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### THE CAUCASUS IN THE POLISH GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE

The article contains a review of the Polish geographical publications dealing with the Caucasian region. The authoress has made an attempt to determine possibilities of studying this geographical region on the basis of the Polish literature. The review contains the geographical literature and the literature from other disciplines related to geography. These disciplines include among others geology, history, architecture and town-planning, ethnography and folklore. There are presented here all publications, which are valuable in cognitive sense. The evaluation and presentation encompass scientific contributions published in the Polish journals and compact editions irrespective of the author's nationality and language in which a given work is written.

The term Caucasus is understood here to cover the geographical region lying between the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov in the West and the Caspian Sea in the East, and between the Kumsk-Manyck Depression in the North and the state boundary of the Soviet Union with Turkey and Iran in the South<sup>1</sup>. Thus, this region includes several morphological units and several political-administrative units of the Soviet Union.

The present publication comprises in principle the literature of the last forty years although in some problems it reaches to items published earlier on.

The structure of the work is characteristic for geographical regional approaches. It begins with a review of the literature devoted to the natural problems, followed by items on economic and social subjects, and by other problems discussed in the literature belonging to disciplines related to geography.

<sup>1</sup> *Słownik geografii świata* [Dictionary of the world geography], vol. 1, A-M, Warszawa 1977, p. 496.

The Polish geographical literature does not possess exhaustive and comprehensive works dealing with the Caucasian region and the existing publications present in a fragmentary way some chosen problems concerning various parts of this region. In the field of nature studies it is especially worth mentioning the works of E. Rühle, who carried out geomorphological and glaciological studies publishing their results in several articles<sup>2</sup>. The articles devoted to quaternary of the Caucasus were based on the rich literature of the subject in many languages. The author reviewed in them development of views concerning glaciation of the Caucasus quoting conclusions drawn by numerous researches and presented his own opinions about them. The discussion contained in the articles is focussed mainly on the number of glaciations, their coverage, and accompanying phenomena. The findings of his own studies were presented in the stratigraphic scheme of the Caucasus glaciations compared with the structure of the Alpine glaciations. These articles analyze, moreover, the present distribution of glaciers and their characteristics. On the other hand, the findings of detailed studies on glaciers and the sedimentation process around them can be found in the work of A. Karczewski, A. Kostrzewski, and P. Kowalew, which was prepared following the studies on the glaciers of Bashkar and Jankuat conducted in 1978<sup>3</sup>. A comprehensive natural description of the drainage-basin of the Balkarski Tcherek is contained in the work of Rühl, in which the author analyzes all elements of the environment starting with a short presentation of the land configuration and geological structure and ending with a detailed morphological description of each valley in this drainage-basin<sup>4</sup>. This work was a result of the Polish Alpine Expedition to the Caucasus in 1935.

Interesting theories about development of the relief on the area between the Sea of Azov and the Caspian Sea were presented by T. Bartkowski<sup>5</sup>. The configuration of this area constitutes a dense net-

<sup>2</sup> E. Rühle, *Morfologia glacjalna dorzecza Czereku Bałkarskiego w środkowym Kaukazie* [Glacial morphology of the Czerek Balkarski river-basin in the central Caucasus], „Przegląd Geograficzny” 1938, No. 18, p. 1—62; idem, *Czwartorzęd Kaukazu w świetle ostatnich badań* [Quaternary of the Caucasus in the light of recent studies], „Czasopismo Geograficzne” 1939, No. 17/1, p. 3—16; idem, *Przegląd badań czwartorzędu Kaukazu* [Review of studies on the quaternary of the Caucasus], „Biuletyn Instytutu Geologii” 1955, No. 70, p. 321—330.

<sup>3</sup> A. Karczewski, A. Kostrzewski, P. Kowalew, *Glacial sedimentary environment as represented by glacier of the Caucasus*, „Quaestiones Geographicae” 1982, No. 8, p. 121—1835.

