

Human Rights Monitoring Group of Ethnic Minorities

Renewal of toponymy as one of the real steps on reinstatement of interethnic dialog in Kvemo-Kartli region in Georgia.

A list of Azerbaijanis' villages of Bolnisi district of Kvemo-Kartli region in Georgia, which names were changed in 1990-1991 years. Unfortunately, none of the governmental structures which are devoted to protect rights and freedoms of ethnic minorities have not been doing a positive step to estimation of consequence such kind of actions, none of the attempt for rehabilitation and reconstruction of historical toponyms of the ethnic minorities' settlements in the region.

The Monitoring Group touched upon the subject of the study of the socioeconomic situation and human rights issues in population centres, which were renamed 20 years ago against the will of their ethnic minority residents and against the constitutional rights and freedoms enshrined in the Georgian Constitution.

The Monitoring Group for the Protection of National Minorities, together with other nongovernmental organizations – the Qarapapaq public association, the Youth Forum of Azerbaijanis , concluded with regret that no measures were taken and planned to rectify the situation with regard to changes introduced in the 1990s to the traditional names of localities densely populated by national minorities.

Unfortunately, so far, not a single state structure meant to protect the rights and freedoms of ethnic minorities has taken a single positive step to assess the consequences of such an action and has made a single attempt to enable the rehabilitation and restoration of the historical names of ethnic minority settlements in the region. The above organizations believe that such a situation is incompatible with the **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**.

Therefore, based on commitments to the United Nations, the world community and on the basis of international law, the Georgian authorities, together with representatives of national minorities, should identify a mechanism to restore the traditional names of the below-mentioned geographic villages, and possibly other areas that form an integral part of them.

The implementation by Georgia of its obligations to observe the rights and freedoms of religious minorities in the country. This report which covered the period from 2005 to May 2011 has been prepared by the «MRMG».

Georgia 2011

The list of villages that were investigated by the monitoring group

Historical village names	Altered village names
1.Abdalli (Az. Abdallı)	Javshaniani (Javshanianı)
2.Arakel (Aragöl)	Jejnariani (Dzedzvnarianı)
3.Arikhli (Az. Arıxlı)	Nakhiduri (Nakhiduri)
4.Mulukhsali – Ashagi Goshakilse (Az. Aşağı Qoşakilsə)	Kvemo Arkevani (Kvemo Arkevani)
5.Asmalar (Az. Əsmələr)	Mskneti (Mtsqneti)
6.Babakishiler (Az. Babaklışilər)	(Pochkhveriani) Photskhveriani
7. Beytakar (Az.Beytəkər)	Bartakavi – (second interpration Beytakari) (Bertakari)
8. Jafarli (Az.Cəfərli)	Samtredo (Samtredo)
9. Chatakh (Az.Çatax)	Poladauri (Pholadauri)
10.Sanab (Az. Sənəb)	Senebi (Senebi)
11. Darbogaz-Darvaz (Az.Darboğaz - Darbaz)	Darbazi (Darbazi)
12. Dashdigullar (Az.Daşlıqullar)	Mikhrani (Mukhrani)
13.Demirli (Az. Dəmirli)	Khakhlojvari (Khakhalajvari)
14.Fakhrali (Az. Faxralı)	Talaveri (Talaveri)
15. Garadashli (Az.Qaradaşlı)	Ichria (Itsria)
16. Garatikan (Az. Qaratikan)	Saberiti (Sabereti)
17. Gochulu (Az. Qoçulu)	Chapali (Tchapali)
18. Asankhojali (Az.Hasanxocalı)	Khidisguri (Khidisquri)
19.Yukhari Goshakilse (Az.Yuxarı Qoşakilsə)	Zemo Arkevani (Zemo Arkevani)
20. Yukhari Gulaver (Az.Yuxarı Güləver)	Jipori (Tsiphori)
21 İmirhasan (Az.İmirhəsən)	Savaneti (Savaneti)
22. Injaoglu (Az.İncəoğlu)	Shua Bolnisi (Shua Bolnisi)
23.Kolagir (Az.Kolagir)	Surtavi (Tsurtavi)
24.Ashagi Goshakilse (Az. Aşağı Qoşakilsə)	Mamkuti (Mamkuti)
25. Asagi Gulaver (Az.Aşağı Güləver)	Geta (Geta)
26. Mollaahmadli (Az.Mollaəhmədli),	Khataveti (Khataveti)
27.Muganlo (Az.Muğanlı)	Farizi (Pharizi)
28. Migirli (Az.Mığırılı)	Vanati (Vanati)
29. Sarachli (Az. Saraclı)	Chipori (Tsiphori)
30. Sarallar (Az.Sarallar)	Zvareti (Zvareti)
31. Sarimemmedli (Az.Sarıməmmədli)	Kibirjiki
32. Zol-Goyach (Az.Zol-Göyəc)	Jvel-Kveshi (Dzveli Kveshi)
33. Shemshioyu (az.Şəmşiyü)	Samtsevrisi (Samtsevrisi)
34. Bala Darvaz (Bala Darbaz)	Patara Darbazi (Patara Darbazi)
35. Deller (az.Dəllər)	Mushevani (Mushevani)
36. Kepenektsi (az. Kəpənəkci)	Kvemo Bolnisi (Kvemo Bolnisi)
37. Tapan (Az. Tapan)	Disleli (Disleli)
38. Sayalioglu (Az.Sayalıoğlu)	Balakhauri (Balakhauri)

Monitoring report on Bolnisi District of Kvemo Kartli Region, Georgia

1. Kvemo Kartli Region, Bolnisi District, the village of Abdalli (Az. Abdallı), renamed to the Georgian toponym Javshaniani (Javshaniani)

The population of the village of Abdalli is 839 people, according to 2002 statistics. The population of the village is ethnic Azerbaijanis. The name of the village was changed in 1990-1991. The villagers say: "No-one asked the villagers' opinion to change the name of the village. No meeting of villagers was held on the issue." The villagers claim that "the main objective of changing the names of Azerbaijani origin to Georgian ones is to break the link between the population and its past and to show residents that they are incomers. The authorities claimed that the villagers reacted to the name change "calmly and with understanding". The villagers do not agree with this statement.

The villagers point out, quote: "It is this attitude by the authorities that prevents Azerbaijanis from feeling like full citizens of the country, believing in the future and integrating into the modern civil society of Georgia." So far, not a single state structure meant to protect the rights and freedoms of ethnic minorities has taken a single positive step to assess the effects of changing the name of the ethnic toponym.

In the village of Abdalli, there is a mosque which was built by a wealthy resident of the village. Near the village, there is an ancient monument - a tower.

Other issues of monitoring:

- According to the residents, "the land distribution reform in rural areas resulted in most of land being taken over by representatives of the titular nation. Residents name a number of names such as Aleksander Alagardashvili - 30 ha. Local residents who lost their land plots are forced to lease land at a high price from Georgian landlords.
Assessing the conditions and standards of living in regard to other areas, we can note low living standards. Because of the land problems and unemployment, many residents have left the village. For example, 70 per cent of young families have already left. The process of emigration continues.
- The village operates a secondary school where teaching is in the Azerbaijani language. However, the lack of replenishment with new teachers could soon lead to the closure of the school.
- The village has no hospital.
- The village has no irrigation water. Drinking water is in short supply.
- The village has no natural gas.
- Roads are in poor condition.
- There is no institution where people could get free legal advice.
 - Since social status was studied incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Rashid Mustafayev, Bilal Mustafayev, Majid Mammadov, Namaz Shamilov and Anvar Abbasov.

