; document testifying ownership”); *šegird-i* “apprentice, pupil” (< NPers. *šāgerd*, Mid. Pers. *hašāgird* < OIr. **hašā.kr̥ta*-, Arm. *ašakert*, Mid. Pers. *hawišt* “pupil”); *vachar-i* “merchant, trader” (a loan through Arm. *vač’arakan* “merchant,” *vač’ar* “trade, market” < Mid. Pers. *wāzāragān*, “merchant,” *wāzār* “market,”); *bazar-i* “market” (< NPers. *bāzār* “market”); *vakhsh-i* “money recovered with interest,” *me-vakhsh-e* “usurer, money-lender” (from Mid. Pers. *waxš* “interest on money, increase, sunrise, growing,” Av. *vaxša*-, Arm. *vašx* “usurer”); *zenar-i* “oath, promise” (Mid. Pers. *zēnhār* “guarantee, protection, oath” < **zivan-har*- < **jivana-hara*- “protecting life”; NPers. *zenhār*); *zeṗur-i* “noble” (Mid. Pers. *wispuhr* < *visō.puθra*- “son of the family, of the clan; prince-royal,” cf. Georgian *sa-zeṗur-o* “chosen”); *gund-i* “army, regiment, military unit” (from Mid. Pers. *gund* “army,” NPers. *gond*, Arab. *jond*, Mand. *gundā*, Syr. *guddā* < *gdd*-, Old Hebrew *g’dud* “band, detachment”); *razm-i* “military unit, detachment” (from New and Mid. Pers. *razm*, Av. *rasman*- < \square *raz*-); *sardal-i* “commander, general” (from NPers. *sardār*; *r* > *l* in Georgian); *sṗa* “army” (from Mid. Pers. *spāh*, OIr. *spāda*-, NPers. *sepāh*); *sṗasṗet-i*, *sṗayṗet-i* “commander, general” (from Mid. Pers. *sipāhbed*-, NPers. *sepahbad*); *marzpĀan-i* “district governor” (< Mid. Pers. and NPers. *marzbān*); *oštaṭ-i* “master, expert” (Mid. Pers. *ōstāt-mart*, NPers. *ostād*).

The term *paṭiakhsh-i*, *piṭiakhsh-i* “the second after the king,” the viceroy of the shah of Persia in Iberia (*byty’hs̄*) is witnessed in inscriptions of the 1st to 2nd centuries C. E. In the trilingual inscription of Šāpūr I, the bearer of this title is mentioned after the members of the royal family. The Paikuli inscription shows that towards the end of the 3rd century this office became less important and influential. Georgian sources testify that the bearer of this title held a very high office in the province. The most exact phonetic transmission of this title in Georgian, found in an inscription on a plate from Bori, is *bṭxš*, (*byty’áxš*, cf. Arm. *bdeašx*). In Georgian *b* > *p* due to assimilation with *tĀ*. Consequently, in anlaut *bi*- < *bitīya*- “the second,” Parth. *bitīya*- < Old Pers. *dvitīya*-, i.e. **bitiyaxša* can be traced to the Achaemenian *dvitīyaxšāya*-, Parth. *bidaxš*, where *dv* > *b*; see [BIDAXŠ](#)).

Arms and weapons: *dašna* “short straight dagger” (NPers. *dašna*); *gurz-i* “club, mace” (NPers. *gorz*); *kaman-i* “bow” (NPers. *kamān*); *kamandar-i* “archer”



(NPers. *kamāndār*); *kamand-i* “lasso” (NPers. *kamand*); *xišt* “bayonet” (NPers. *kešt* “spear, dart”); *lula* “gun-barrel” (NPers. *lūla* “tube”); *šimšer-i* “sharp blade” (Mid. Pers. *šamšēr*, NPers. *šamšīr*).

Some Iranian loanwords present in Georgian as military terms are used in civilian life as well: *asparez-i* “arena, hippodrome, square, stadium,” in Old Georgian “distance equal to 195 steps” (from Mid. Pers. *asprēs* “hippodrome” < *asprās*, where the first component is *asp* “horse” and the second *rās* “road, way”); *droša* “banner, flag,” early form *drauž-i* (from Mid. Pers. *drafš*, NPers. *derafš*, Av. *drafša-*); *navard-i* “robbery, running,” Old Georgian “bird’s flight” (from NPers. *navard*, *nabard* “battle, combat,” Mid. Pers. *nibard* “battle, fighting, quarrel”).