<sup>4</sup> Rühle, *Morfologia glacjalna...*

<sup>5</sup> T. Bartkowski, *Rzeźba „linearna” Między morza Azowsko-Kaspijskiego* [Linear relief of Lands between the Sea of Azov and the Caspian Sea], „Sprawozdania Poznańskiego Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk” 1968, No. 2(81), p. 365—368.

work of parallel valleys and dales with intervalley ridges separating them. This network has the same orientation WNW-ESE on the entire area and it belongs to the dewatering system of the Caucasus. This characteristic lay-out of the river and valley network was attracting attention of scholars and researchers for a long time. Bartkowski quotes different views concerning the genesis of such land configuration and next presents his own theory regarding evolution of the land relief.

The problems connected with land configuration, dynamics of land relief evolution, and post-glaciation processes are supplemented in the Polish literature by the works of Georgian and Armenian researchers<sup>6</sup>. Of special interest here is the work of J. Sajadian, in which the author describes rhythmicity of changes in the natural environment around the Sewan Lake and development of cultures interrelated with these changes.

Relatively little attention in the literature dealing with this region has been paid to climatic issues. It was only E. Michna who characterized climatic conditions of Georgia in his long article presenting all characteristics of the climate prevailing in this region and factors affecting it<sup>7</sup>.

Other natural problems of this region have also received relatively little attention, although the range of these publications is quite big. It is necessary to list here, first of all, numerous works concerning the Teberdiysk National Park in the Western Caucasus<sup>8</sup>, a work devoted to the plant cover on the Caucasian coast<sup>9</sup>, or such unique natural wonder as Chetag Grove<sup>10</sup>. A significant contribution to our better fa-

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<sup>6</sup> Ch. P. Djanelidze, *On the dynamics of relief and natural environment of the Caucasus in the Holocene*, „Studia Geomorphologica Carpatho-Balcanica” 1974, No. 8, p. 61–67; J. Sajadian, *Postglacial times in Armenia and adjacent regions (as exemplified by Lake Sewan)*, „Studia Geomorphologica Carpatho-Balcanica” 1978, No. 12, p. 77–93.

<sup>7</sup> E. Michna, *O klimacie Gruzji* [On Georgia's climate], „Wszechświat” 1967, No. 9, p. 218–222.

<sup>8</sup> J. Czerwiński, *Teberdyński Park Narodowy na Kaukazie* [The Teberdiysk National Park in the Caucasus], „Chrońmy przyrodę ojczystą” 1959, No. 5, p. 48–52; A. Magiera, *Tiebirdański Park Narodowy* [The Teberdiysk National Park], „Wierchy” 1959, p. 246–251; M. Sawicka, *Teberdyjski Park Narodowy w Zachodnim Kaukazie* [The Teberdiysk National Park in the Western Caucasus], „Wszechświat” 1968, No. 1, p. 156–160.

<sup>9</sup> J. Doboszyńska, *Roślinność wybrzeża kaukaskiego* [Plant cover of the Caucasian coast], „Biologia w Szkole” 1965, No. 1, p. 39–44.

<sup>10</sup> N. I. Burczak-Abramowicz, W. I. Naniew, „Święty” gaj Chetag [„Holy” grove of Chetag], „Chrońmy przyrodę ojczystą” 1961, No. 5, p. 34–37.

miliarity with the Caucasus nature is a work of R. Wojtusiak<sup>11</sup>, a member of the scientific expedition to the Caucasus in 1935. During that expedition the author carried out numerous zoological studies although the main emphasis in this particular work was laid on natural problems, and mainly on the plant cover and landscape.