2. Kvemo Kartli Region, Bolnisi District, the village of Arakel (Aragol) (Az. Araköl), renamed to the Georgian toponym Jejnariani (Dzedzvnariani)

The population of the village of Aragol is 779 people, according to statistics of 2002. The population of the village is ethnic Azerbaijani. The name of the village was changed during Gamsakhurdia's rule in 1990-1991. According to residents, government agencies did not ask their opinion when they decided to change the name of the village. According to the residents, "nothing was done to preserve and save surrounding historical monuments belonging to ethnic Azerbaijanis". So far, not a single government agency meant to protect the rights and freedoms of ethnic minorities has taken a single positive step to assess the effects of changing the ethnic toponym. This anti-constitutional decree still remains in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The villagers are Muslims. The village has no mosque. With the assistance of regional authorities, a Christian cross has been installed not far from the village, which puzzles local residents about the purpose for which the cross was installed if everyone is Muslim in the village. However, based on the fact that the villagers are tolerant, the Christian symbol is still in place.
- According to the villagers, "the land reform was not competent and land was inequitably distributed among the population. In the first phase, the fertile land was leased to representatives of the titular nation (1 ha - 83 lari) for 49 years, and many of them privatized it. Now this land is leased to ethnic Azerbaijanis for 1,000-1,500 lari per ha. The information vacuum which was created deliberately made it impossible for local Azerbaijani residents to react in a timely fashion to the possibility of leasing or privatizing land. After the change of power in 2003, quote: "The population had hope for a possible solution to the problem, but the government, promising to investigate, has not yet kept its word. In Borchali (Kvemo Kartli), most of the land belongs to representatives of the titular nation, and only a small portion is distributed between Azerbaijanis, mostly former managers of a state farm," end quote.
- The village operates a secondary school, but there is an acute shortage of young staff.
- The village has no hospital.
- Only half of the village has access to drinking water.
- There is no irrigation water there. The absence of a normal irrigation system calls into question the cultivation of land.
- There is no natural gas.
- The village has no dairy or mini-plant for processing agricultural products.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- The district has no organization that protects the interests of the village.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition.
- The process of emigration is high.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Alasgar Aliyev, Shahvalad Ismayilov, Anvar Ismayilov, Khanim Qarayeva, Chichak Ismayilova, Ismayil Ismayilov, Mohubbat Hasanov, Ali Gulmammadov and Zakir Bayramov.

3. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Arikhli (Az. Arıxlı) - renamed to the Georgian toponym Nakhiduri (Nakhiduri).

According to the 2002 census, 4,876 people lived in the village of Arikhli. Although 100 per cent of the population is ethnic Azerbaijani, the regional authorities renamed the village in 1990-1991. Local residents view this fact as discrimination on ethnic grounds directed against their constitutional rights and freedoms.

Creating an information vacuum and instilling fear in the past created among the local Azerbaijani

population a sense of inferiority and a lack of hope for the future in this land. For example, the river flowing through Arikhli is popularly known as "Khram". In Bolnisi, it was renamed "Ksia", while in Marneuli and Dmanisi, the river is still known under its old name.

Villagers are Muslims, and the village has a mosque, but in 2009 a Christian cross was installed at the entrance to the village. The villagers still do not understand the reason for this. However, with tolerance typical of the local population, they do not intend to harm this cross in any way.

Other problems:

- Using the fact that the population does not have enough information, representatives of the titular nation (Joha Lordkipanidze, Gocha Koladze, etc.) have actually misappropriated all land, which is why emigration trends have intensified. Some local residents, mostly young families, were forced to leave the village and go to the Azerbaijan Republic, as well as other countries.
- The village has a public school whose principal is a representative of the titular nation who does not speak the language and does not know the Azerbaijani language. The school needs young staff. The school has a separate Georgian class.
- The village has no hospital, but operates an outpatient clinic.
- The village needs a pasture whose area has been artificially minimized.
- There is irrigation water, and a tax of 100 lari is paid for every hectare.
- The village has natural gas because the central pipeline to Bolnisi passes through this village.
- The village has no factory for dairy products or plant for processing agricultural products.
- The villagers are not allowed to sell agricultural produce on the streets.
- Roads in the village were in poor condition, and some roads were repaired by wealthy villagers living outside the country.
- The district has no organization that helps people as a public reception.
- Around the village, there are historical monuments belonging to the historical heritage of the Azerbaijani people.
- The population is migrating mostly to the Azerbaijan Republic.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Arabkhan Shamistan oglu Mansurov, Ismayil Ismayilov, Mahabbat Kazimov and Pasha Pashayev.

4. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Mulukhsali - Ashagi Goshakilse (Az. Aşağı Qoşakilsə), renamed to the Georgian toponym Kvemo Arkevani (Kvemo Arkevani).

The actual name of the village is Mulukhsali. This fact is confirmed by inscriptions on the tombstones at the ancient cemetery of the village. In 1940-50s, the name was changed to the Ashagi Gosakilse, which was once again renamed by the regional authorities to the Georgian name of Kvemo Arkevani in 1990-91.

The village of Ashagi Gosakilse is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis, and according to the 2002 census, the village population was 1,053 people. Local residents accuse the regional authorities of "changing the name of the village without discussing anything with the population". Local residents accuse the authorities of changing the name of the village in order to "break the historical continuity of the place name".

Other issues of monitoring:

- The village had an old mosque, but under the Soviet regime, it was transformed into a club.
- The village has a secondary school, but due to unemployment, young families are leaving the village, and this leads to a reduction in the number of students. This may result in the closure of the school. The school is in dire need of young professionals.

- The village has an outpatient clinic which needs refurbishment.
- The village does not have a normal drinking water system, i.e. water is supplied on certain days.
- Roads are in poor condition. The distance between Marneuli and Goshakilse is only 11 km, but it is necessary to make a detour of 35 km on a broken road. Villagers ask for a bridge to be built for them.
- According to the villagers: "Of the land balance of the village, plots have been allocated to urban residents. Therefore, fertile and irrigated land plots belong not to locals, but to representatives of the titular nation (people name one person – Zaur Khudzhadze -130 ha, there are others as well). State farm employees (from rural residents) were able to get 5 hectares each, and two people - 15 hectares each. More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to obtain land. Some people rent subleased land for a very high price (1,000-2,000 lari per ha).
- The area of pastures is minimized, and around the Khatinchay River (Mashavera in Georgian), companies are operating to extract building materials, destroying the fertile layer of pastures near the river.
- The irrigation water is being poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli ore dressing plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local landless leaseholders are unable to use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association, because of their unawareness and the artificial information vacuum.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village, and this process is gaining momentum.
- A study of the social status of the population was not conducted properly in the village, and therefore, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- The social situation of the population is not good and is unstable, if this process will continues, the village will be completely abandoned.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Tabriz Allazov, Bilal Abbasov, Yolchu Mammadov, Ahmad Kalayev and Emin Eminov.

5. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Asmalar (Az. Əsmələr), renamed to the Georgian toponym Mskneti (Mtsqneti)

Ethnic Azerbaijanis living in Georgia comprise 100 per cent of the population of the village of Asmalar. According to statistics of 2002, 286 people lived in the village. The name of the village was changed by the district authorities in 1990-91 without the consent of the residents of the village. In protest, the residents held a number of protests, but the unjust decree issued by the District Council was approved by higher regional and then central authorities. This anti-constitutional decree remains in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- During the land reform, massive fraud and manipulation was carried out in order to ensure that representatives of the titular nation eventually become the main owners of the land. The mechanism was very simple - because of legal illiteracy, land plots were registered in the name of one villager who then simply handed over the land to a representative of the titular nation. The primary de jure owners were Nasib Nasibov and others, but de facto, the land was owned by representatives of the titular nation - Makharashvili and others. Later, Makharashvili privatized the land. Villagers are forced to lease land plots for 1,000-1,500 lari per ha.
- The villagers are Muslims. There is no mosque in the village. A Christian cross has been installed near the village, which annoys the locals, but due to their high tolerance, they are not causing harm to the Christian symbol.
- The village operates one secondary school where teaching is in the Azerbaijani language. It is in dire need of staff.

- Pastures of the village have been misappropriated by representatives of the titular nation - Jando Mamarashvili and Givi Kekelashvili.
- More than half the land is not being irrigated.
- Despite the fact that the central gas pipeline of Bolnisi District passes through the village, there is no gas in the village.
- The lack of agricultural loans makes it impossible to expand agricultural production.
- There is no institution where people could get free legal assistance.
- Since the social situation was studied incorrectly in the area, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- Residents are very unhappy with living standards.
- Rural roads are in poor condition.
- In public institutions, there are intolerant and discriminatory practices.
- Emigration is very high, especially among young families.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Vahid Khalilov, Maral Khalilova, Aladdin Nasibov, Nabi Nasibov, Tahir Qayibov, Alixan Jafarov, Shukur Allahverdiyev, Huseyn Agayev, Rashid Eyyubov, Jeyran Eyyubova, Tamara Bayramova, Bagdat Mustafayeva and Novruz Qayibov.

6. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Babakishilar (Az. Babakışılər), renamed to Musapiryan and then, to the Georgian name Pochkhveriani (Photskhveriani)

The population of the village of Babakishilar is 724 people, according to statistics of 2002. The village is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. The name of the village was changed in 1990-91. The chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people, on behalf of the regional authorities, decided to rename the village Pochkhveriani. The decree, issued by the District Council, was approved by higher authorities. This anti-constitutional decree still remains in force. The name change outraged the local population, but so far, the regional authorities have not taken any positive action disapproving or changing the situation.

In the village of Babakishilar, the entire population is Muslim, but there is no mosque in the village. Near the village there is a place the villagers consider holy (ziyarat yeri). However, despite protests by the villagers, the Georgian patriarchate installed a Christian cross precisely at this place. Despite this, the locals have a high level of tolerance and respect for the Christian symbol, which was not harmed during all this time.

Other issues of monitoring:

- Ethnic Azerbaijanis complain that land plots were incorrectly allocated in the village, and the land reform did not take into account their interests. By Decree No 39 issued by the Cabinet of Ministers on 16 January 1993, urban residents received land plots in rural areas. Due to the information vacuum and legal unawareness, the village pastures and fertile land were handed over not to local residents, but to visitors from representatives of the titular nation (the locals name the names of Gocha, Beso and others). According to the villagers: "Only a small number of people were able to get land plots, while others rent land at a high price (1,000-2,000 lari per ha). Young families who have no land are leaving the village."

Other issues of monitoring:

- Around the village, an artificial information field is being created, in which local residents have no information on tenders, land auctions, loans, agroleasing and the activities of the farmers' association.
- There is no irrigation and drinking water in the village.

- Due to the absence of pastures in the possession of villagers, the number of heads of cattle is decreasing.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- There is no natural gas in the village.
- Roads are in poor condition.
- The village has a secondary school. Given the high percentage of emigration among young families, there are fewer students, which may lead to the closure of the school. The school needs young teachers.
- The village needs a public reception room.

The survey was conducted among villagers: Ali Imanov, Maher Hajiyev, Salman Aliyev and Rahim Rahimov.

7. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Beytakar (Az. Beytəkər), renamed to the Georgian toponym Bartakavi - (second interpretation Beytakari) (Bertakari).

The village of Beytakar is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, the population of Beytakar is 289 Azerbaijanis. By the decision of the regional authorities in 1990-91, the village was renamed. This decision still outrages residents of the village. Local residents noted during the interview: "The reform to change the names of villages is a form of discrimination. The village was renamed to break the link between the population and its past and to show residents that they are incomers. Restoring the former names of the villages is important for ordinary people's confidence in the authorities. This anti-constitutional decree remains in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- In accordance with Cabinet of Ministers Decree N39 issued on 16 January 1993, urban residents were given plots of land in the village. Therefore, pastures and fertile land are owned not by local residents, but by representatives of the titular nation who do not reside in the village (residents name the following names - Shura Viblani, Gocha, etc). According to locals: "Only a small number of people were able to get land plots, while others rent land at a high price (1,000-2,000 lari per ha). Young families who have no land are leaving the village.
- There is no irrigation and drinking water in the village. You have to travel 1 km for drinking water.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- There is no natural gas in the village.
- Roads are in poor condition.
- There is no mosque in the village.
- The village has a 9-year secondary school. As young families are leaving the village, there are fewer students, which may lead to the closure of the school. The school needs young teachers.
- The district has no free human rights organization. There is an urgent need for a public reception room.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Qazanfar Hasanov, Teymur Hajiyev, Adil Azimkhanov, Alay Allahverdiyev, Shamhal Allahverdiyev, Ramiz Allazov, Zahid Mahmudov, Idris Mammadov, Teymur Allahverdiyev and Pasha Allahverdiyev.

8. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Jafarli (Az. Cəfərli), renamed to the Georgian toponym Samtredo (Samtredo).

The village of Jafarli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, the village population was 541 people. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the village was renamed. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

According to local residents: "Against the background of the change of the ethnic minority name, a Christian cross was installed near the village." There is no mosque in the village, though the villagers are Muslims. Due to the high level of tolerance among local residents, no harm has been caused to the Christian symbol, although they do not understand the goals of and reasons for the installation of a Christian symbol in the village.

Other areas of monitoring:

- Issues of land. As a result of the land distribution reform, due to the lack of information and artificial suspension of residents from the process of land distribution, the most fertile land in the village was shared by four representatives of the titular nation (the villagers name the following names: Shota - 24 ha, Merab Nemsadze - 24 ha, Samtresti Winery - 30 ha). This was contrary to the law – primarily, the land should have been handed over to local residents, but through legal manipulation, the land was not handed over to locals. Of the 200 ha of the village land, only 50 ha (unirrigated and unsuitable part) were not privatized and are leased to residents of the village.
- Residents are not being given subsidies.
- There are almost no pastures.
- Irrigation water is supplied only to a portion of land.
- There is no dairy or plant to process agricultural products in the village.
- The village has a secondary school where teaching is in the Azerbaijani language. There is a shortage of young staff. Due to the high emigration of the young, there are fewer students, which may lead to the closure of the school.
- The village is not supplied with natural gas.
- Roads are in poor condition, and there is no talk of repairing them.
- The village needs a public reception room to aid the population.
- Residents note cases of discrimination by local authorities and the police because of their ethnic origin.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Nasib Allahverdiyev, Farizkhan Alasgarov, Valikhan Abdullayev and Tahmaz Alkhasov.

9. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Chatakh (Az. Çatax), renamed to the Georgian toponym Poladauri (Pholadauri).

The village of Chatakh is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis (63 per cent) and by representatives of other nationalities (Armenians and Georgians). According to the 2002 census, the village population was 495 people. Unfortunately, in 1990-91, during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the village was renamed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi did nothing to address the negative effects of the discriminatory policies of the 1990s. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The village has a primary school.
- The village has no hospital.
- There are pastures for cattle, but in July and August the pastures are almost dry.

