

## აჭარის არქეოლოგიური ძეგლების მენეჯმენტი

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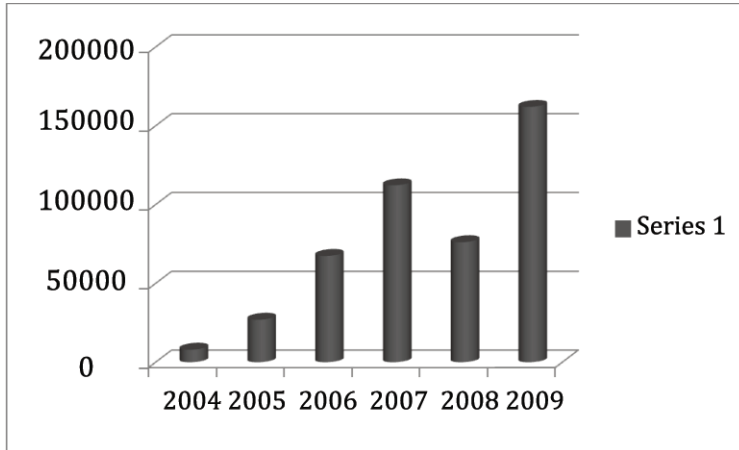
სტატიაში განხილულია აჭარის კულტურული მემკვიდრეობის ძეგლების ერთი ნაწილის ტურისტული პოტენციალი, გარდა სამეცნიერო მონაცემებისა, გამოყენებულია საქართველოს სტატისტიკის დეპარტამენტის მიერ 2004-2009 წლებში აჭარაში დამსვენებელთა სტატისტიკური მონაცემები.

## Management of Archaeological Sites of Adjara

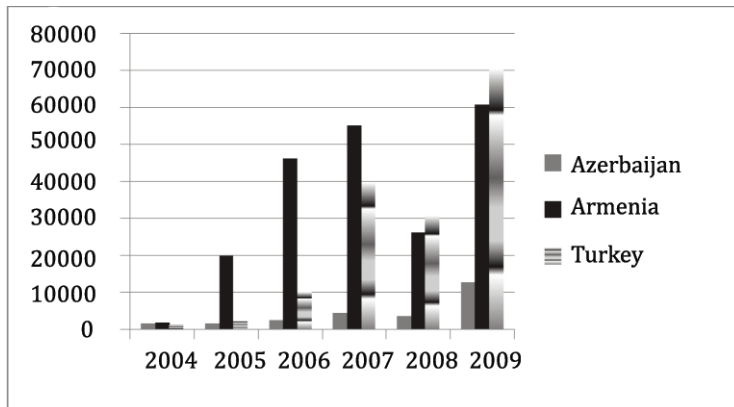
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The use of the national heritage sites in the shore region of Georgia creates the easy considerably fast prospective, because the phenomenon of Black sea itself plays the leading role in the view of the economical potential. It's not surprising that here the seasonal dependence will be sharp and the peak of the exploitation of sites will be reached in only summer. However this perspective is so big that we can ignore this time factor. We should also regard that besides the high potentiality of Georgia with tourism, the organization of big groups of Tourism could not have been organized yet.