Vocabulary of daily life. Many words borrowed from Iranian languages pertain to aspects of everyday life (work and occupations, household items, clothes, various tools, etc.): *ayvan-i* “balcony, porch” (NPers. *ayvān* “hall, portico, balcony, open gallery”); *akhor-i*, Old Georgian “cow-shed,” modern Georgian “stables” (NPers. *ākōr*; Mid. Pers. *āxwarr* “stables”); *bag-i* “garden, orchard” (from NPers. *bāg* “garden”; Pāzand *bag* “part, share,” Av. *bāga-* “God’s share,” cf. Georgian *baghcha* “small garden” < NPers. *bāgča*); *boštān-i*, Old Georgian “garden, orchard,” modern Georgian “kitchen garden” (from NPers. *būstān* “garden”); *cha* “well” (from Mid. Pers. and NPers. *čāh*, Av. *čāt-*); *chadraq-i* “chess” (from Mid. Pers. *čatrang*, Skt. *čatur.aṅga-*, NPers. *šatranj*); *charkh-i* “lathe, wheel” (from NPers. *čark* “circulation, circle, orbit, wheel” < Mid. Pers. *čaxr* < Av. *čaxra-*); *chashniḳ-i* “degustation, tasting,” Old Georgian *č’ašnagir-i* “taster” (NPers. *čāšnī* “taste, tasting”); *čogan-i* “polo-club, racket; small spade” (from NPers. *čowgān* < Mid. Pers. *čōpēkān*, *čōβēgān* < *čōb* “wood, stick”); *dašta* “a number of similar objects; bunch, pack, ensemble, team” (from NPers. *dasta* “group, team, bundle, bunch”); *daštakar-i* “surgeon” (< NPers. *dastkār* “dexterous, expert; a person who works with his hands”); *dazga* “bench, carpenter’s bench, machine” (from NPers. *dastgāh* “apparatus, installation”); *do* “whey” (Mid. Pers. *dō* “refreshing drink made from milk”); *doštakan-i* “large goblet, bowl” (< NPers. *dūst-kāmī* “toast, wine drunk to a friend’s health; large vessel for wine”); *dukard-i* “shears” (from NPers. *dokārd* “scissors, shears” < *do* “two,” and *kārd* “knife”; cf. Georgian *karda*); *durbind-i* “binoculars, field-glasses” (< NPers. *dūrbīn*); *kamar-i* “belt, waist” (from NPers. *kamar* < Mid. Pers. *kamar*, Av. *kamarā-*); *kap-i* “foam” (from NPers. *kaf*, Mid. Pers. *kaf*); *kapkir-i* “skimmer” (NPers. *kafgīr*); *karavan-i* “caravan” (from NPers. *kāravān* < Mid. Pers. *kārvān*); *karkhana* “factory” (NPers. *kār-kāna* “factory, workshop”);



karvasla “station, trading center” (from NPers. *kāravān-sarā* “caravansaray”; the reduction of the vowel and *r > l* are characteristic of Georgian, cf. Georgian *sra* “palace”); *kucha* “street” (from NPers. *kūča* “street, road”); *khali*, *khalicha* “carpet” (NPers. *qālī*, *qālīča*); *kheivan-i* “path, walk” (NPers. *klābān* “avenue, boulevard, walk”); *khoraġ-i* (colloquial) “food” (from NPers. *korāk*, Av. *xvar-*); *khurda* “small cash, change; rubble” (< *kor̄da* “bits, fragments” < Mid. Pers. *xwurdag* “small”); *khvastag-i*, *khoshtag-i* “wealth, cattle” (from Mid. Pers. *xvāstak* “wealth,” NPers. *kvāsta*); *jam-i* “vessel, bowl” (< NPers. *jām* “cup, goblet, bowl,” < Mid. Pers. *jām*, Av. *yama-*); *marag-i* “quantity, stock” (from Mid. Pers. *marak* “number, quantity” < Av. *mar-* “measure”); *nav-i* “ship, boat” (cf. Old Pers. *nāviyā* “navy,” NPers. *nāv* “war-ship, boat”); *panjara* “window” (NPers. *panjara*); *polak-i* “button” (NPers. *pūlak* “scales, spangles, small coin”); *pul-i* “money” (NPers. *pūl*); *rochik-i* “food, ration” (from Mid. Pers. *rōzīk* “daily ration” < *rōz* “day,” and suffix *-īk*); *sardap-i* “basement, cellar” (NPers. *sardāb*; final *b > p*); *shusha* “glass, flask” (NPers. *šiša* “glass, vessel, bottle, flask”); *ṭakhṭ-i* “seat, throne, bed” (NPers. *taḵt* “throne, sofa”); *ṭakhṭrevan-i* (obsolete) “litter, palanquin” (NPers. *taḵt[-e] ravān*); *ṭom-i* “tribe, family” (< Mid. Pers. *tōm* “seed, family, progeny” < Av. *taoxman-*, Old Pers. *taumā-*).

Names of plants and animals: *vard-i* “rose” (cf. Av. *varəda-*, Arm. *vard*, NPers. *vard* “red rose”); *mikhaḵ-i* “carnation” (NPers. *mīḵak*); *bamba* “cotton” (NPers. *panba*, *pamba*; initial *p > b*); *badrijan-i* “eggplant” (NPers. *bādenjān*); *gulab-i* “a kind of pear” (NPers. *golābī* “pear”); *ni-goz-i* “nut-kernel” (from Mid. Pers. *gōz*, NPers. *gowz* “walnut”; cf. Georgian *gozinaq’-i* “nuts boiled in honey” < Mid. Pers. *gōzēnag*); *vešāp-i* “whale; monster, dragon” (from Mid. Pers. *wišāp* < Av. *višāpa-* “dragon,” an epithet of Aži Dahāka, q.v.); *vigr* “leopard,” cf. Arm. *vagr* “tiger” (from Mid. Pers. *babr*); *siasamur-i* “sable,” lit. “black sable” (from NPers. *sīāh* and *samūr* < Parth. *simōr*, Mid. Pers. *samōr*); *spilo*, *pilo* “elephant” (from Mid. Pers. *pīl*; initial *s* before *p*, cf. *spars-i* “Persian”).

Weights and measures: *griv-i*, a dry measure equal to 22 *ksests* (Arm. *griv*, NPers. *jarīb*, a square measure); *ḵabich-i*, equal to three *grivs* (from Mid. Pers. *kaḵīz*, NPers. *kavīž*, *kavīz*, Arm. *kapič*); *charek-i*, a quarter of a measure of weight or capacity, a liquid capacity measure equal approximately to one liter (from NPers. *čārak* “quarter, measure of weight” < *čahār-yak*).

As might be expected, there are many formations in Georgian deriving from Iranian stems which are so well established that they are not regarded as an alien borrowing: i.e., *ga-biabru-eba* “humiliate,d disgraced” (from NPers. *bī-ābrū* “disgraced, dishonored”); *gamo-komag-eba* “help, support” < *komag-i*



“protector, patron” (NPers. *komak*).

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