- The villagers are in need of a public reception room.
- The land reform was carried out incorrectly in the village. Urban residents were allocated plots of land in the village, which is why fertile and irrigated lands are owned not by local residents, but by representatives of the titular nation and the Armenian diaspora from the village of Khachyn. More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to obtain land, while others sublease land for a high price.
- There is no normal irrigation system.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders who have no land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association, because they do not even know about its existence.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village and the process continues.
- The study of the social status of the population was not conducted correctly in the village, and therefore social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- The social situation of the population is deteriorating with each passing year, and if this process continues, the village will be completely deserted.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Eldaniz Mehdiyev, Museyib Mehdiyev and Ruslan Mehdiyev.

10. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Sanab (Az. Sənəb), renamed to the Georgian toponym Senebi (Senebi)

The village of Sanab is totally populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis living in Georgia, and according to statistics of 2002, 157 people lived in the village. The name of the village was changed by the district authorities in 1990-91 without the consent of inhabitants of the village. According to villagers, residents held a number of protests, but the unjust decree issued by the district council was approved by higher regional bodies and then, central authorities. According to local residents: "The restoration of the historical names of Azerbaijani villages will help restore ordinary people's confidence in the authorities." This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- Land was inequitably distributed among the population. Fertile land was leased for 49 years to representatives of the titular nation (83 lari per ha), many of whom privatized this land later. Now this land is rented out to ethnic Azerbaijanis for 1,000-1,500 lari per ha. All this happened because people do not speak Georgian very well and were deliberately not informed.
- In the village, there is a 4-year-old school which needs young teachers. Since young families without land are leaving the village, the number of students decreases, which is why the school may be closed.
- The village has no hospital.
- The village has no water pipeline.
- The village has no irrigation water.
- There is no natural gas.
- The village has no dairy or cannery for processing agricultural products.
- The population is in need of legal support.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition.
- The socioeconomic situation of the population was not surveyed correctly, which is why social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- There are high emigration moods among the population.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Vali Mehdiyev, Bilal Bayramov, Islinaz Mammadova, Eldar Ahmadov, Javahir Hajiyeva, Rafayil Rahmanov, Shohrat Valiyev, Bilal

Ahmadov and Ramiz Bayramov.

11. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Dar-bogaz Darvaz (Az. Darboğaz - Darbaz), renamed to the Georgian toponym Darbazi (Darbazi)

The village of Dar-bogaz, renamed Darvaz in the 1950s, is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, the village population was 3,743 people. According to local residents, the village was renamed again in 1990-91. Local residents accuse the regional authorities of "changing the name of the village without discussing anything with the population". Local residents accuse the authorities of changing the name of the village in order to "break the historical continuity of the place name because of ethnicity." This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other topics of monitoring:

- Local residents believe that they are treated as "second class" people. In their view, this is the most important factor that hinders their integration into the modern civil society in Georgia.
- Local residents are unhappy that the village's secondary school was converted to an incomplete secondary school in the 1990s.
- The village has no hospital.
- The land issue. According to residents: "Fertile land has been leased for 49 years to businessmen from Bolnisi representing the titular nation for 83 lari per ha. They, in turn, rent the land to ethnic Azerbaijanis for 1,000 – 1,500 lari per ha. After the arrival of the new government in 2003, the government promised to address the land problem, but did not keep its word. Quote: "People are dissatisfied with the fact that they were given a small and unusable portion of land." Most land is in the hands of people from Bolnisi and Tbilisi.
- There is drinking water only in the centre of the village from where people are forced to carry water home on their hands or on the back.
- There is no irrigation water, and the only hope is rain.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- The villagers are not using the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- At the market in the district centre, Azerbaijanis make up less than 1 per cent of traders, although under Soviet rule, they made up more than half of traders.
- The village has no dairy or mini-refinery for processing agricultural products.
- As the population does not speak Georgian, people are in an information vacuum. Very often, villagers face tax problems.
- No gas is supplied to the village.
- Roads are in poor condition.
- 50 per cent of the population, mostly young people, have emigrated.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Aslan Hasan oglu Aslanov, Farhad Qarayev, Qudrat Nuriyeva, Seyidali Bayramov, Emin Mammadov, Zaman Salmanov, Bahaddin Musayev, Yashar Nasibov and Mahmud Ahmadov.

12. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Dashdigullar (Az. Daşlıqullar), renamed to the Georgian toponym Mikhrani (Mukhrani).

The village of Dashdigullar is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, the population of the village was 100 per cent Azerbaijani, and 893 people lived there.

The name of the village was changed in 1990 by the Georgian authorities without the knowledge of the population. The population still speaks with indignation about this illegal and politicized action that reflects the policy of the then Georgian authorities. This anti-constitutional decree is still in

force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The population of the village professes traditional Islam. In the 1990s, a Christian symbol – a cross – was installed near the village, which was ambiguously understood by local residents. Due to their high tolerance and respect for the Christian symbol, the cross was not harmed in any way.
- The land issue: As a result of the reform to distribute land, most of it went over to representatives of the titular nation. Local residents, who lost their rented plots, are forced to lease land for a higher price of 1,000-2,000 lari per ha.
- The village has one secondary school and one incomplete secondary school where teaching is in the Azerbaijani language. There is an urgent need for young professionals. Bilingual education was introduced, which simply rules out education in the Azerbaijani language in the near future
- The village has no hospital.
- There is no territory for pastures.
- Irrigation water is available. Drinking water is limited.
- There is no natural gas in the village.
- Roads are in poor condition.
- Residents need subsidies to cultivate agricultural plants.
- There is an urgent need for a public reception room.
- The villagers say government agencies practice discriminatory attitudes towards them.
- Emigration sentiments are very high.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Vaqif Abbasov, Mubariz Aliyev, Abbas Mahmudov, Yadigar Nasibov and Elnur Allahverdiyev.

13. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Demirli (Az. Dəmirli), renamed to the Georgian toponym Khakhlojvari (Khakhalajvari)

The village of Demirli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, the village population is 359 people. In 1990-91, through administrative resources and without the consent of local residents, the village was renamed. This fact was perceived by local residents as an action aimed at ousting them from traditional places of residence because of their ethnic origin. Residents are talking about "toponymic discrimination". Most appeals from local residents to local authorities encounter a verbal reply that "this incident took place during Gamsakhurdia's rule, and we cannot change anything". This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The village has no natural gas.
- The village has no mosque.
- The village has no hospital.
- There are pastures for cattle, but in July and August, the pastures are almost dry.
- The village has no normal drinking water system.
- The population is in dire need of a centralized public reception room.
- In accordance with Cabinet of Ministers Decree No 39 from 16 January 1993, urban residents were allocated plots of land in villages. Therefore, fertile and irrigated land plots in the village were taken over by representatives of the titular nation. More than half the population (mostly young families) could not, and still can't, get land plots. Part of the population subleases land for a high price.
- There is no functioning irrigation system.

- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders who have land cannot use agroleasing services from the farmers' association, and many simply do not know about its existence.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village and the process continues.
- The study of the social status of the population was conducted incorrectly in the village, and therefore, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- The socioeconomic situation of the population is critical, and if this process continues, the village will be completely deserted.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Qasim Nasibov, Zakir Kalandarov, Qiyyas Ibrahimov, Allahverdi Ahmadov, Allahverdi Ahmadov, Qasim Nasibov and Qiyyas Ibrahimov.

14. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Fakhrali (Az. Faxralı), renamed to the Georgian toponym Talaveri (Talaveri).

The village of Fakhrali is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, 6,891 people lived in the village.

In 1990-91, the district authorities, using administrative pressure on the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people, forced them to sign a legally unwarranted document to change the name of the village. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi claims that the villagers calmly reacted to the name change. Later, a number of historical monuments near the village were altered and falsified.

The population is 100 per cent Muslim. The village has an old mosque. Near the village, the Georgian patriarchate has installed a Christian cross, which caused local residents to query the purpose of and reasons for this action. However, due to high tolerance among the population and respect for people of other faiths, the cross still stands intact.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The village has no hospital.
- Since young families are leaving the village, there are fewer students, which may lead to the closure of the school. The school needs young teachers.
- There are pastures here, but in July and August, they dry up.
- The village has no normal drinking water system.
- The village is in dire need of a public reception room.
- The land issue: the majority of local residents are of the opinion that land was incorrectly distributed in the village. Under Cabinet of Ministers Decree No 39 issued on 16 January 1993, urban residents received land plots in the village. Therefore, irrigated and fertile land belongs not to local residents, but to visiting representatives of the titular nation (over 450 ha). More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to obtain land, while others rent it at a high price.
- As the population does not speak Georgian, they are in an information vacuum.
- Half of the village has no permanent access to drinking water.
- Irrigation water is being poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli ore-dressing plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders who have land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
 - Residents continue to leave the village.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Bilal Ashurov, Qulu Poladov, Vali Ramazanov, Mukhtar Ashurov, Aydin Eyyubov, Ziyadin Budaqov, Ismayil Mahmudov and Ramin Budaqov.

15. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Garadashli (Az. Qaradaşlı), renamed to the Georgian toponym Ichria (Itsria).

The village of Garadashli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, the village population was 249 people. The name of the village was changed in 1990-91 without the consent of local residents. Local residents do not agree with this fact and demand that the traditional name of the village be restored. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- As a result of redistribution of land, fertile lands were leased for 49 years to representatives of the titular nation (1 ha - 83 lari), who managed to privatize most of these lands. The population has to pay a rent for land (1,000-1,500 lari per ha).
- The village has a secondary school which needs young teachers.
- Only half of the village has access to drinking water.
- There is no irrigation water.
- There is no natural gas.
- The village has no dairy or plant for processing agricultural products.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- There is a need for a public reception room.
- Emigration sentiments are very strong.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Zalimkhan Valiyev, Sabit Hajiyev, Niyazali Bayramov, Shahin Ismayilov, Azar Mukhtarov, Bakir Mammadov, Vuqar Bayramov, Ramiz Valiyev, Imamhuseyn Ismayilov and Aldun Ismayilov.

16. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Garatikan (Az. Qaratikan), renamed to the Georgian toponym Saberiti (Sabereti)

The village of Garatikan is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, the village population was 112 people. The name of the village was changed by the regional authorities in 1990-91 without the consent of local residents. Local residents are totally opposed to this discriminatory and unconstitutional action.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The village has no mosque.
- Most of the land belongs to representatives of the titular nation, and only a small portion has been distributed among Azerbaijanis (mainly former state farm managers). Most pastures and fertile land belong not to local residents, but to representatives of the titular nation. Fertile lands were leased for 49 years to representatives of the titular nation (1 hectare - 83 lari), who were able to privatize most of these lands. Locals name the following names: Jeyran and others. The population has to pay a rent of 1,000-1,500 lari per ha.
- The village has a school for primary classes.

- The village has no hospital.
- Local residents get drinking water by filtering water from the Khatynchay River (Mashavera in Georgian) where chemical waste is dumped by the Madneuli ore-dressing plant. Khatynchay is also a source of irrigation water. Because of this, the land loses its fertility over the years.
- The village has no gas supplies.
- There are remnants of historical monuments near the village.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition and need repairs.
- The village has no dairy or plant for processing agricultural products.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Residents need a public reception room.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- Emigration sentiments are very high.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Abil Bayramov, Etibar Bayramov, Ilqar Bayramov, Eldar Ismayilov, Karim Karimov and Oqtay Jafarov.

17. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Gochulu (Az. Qoçulu), renamed to the Georgian toponym Chapali (Tchapali)

The village of Gochulu is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, 1,623 people lived in the village. According to local residents, "using pressure on the village council chairman who worked in 1990-1991 and people close to him, the regional authorities illegally changed the name of the village of Gochulu. Ethnic Azerbaijanis had a sharply negative attitude to this fact and took it as discrimination directed against their constitutional rights.

The villagers are Muslims. There is no mosque in the village. The villagers were baffled by the installation of a Christian cross in two places in the village. However, due to high tolerance among the population, residents are not touching the Christian symbol.

Other topics of monitoring:

- Most people are engaged in agriculture. According to Cabinet of Ministers Decree No 39 issued on 16 January 1993, urban residents of Georgia were allocated plots of land in the village. Like in other villages of Borchali, pastures and fertile lands went over to representatives of the titular nation (people named the following names: A. Tegergiashvili - 30 ha, J. Makharashvili - 250 ha, etc.). The villagers were able to get only a small portion of land. Those who were left without land are forced to rent it at very high prices – 1,000-2,000 lari per ha.
- Young families are emigrating mostly to the Azerbaijan Republic.
- There are not enough pastures in the village, so the number of heads of cattle is declining from year to year. This worsens the economic situation of the population even more.
- The village has a school teaching in Azerbaijani. The principal is a representative of the titular nation who hardly has any work experience. The number of students is falling, which may lead to the closure of the school.
- The system of drinking water supplies needs repairing. Irrigation water is available, but is too expensive (1 ha - 100 lari).
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association, because they are not even aware of this possibility.
- Residents are not being given subsidies.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition and need repairs.
- There is a need for a public reception room.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Yolchu Maharram oglu Chiraqov, Abdulla Novruzov, Niyazali Qafarov, Rasim Qafarov, Nushiravan Mammadov, Adil Qahramanov and Ziyadkhan Yusibov.

18. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Asankhojali (Az. Hasanxocalı), renamed to the Georgia toponym Khidisquri (Khidisquri).

The village of Asankhojali is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, 846 people lived in the village. Using administrative pressure on the chairman of the village council in 1990-91, the regional authorities changed the name of the village. Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi claims that the villagers calmly reacted to the name change. According to local residents, this fact was interpreted as a gesture of "toponymic discrimination" and as an action directed against constitutional rights.

Residents are Muslims. The village has a mosque which needs repairs, but the regional authorities are not giving permission to repair it and are not repairing it themselves. Local people do not understand why the regional authorities or the Georgian patriarchate have installed a cross near the village. However, due to high tolerance in the region as a whole, the cross remains in place. Other issues of monitoring:

- Despite the fact that the central gas pipeline passes through the village, there is still no gas in people's homes.
- The village has a school where education is conducted in the Azerbaijani language. The number of pupils at the school is declining from year to year, and this may lead to its closure. The school needs young teachers.
- Issues of land. Land in the village was allocated to non-native residents - citizens of Georgia. According to local residents: "The pastures and fertile land belong not to local residents, but to representatives of the titular nation from Tbilisi and Bolnisi (residents named the following names: Mubariz - 40 hectares, Chaladze - 20 hectares, and others - 100 ha). More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to obtain land plots, while many rent land. The area of pastures is very limited because around the Khatynchay River (Mashavera in Georgian), there is a quarry for building materials whose development resulted in the erosion of pastures and destruction of fertile soil.
- The population is in an information vacuum as they do not speak Georgian.
- Irrigation water is being poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli mining and processing plant. In Tbilisi, people do not buy products when they learn that it comes from a village in Bolnisi District. The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
 - Young families who have no land are leaving the village. Young people voluntarily join the army. Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Misri Mammadov, Elman Musayev, Yolchu Hasanov, Sakit Qahramanov, Ahliman Ibrahimov and Tariyel Mahmudzada.

19. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Yukhari Goshakilse (Az. Yuxarı Qoşaklılsə), renamed to the Georgian toponym Zemo Arkevani (Zemo Arkevani)

The village of Yukhari Goshakilse is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to

statistics of 2002, 604 people lived in the village. In 1990-91, under pressure from the regional and central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people were forced to compile a legally unwarranted act on the name change without asking anyone from the local population. Residents are totally opposed to the name change and see it as an attempt to oust the Azerbaijanis from this region or assimilate them. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force. The restoration of the former names of villages is important for ordinary people's confidence in the authorities.

Other questions:

- The village has a secondary school which became an incomplete secondary school in the course of the reforms. The school needs young teachers.
- The distance between the Marneuli and Yukhari Goshakilse is only 11 km, but residents have to use a bypass road which stretches for 35 km and is in a deplorable state. Residents of the village have been asking the authorities to build a bridge for 15 years.
- Issues of land. According to local residents, fertile and irrigated land belongs not to local residents, but to representatives of the titular nation. Several state farm workers living in the village were able to get 5 ha each, and two - 15 ha each. More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to obtain land at all. Some rent land for a very high price.
- The population is in an information vacuum as they do not speak Georgian.
- There are no pastures, because around the Khatynchay River (Mashavera in Georgian), there are building material quarries that have destroyed the meagre pastures completely. The development of the quarries harms the ecology of the region.
- Irrigation water is poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli chemical plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village. The number of pupils at the school is declining from year to year, and this may lead to the closure of the school.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- If nothing changes soon, the village will be completely abandoned.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Maharram Allahyarov, Adalat Qarayev, Farman Qarayev and Valeh Orujov.

20. Region Borchali - Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Yukhari Gulaver (Az. Yuxarı Güləver), renamed to the Georgian toponym Jipori (Tsiphori)

The village of Yukhari Gulaver is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, 522 people lived in the village. Under pressure from the central government in 1990-91, the chairman of the village council and some "trusted" individuals decided to change the name of the village. The villagers still do not accept the new name of the village and perceive it as discrimination. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- There is no mosque in the village. Residents want to see it built, but they do not have the necessary funds.
- Since the land of the village is not being irrigated, it is not attractive enough for farmers.
- The population cannot use the services of the farmers' association existing in the area.
- There is an incomplete secondary school in the village.
- Because of unemployment, young families are leaving the village.
- There is no hospital in the village.

- Pastures are available, but in July-August, the grass dries up, so grazing is impossible at this time.
- There is no normal drinking water system.
- Residents are not being given subsidies.
- The village needs a public reception room.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The following residents helped determine the situation in the village of Yukhari Gulaver: Farizkhan Safarov, Asgar Aslanov, Salman Safarov, Khalid Ahmadov, Nasraddin Mirzayev and Aflatun Mammadov.

21. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Imirhasan (Az. İmirhəsən), renamed to the Georgian toponym Savaneti (Savaneti)

The village of Imirhasan is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, there are 1,717 people in the village. Under pressure from the central government in 1990-91, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" individuals decided to change the name of the village. The villagers still do not accept the new name of the village and perceive it as discrimination directed against their constitutional rights.

The population professes traditional Islam. The village has an old mosque, which needs restoration. In 2008, a Christian cross was installed near the village. In 2009, local residents began to restore the mosque. Later, Orthodox extremists illegally stopped the restoration. Local and regional authorities did not react to this situation and ultimately, condoned this illegal action. There is a high spirit of tolerance in the village. Despite a series of provocations by Orthodox extremists, local residents did not succumb to these provocations and did not cause any harm to the Christian symbol. Historical monuments are being altered and falsified in the village.

Other aspects of monitoring:

- The village has a secondary school where education is conducted in the Azerbaijani language.
- During the land reform, due to the fact that the population does not speak Georgian and is legally ignorant, local residents were left out of the actual distribution of land and managed to get a small or unsuitable part of the village's land fund. According to residents, the major owners of land are representatives of the titular nation who do not even live in this district (they name the following names - Mikoladze, Goderdzi, Zviadi and others).
- Residents (mostly young families) are leaving the village.
- Residents are not being given subsidies.
- Residents cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Irrigation water is available, but its price is too high: 100 lari per ha.
- Pastures have become useless because there are several enterprises developing building materials in violation of environmental regulations. Residents have repeatedly appealed to relevant authorities, but have received no reply. The shrinking of pastures leads to a decline in livestock numbers. This worsens the financial situation of the residents.
- The poultry farm was supplied with gas nearly 10 years ago, but the village itself still has no gas.
- Roads are in poor condition and need repairs.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- The village needs a public reception room.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Tajaddin Quliyev, Alipasha Hajiyev, Qurbanali Maharramov, Kheyir Khalilov, Emzar Abdulov, Rashid Ahmadov, Saladdin Rzayev, Nariman Ahmadov, Hidayat Ismayilov, Kamil Dunyamaliyev, Aflatun Quliyev, Shaiq Quliyev, Aladdin Bayramov and Adil Aliyev.

22. Region Borchali - Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Injaoglu (Az. İncəoğlu), renamed to the Georgian toponym Shua Bolnisi (Shua Bolnisi)

The village of Injaoglu is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to statistics of 2002, there were 618 people in the village. Under pressure from the central government in 1990-91, the chairman of the village council and some "trusted" individuals decided to change the name of the village. The villagers still do not accept the new name of the village and perceive it as discrimination.

In an interview, local residents noted the following: "Villages are being renamed to break the population's link with its past and to show residents that they are incomers." This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- Land is inequitably distributed among the population. Fertile land has been leased for 49 years to representatives of the titular nation (1 ha - 83 lari). At the moment, many of them have privatized it. At this time, the land is leased to the local population (1 ha for 1,000-1,500 lari). During the allocation of land, the population was deliberately not informed.
- The village operates a secondary school, but it needs young teachers.
- There is no hospital in the village.
- Only half of the village has permanent access to drinking water.
- There is no irrigation water.
- There is no natural gas.
- The village has no dairy or plant for processing agricultural products.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- People are dissatisfied with living standards. Many, mostly young families, are leaving the country.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Rashid Yaqubov, Mansur Dashdamirov, Ismayil Huseynov, Zahid Mahmudov and Farhad Musayev.

23. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Kolair (Az. Kolagir) – Kolagir, renamed to the Georgian toponym Surtavi (Tsurtavi)

The village of Kolair is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 2,319 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" persons compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. The decree, issued by the District Council, was approved by higher authorities. The name change also applied to the name of the Khram River, which flows near the village. It was changed to Kchia. Residents perceived it as an attempt to oust them from the region. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

The villagers are Muslims. There is no mosque in the village. Residents say the construction of a mosque is necessary, but they do not have enough funds to do so. In 2008, the regional authorities, together with the Georgian Patriarchate, installed a Christian cross near the village, which caused confusion and some resentment among local residents, but due to their high tolerance, they have not touched the cross.

