

The research-popularization of endogenous origin nature monuments in Rioni river basin

Giorgi Dvalashvili, Mery Gugeshashvili, Irakli Chakhvashvili, Tamar Pilauri,
Nika Tsitelashvili

E-mail: giorgi.dvalashvili@tsu.ge

Department of Geography, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences,
Iv.Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, 0179, Tbilisi, I.Chavchavadze #3

Georgia is a country of geomorphological contrasts. A wide variety of hypsometric and morphological terrain forms: deep canyons, subterranean labyrinths, flat plains, different altitude plateaus, high mountains, ranges are present on its surface. In this regard, Rioni basin is a very interesting region.

Natural monuments are unique, being represented by only a few exemplars. They are often being damaged, sometimes completely destroyed. Because of all this, rare and unique creatures of the nature are lost, without any possibility of restoration. We need to develop an integrated programme for their conservation, protection and usage. The basic purpose of this research is to study natural monuments and ensure their popularization. Study of natural monuments with the aim of their popularization is an important issue in our country. This basin is so rich with different endogenous forms that there is a possibility to discover/study new objects which are known for the locals only.

Some of the remarkable monuments are the objects of local or international importance, but they sometimes lose their natural beauty as a result of human intervention. Therefore, it is necessary that natural phenomena of such importance have a status of natural monument.

Many natural monuments in Georgia have been damaged or completely destroyed over the last years. Natural monuments need to be registered and protected, so as to maintain natural phenomena. Numbers of unique natural monuments are not well-arranged and protected. If they are promoted properly, nature objects can be included in tourist and excursion routes.