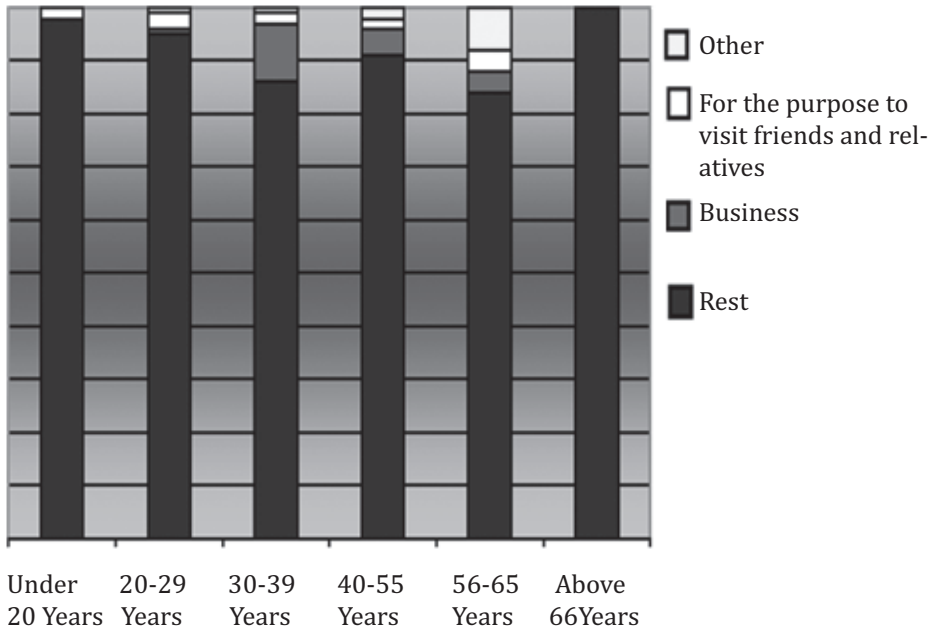
The quantity of entering tourists increases yearly what is reflecting positively on statistics. From the year 2004, till the 2009 the range of foreign citizen-visitors looks as follows:



The majority of the visitors in Adjara represent Azerbaijanians, the citizens of Turkey and Armenia. The majority of them comes in Adjara with the purpose of rest, but for the foreign visitors has not yet been made the offer of Cultural sites as well as touristic base. This situation may have been caused by the passivity of local tourop erators, because they represent Adjara to the main consumers as sea health resort. The right management of Cultural heritage in Adjara will make various touristic sectors which finally will be reflected positively on the sphere of Tourism development.



The research of goals of visitors which come in Adjara according to the age groups processed Adjara tourism department in the 2009. The above mentioned data looks like as follows:



The 90 percent of visitors come to Adjara with the purpose of rest. Unfortunately, we don't have information about the visitors from abroad which use the shore line as the health resort. The research has only been made on the transport with which tourists come to Georgia.

The majority of visitors in Adjara represent Georgian citizens themselves. But also in this case, they are not interested in the sites of cultural heritage. In order to interpret clearly the interests of inner touristic groups is necessary the research, which should be surely initiated by the Department of Tourism, in order to involve the offered service for visitors to their interests and wishes.

Georgia, as the separate touristic object, is not yet placed on the world's touristic map, so it's necessary to find the optimal way which will guarantee the touristic flows.

In this case, it's very perspective to be placed in the road of the international tourist route, which implicates the travel in the territory of Turkey, concretely in the eastern Anatolia and after, the old Georgian provinces (which are located on the territory of Turkey). If Georgian sites will be placed on the final part of this route, then tourists will come via Sarpi in Adjara and after 10 km's, they will see the architectural and Archaeological monuments in the territory of Georgia.

Gonio is the first Georgian village after the border village Sarpi. Visitor who comes from Turkey will absolutely pass Gonio. It is located near the sea, and the ancient settlement is distanced from sea only with autobahn. The modern village is mainly constructed around the ancient settlement.

According to the modern location, the settlement is placed mainly behind the strong, fortification walls. The walls are well preserved, the part of them are restored,

and are very impressive. The construction is quadrangle in plan, the length of each wall is 200 meters, in the corners and in the middle are placed strong towers. It is placed between the sea and the mountain with the green slope and is very effective. In the inner territory of the fortress are processing archaeological excavations and its view is possible. This is the best place in the open air, for arrange different presentations and celebrations.

In the view of perspectives, Gonio can drive attention with two factors: it can be placed in the touristic route, which implicates the survey of eastern Turkey and also Batumi and its surroundings. Its location accomplishes the idea, but it will be also very effective to arrange little hotels web in Gonio, because visitors can rest as well as see the cultural heritage. In such case tourists volunteers could be invited for taking part in archaeological excavations, and they will pay some money for it. Also there could be passed international scientific meetings what is popular method in modern world.

In this ravine the especially interesting matter takes bridges, which had been built in the middle ages, and which are well preserved especially in that place. These are for example – bridges – Makhuntseti and Dandalo. They are located deeply in ravine, but there is much easily to pass there then in the so remarkable sites such as churches – Skhalta, Vernebi, Khikhadziri and others in Khulo. This route creates the big complications due to the road less. In the condition of the resolve of this problem, this will be one of the most prosperous views. It creates the positive conditions for the development of Ecotourism.