Other areas of monitoring:

- Local residents say: "At the beginning of the land reform, local residents were deliberately suspended from highly fertile lands, and only a small portion of barren land was handed over to them. Plots of land became the property of people who are not living in the village, mostly from Tbilisi and commercial organizations (residents named names and companies - Ayova, Jaladze, Konalyani - 76 ha, the Agrico firm, the Tamarisi poultry farm, etc.). People have to rent land for 1,000-1,500 lari per ha."
- Residents, mostly young families, are leaving the village.
- The village has a secondary school where education is conducted in the Azerbaijani language. Since many young families have left the village, the number of pupils has decreased, and this may lead to the closure of the school. Young teachers are needed. An insufficient number of hours a week is allocated for the Georgian language.
- There is no hospital in the village.
- The villagers cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- There are very small pastures for livestock.
- Drinking water is available. Some irrigation water comes from a canal which they built at their own expense.
- A gas pipeline passes through the village, but residents have only recently received permission to extend the natural gas pipeline to their houses.
- The population is prohibited from selling agricultural products outside their houses. It should be noted that the sale of products is allowed in other regions of the country.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition and need repairs.
- Since the social situation of residents was identified incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.
- The village needs a public reception room.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Khalid Hasanov, Mammadali Talibov, Tafakkur Talibov, Zeynal Zeynalov, Urfaniz Mammadov, Nabi Allazov, Elchin Abbasov, Rafiq Aliyev, Intizar Aliyev and Islam Hasanov.

24. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Ashagi Goshakilse (Az. Aşağı Qoşaklılsə), renamed to the Georgian toponym Mamkhuti (Mamkhuti)

The village of Ashagi Goshakilse is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 2,841 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted document to change the name of the village. Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi did nothing to address the negative effects of the discriminatory policies of the 1990s which were directed against constitutional rights.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The village has an old mosque, but in the Soviet period, it was converted to a club, while religious books were burned with the help of the village Party Committee.

- The village has a secondary school. The number of students is declining, which may lead to the closure of the school, because due to unemployment, young families are leaving the country. The school needs young teachers.
- The village has an outpatient clinic which needs to be refurbished.
- There is no regular system of drinking water in the village: water is supplied on certain days of the week.
- The village needs a public reception room.
- Roads are in poor condition. The distance between Marneuli and Goshakilse is only 11 km, but it is necessary to use a bypass road that stretches for 35 km and is in a terrible condition. Villagers have been asking for a bridge to be built for them for more than 15 years.
- In the village, fertile and irrigated land is owned not by locals, but by representatives of the titular nation (people names names - Zaur Khujadze - 130 ha, etc.). Several state farm employees were able to get 5 hectares each, and two people - 15 hectares each. More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to obtain land. Some people rent land for a very high price (1,000-2,000 lari per ha).
- Pastures have been considerably minimized, since around the Khatynchay River (Mashavera in Georgian), there are two quarries extracting building materials, and their activities are destroying the pasture.
- Irrigation water is being poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli chemical plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association, because they are not even aware of this possibility.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Tabriz Allazov, Bilal Abbasov, Yolchu Mamedov, Ahmad Kalayev and Emin Eminov.

25. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Ashagi Gulaver (Az. Aşağı Gülever), renamed to the Georgian toponym Geta (Geta)

The village of Ashagi Gulaver is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 698 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi did nothing to address the negative effects of the discriminatory policies of the 1990. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The villagers profess traditional Islam. There is no mosque in the village.
- Since the land is not being irrigated, it is not attractive enough for farmers. The population cannot use the services of the farmers' association existing in the district.
- Pastures are available, but in July-August, the grass dries up, so grazing is impossible at this time.
- There is no normal drinking water system.
- Residents are not being given subsidies.
- The village needs a public reception room.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

- There are two historical monuments near the village.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Ramazan Bakhtiyarov, Imdat Qurbanov, Novruz Tanriverdiyev, Vali Abbasov, Mirza Qasimov, Kamil Aslanov, Khalay Tanriverdiyev, Khazein Allazov, Zargar Mirzayev and Qiyan Sharifov.

26. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Mollaahmadli (Az. Mollaəhmədli), renamed to the Georgian toponym Khataveti (Khataveti)

The village of Mollaahmadli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 192 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force.

Other issues of monitoring:

- There is no mosque in the village. No cross has been installed near the village.
- There is a primary school (4 grades) in the village. The number of pupils at the school is declining from year to year, which may lead to its closure. The school needs young teachers.
- There is no hospital in the village.
- Pastures are available, but they dry up in July and August. There are no pastures because around the Khatynchay River (Georgian name Mashavera), there are more than 12 commercial plants extracting building materials that do not comply with environmental regulations, which leads to the shrinking of pastures.
- There is no normal drinking water system.
- Urban residents have been allocated plots from the village's land fund. Therefore, pastures and fertile land belong not to local residents, but to representatives of the titular nation. More than half the population (mostly young families) were unable to get land. As a result, many rent it for 1,000-1,500 lari per ha.
- The population is in an information vacuum as they do not speak Georgian.
- Irrigation water is being poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli ore-dressing plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village.
- The number of pupils in the school is declining from year to year, and this may lead to its closure. The school needs young teachers.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Salimkhan Aliyev, Azar Quliyev, Farizkhan Hasanov and Abid Quliyev.

27. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Muganlo (Az. Muğanlı), renamed to the Georgian toponym Farizi (Pharizi)

The village of Muganlo is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 1,205 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of

the village. Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi did nothing to address the negative effects of the discriminatory policies of the 1990s. This anti-constitutional decree is still in force. Other issues of monitoring:

- The villagers are Muslims. The village has a mosque. At the entrance to the village, the authorities, together with the Georgian Patriarchate, have installed a Christian cross. The villagers perceived this fact ambiguously, but due to the local population's high tolerance, the Christian symbol has remained untouched since it was installed.
- Most residents are engaged in agriculture. According to local residents: "In Muganlo, Bolnisi District, 60 per cent of arable land belongs to townspeople and alien citizens who have nothing to do with the land fund."
- The village does not have enough land for pastures, so the number of cattle is declining from year to year. This negatively affects the economic situation of the population.
- The village has a 9-year school where teaching is in the Azerbaijani language. The school needs young teachers.
- There is no hospital in the village.
- The system, which should provide drinking water, is in poor condition and needs repairs. The price of irrigation water is 100 lari per ha.
- Despite the fact that the central gas pipeline passes through the village, there is still no natural gas in it.
- The villagers are not using the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Roads are in poor condition and need repairs.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, they are not receiving any social assistance.
- There is a need for a public reception room.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Fizuli Dovlatov, Nurali Abbasov, Asad Abbasov, Rafiq Ibrahimov, Abbas Abbasov, Aydin Mammadov, Farizkhan Aliyev, Imran Aslanov, Bakhtiyar Rustamov and Lachin Abbasova.

28. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Migirli (Az. Mığırlı), renamed to the Georgian toponym Vanati (Vanati)

The village of Migirli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 530 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

Other issues of monitoring:

- There is no mosque in the village.
- There is a secondary school in the village. The school needs young teachers. The number of pupils in the school is declining from year to year, and this may lead to its closure. The school needs young teachers.
- There is no hospital in the village.
- Pastures are available, but they dry up in July and August.
- There is no normal drinking water system.
- Pastures and fertile land have been taken over by representatives of the titular nation (people name names: Vladimir Japaridze - 45 ha, Gagelashvili - 10 ha, and others). More than half the

population (mostly young families) could not get land plots, while many rent it for 1,000-2,000 lari per ha.

- Irrigation water is being poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli ore-dressing plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Abbas Abbasov, Aydin Mammadov, Farizkhan Aliyev, Imran Aslanov, Bakhtiyar Rustamov and Lachin Abbasova.

29. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Sarachli (Az. Saraklı), renamed to the Georgian toponym Chipori (Tsiphori)

The village of Sarachli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 522 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

Other issues of monitoring:

- There is an old mosque in the village. Under the Soviet regime, it was transformed into a club.
- The village has a secondary school. The number of students is declining, which may lead to the closure of the school due to the high emigration rate among young families. The school needs young teachers.
- There is no hospital in the village.
- Pastures are available, but they dry up in July and August.
- There is no normal drinking water system.
- Urban residents, representatives of the titular nation, were allocated plots of land in the village. More than half the population, mostly young families, could not get land plots, and many rent land for 1,000-2,000 lari per ha.
- There are not enough pastures, since natural pastures around the Khatynchay River (Mashavera in Georgian) have been seized by quarry owners extracting building materials.
- Irrigation water is poisoned by waste products from the Madneuli ore-dressing plant.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- The number of pupils in the school is declining from year to year, and this may lead to its closure. The school needs young teachers.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Zohrab Musayev, Nazim Qurbanov, Rashid Ismayilov, Islam Huseynov, Elnar Huseynov, Sayad Mammadov and Kamal Kazimov.

30. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Sarallar (Az. Sarallar), renamed to the Georgian toponym Zvareti (Zvareti)

The village of Sarallar is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 501

people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The villagers profess traditional Islam. There is no mosque in the village. A Christian cross was installed near the village in 2007. Despite the fact that local residents do not understand the purpose and idea of installing the cross in the village, no attacks have been made in this regard. The villagers have a sense of tolerance.
- Most residents are engaged in agriculture. Urban residents of Georgia, representatives of the titular nation, were allocated plots of land from the village's land. Residents name the following names: Lavrenti Devzonashvili and Zakari Devzonashvili. Villagers were able to obtain only a small portion of land. Those who were left without land are forced to rent it at a very high price (1,000-1,500 lari per ha).
- Local residents say: "If nothing changes, the village will be abandoned by many people, mostly young families."
- There are not enough pastures in the village, so the number of heads of cattle is declining from year to year. This worsens the economic situation of the population.
- There is a school teaching in the Azerbaijani language in the village. The school needs young staff. The principal is a representative of the titular nation who does not speak Azerbaijani.
- The system of drinking water supplies needs to be repaired. Irrigation water is available, but its price is too high - 100 lari per ha.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Residents are not being given subsidies.
- Roads in the village are in poor condition and needed repairs.
- The village needs a public reception room.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Nadir Masimov, Nazima Ismayilova, Malahat Huseynova, Sakir Dashdamirov, Qasham Ahmadov, Vali Sariyev and Salim Mammadov.

31. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Sarimammadli (Az. Sarımməmmədli), renamed to the Georgian toponym Kibirjik.

The village of Sarimammadli is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. In 1990-91, the district authorities, using administrative pressure on the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people, forced them to sign a legally unwarranted document to change the name of the village. Villagers oppose this provocation, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The villagers are Muslims. There is no mosque in the village. The regional authorities, together with the Georgian Patriarchate, have installed a Christian cross near the village. The villagers perceived this fact ambiguously, but due to the local population's high tolerance, the Christian symbol has not been harmed since it was installed.
- There is no school in the village.
- There is no hospital in the village.

- There are pastures for cattle, but they dry up in July and August.
- There is no normal drinking water system in the village.
- The land reform in the village was carried out incorrectly. Under Cabinet of Ministers Decree No 39 issued on 16 January 1993, urban residents were allocated plots of land in the village. Therefore, fertile and irrigated lands belong not to local residents, but to representatives of the titular nation. More than half of the population, mostly young families, could not get land plots, while others rent land for a high price – 1,000-2,000 lari per ha.
- There is no normal irrigation water system.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- Young families who have no land are leaving the village, and this process intensifies. The socioeconomic situation is regressing, and if this process continues, the village will be completely abandoned.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Vali Musayev, Mayar Osmanov, Elman Bayramov, Karam Osmanov, Qurban Musayev, Nabi Omarov and Musambar Suleymanova.

32. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Zol-Goyach (Az. Zol-Göyəc), renamed to the Georgian toponym Jvel-Kveshi (Dzveli Kveshi)

The village of Zol-Goyach is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 2,183 people lived in the village. In 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

Other issues of monitoring:

- The villagers are Muslims. The village has a mosque. At the entrance to the village, the regional authorities, together with the Georgian Patriarchate, have installed a Christian cross. The villagers perceived this fact ambiguously, however, due to the local population's high tolerance, the Christian symbol has not been damaged since it was installed.
- The pastures and fertile land were privatized by visiting representatives of the titular nation. More than half the population (mostly young families) could not get land plots, while many rent land for 1,000-1,500 per ha.
- Local leaseholders with land cannot use the agroleasing services of the farmers' association.
- The irrigation system has been destroyed and there is almost no water. Only part of the village is uninterruptedly supplied with drinking water.
- Roads are in poor condition.
- There is no natural gas in the village.
- The village needs a public reception room.
- The population is not being given subsidies.
- The village has a secondary school where teaching is in the Azerbaijani language. The school needs young teachers. Due to unemployment, residents are leaving the village, which is why the number of students is declining, which could lead to the closure of the school.
- Since the study of social status was conducted incorrectly in the village, social assistance is distributed unfairly.

The survey was conducted among residents of the village: Binnat Namazov, Alakbar Aliyev,

Shamxali Dursunov, Shamsi Huseynov, Binnat Mammadov, Aslan Qurbanov, Yahya Asgarov, Farrukh Sariyev, Ariz Mammadov and Intizam Asgarov.

33. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Shamshioyu (az.Şəmşiyü), renamed to the Georgian toponym Samtsevrisi (Samtsevrisi)

The village Shamshioyu is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 361 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

34. Region of Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Bala Darvaz (Bala Darbaz), renamed to the Georgian toponym Patara Darbazi (Patara Darbazi)

The population of Bala Darvaz is comprised of 40 ethnic Azerbaijanis.

35. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Deller (Az. Dəllər), renamed to the Georgian toponym Mushevani (Mushevani)

The population of the village of Deller is 100 per cent ethnic Azerbaijani. According to the 2002 census, 1,194 people lived in the village. In 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

36. Region Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Kepenektsi (Az. Kəpənəkci), renamed to the Georgian toponym Kvemo Bolnisi (Kvemo Bolnisi)

The village of Kepenektsi is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 6,766 people lived in the village. Unfortunately, in 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Despite the outrage of local residents, Tbilisi did nothing to address the negative effects of the discriminatory policies of the 1990s directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.

37. Region of Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Tapan (Az. Tapan), renamed to the Georgian toponym Disleli (Disleli)

The village of Tapan has been totally abandoned by ethnic Azerbaijanis.

38. Region Borchali - Kvemo Kartli, Bolnisi District, the village of Sayalioglu (Az.

Sayalioğlu), renamed to the Georgian toponym Balakhauri (Balakhauri)

The village of Sayalioglu is populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. According to the 2002 census, 502 people lived in the village. In 1990-91 during the rule of Gamsakhurdia, the name of the village was changed. Under pressure from the central authorities, the chairman of the village council and some of his "trusted" people compiled a legally unwarranted act changing the name of the village. Villagers oppose this discrimination, which is directed against the constitutional rights of ethnic minorities.