From Gonio road goes to Batumi. It is essential to create new, thematic museums system. On the bases of Batumi museum artifacts, could be created museum of medicines, flora and fauna and also museum of ancient items. Or this material could be united in the existing museums. This is such an important question, that it can be resolved with only the agreement of States Cultural-economical politics. It is especially mentionable that Batumi archeological museum can become the uncial museum with few promotions, the rare repository of reflecting Georgian and Greek relations and containing various archaeological material, which will have not only local, but world-wide importance.

But besides the antiquaries, Batumi has the exclusive meaning, as the resort place, which is also well known. Thereby, Batumi is located in the very important cross road, from where is possible to go as in the historical provinces of Georgia as well as the contact outer world with sea. It is well known, that Batumi steel preserves the position of Georgian main resort, and the modern management of its museums will help with the concentration of different interests.

The logical continuation of the road from Batumi implicates the travel along the shore line of sea. With the view of cultural heritage, the next interesting site is Tsikhisdziri, that's location on the slope up in the sea drives attention.

On the territory of Tsikhisdziri are preserved the sites of different prescription, which belong to the different ( mainly middle ages) periods. This monument is very gainful by the view, the remains of settlements, churches and fortification that's walls have been preserved, are very effective. Besides that it is surrounded with the remarkable garden of citruses.

Tsikhisdziri is the remarkable place for the development of cognitive tourism that is surrounded with marvelous, sea clean shore. On the territory of Adjara, the most important archaeological monument is the Kobulet-Pichvnari necropolis, and settlement, which are located in the banks of riv. Choloki.

Almost the half of the century is that the necropolis of Pichvnari is being excavated. In this area has been studied several sites, which date to the 3<sup>rd</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> mill. B.C. Necropolis, which functioned in the 5<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> cent. B.C. is divided into two parts: the local peoples and Greek. These are e.g. pit burials, in which besides human are placed different artifacts. (gold and silver jewelry, everyday things, coins, pottery and etc).

The uncial of this monument represents the thing that here has been discovered, high artistic greek material which has an international meaning. We can say without exaggeration, that the way of the ancient history of Black sea and of the cardinal problems of Archaeology passes the Pichvnari necropolis.

Not only in the territory of Adjara, but also in the Georgia Pichvnari is one of the most perspective sites.

In case of right management, it can support itself, e.g. bring resources, for excavations as well as publications. It can be realized like bringing tourists (volunteers) and also appearing of international contacts (this practice fortunately have the head of excavations).

From Kobuleti is very easy to get in the ravine of riv. Kintrishi, where you can see such interesting sites as: Khino Charch, the stone bridge in Vardzanauli, The Tskhemlari Bridge, which belong to the middle ages. These places can easily insert in the scheme of this micro region.

From Kobuleti to Poti, area located several sites (for example Ureki necropolis, which belongs to the 8<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> cent. B. C.). But they are conserved and the accent on them could be made if we state the question about its necessary of starting/ continuing excavations, which doesn't go in our countries interests for now because of the very hard economical situation and it is not advisable by the above mentioned reasons

From the Tskaltsminda, the way divides into two parts: one goes to the Poti direction and the other to the Guria.

From the Gurias monuments, close to the shore line are located: The monasteries of the Okona and Jiketi (Lanchkhuti region). A little far from here is the Shemokmedi Cathedral complex (Ozurgeti region). As for the archaeological monuments, they are very much here either: Sujuna settlement and necropolises, (15<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century B.C. also middle ages. Gvimbauri settlement (6<sup>th</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> century. B.C. Chipila settlement (the 2<sup>nd</sup> mill. B.C.) Guleikari (6<sup>th</sup>-cent. B.C. 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D) Lanchkhuti (15<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century B.C.) Moedani settlement (middle ages) Jurukveti (Paleolithic) Shukhuti (15<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century B.C.) Nigoeti settlement (middle ages) Cholobargi settlement (15<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> cent. B.C.). Kviani necropolis (middle ages), Grigoleti settlement (6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D.).

There are several ways for developing cognitive tourism in the Samtskhe (via Khulo). In this direction the mentioning of Vardzia and Sapara is enough.

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