The socio-economic problems of the Caucasus have been discussed in many interesting publications. These publications, however, tend to cover a narrow range of problems. The industry in this region was described, among others, in the articles of B. Kortus<sup>12</sup> dealing with the industry of Apsheron; S. Pączka and A. Rondeli<sup>13</sup> on changes in the textile industry; and a short report written by L. Straszewicz<sup>14</sup> about Rustavia, the biggest metallurgical centre of Georgia. An interesting approach to the subject was used by Kortus who analyzed the industrial centre of Apsheron applying a method of industrial complex analysis. The article begins with presentation of development of this industrial centre and formation of internal relationship within it, which provides a basis for construction of development schemes of this complex. The analysis encompasses next its contemporary production-territorial structure. In the final part of the article, the author discusses the role and significance of the region under study for the economy of Azerbaijan and the Soviet Union. The industrial complex of Apsheron, with its predominance of oil, power engineering, and chemical industries, is presented as a system of vertical and horizontal interrelationships, with each industrial group showing such relationships being synthetically characterized. The article deserves some more attention due to the fact that industrial complexes of this kind are — according to the author — a unique phenomenon on the world scale.

The article of Pączka and Rondeli is equally interesting and rich in information. The authors analyze here transformations in the textile industry of the entire Transcaucasian region, including raw materials base, employment and production structure in the period of 1940—1978 in each republic.

<sup>11</sup> R. Wojtusiak, *W sercu Kaukazu. Dziennik przyrodnika pierwszej polskiej wyprawy w góry Wysokiego Kaukazu* [To the heart of the Caucasus. Diary of a naturalist participating in the first Polish expedition to the mountains of the high Caucasus], Lwów 1937.

<sup>12</sup> B. Kortus, *Kompleks przemysłowy Apszeronu* [Industrial complex of Apsheron], „Przegląd Geograficzny” 1963, No. 4, p. 569—589.

<sup>13</sup> S. Pączka, A. Rondeli, *Changes in territorial and branch structure of textile industry in Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan*, „Acta Universitatis Lodzianensis” 1983, Folia caucasica 1, p. 107—131.

<sup>14</sup> L. Straszewicz, *Rustawi — centrum gruzińskiej czarnej metalurgii* [Rustavia — centre of the Georgian black metallurgy], „Czasopismo Geograficzne” 1977, No. 1, p. 60—61.



Among publications devoted to the agriculture, there should be mentioned the article of T. Lankamer concerning Armenia<sup>15</sup>. The author described here in big detail various problems connected with agriculture beginning with conditions for its development such as soils, climate, land configuration and irrigation, which is followed by presentation of the structure of land use, types of crops and their size. This is accompanied by analysis of animal breeding and ownership structure. The article ends with presentation of development prospects of the Armenian agriculture.

Demographic problems in their historical aspects were discussed in a comprehensive survey made by J. K. Janczak<sup>16</sup>. It contains a demographic analysis of the entire Transcaucasia at the end of 19th century in a spatial approach. A. Woźniak performed a study of the ethnic structure of Georgia on the basis of the Russian and Georgian literature<sup>17</sup>. The author analyzed changes in the ethnic structure of this country in two time cross-sections. The first of them encompasses the period from the beginning of the Georgian nation till 19th century, and the second — the present time, in which there take place changes in the ethnic structure quite significant for the Georgians. In the whole article, the author strives to present the process of formation of the homogeneous Georgian nation after a period of political split-up. We can get an insight into the present-day socio-demographic processes owing to the two articles written by G. Picchelaury and co-authors<sup>18</sup>. They concern only one population group i.e. elderly people but this group is characterized by the authors from many points of view. G. Picchelaury and A. Agadzanov have proved that the Transcaucasian republics are a demographic epicentre of longevity in the Soviet Union. The authors seek relationships between longevity and various other elements including geographical situation of these areas above the sea level. In their conclusions, they claim that longevity is affected by many geographical-climatic, socio-economic conditions, nationality,

<sup>15</sup> T. Lankamer, *Rolnictwo Armenii* [Agriculture of Armenia], „Geografia w Szkole” 1974, No. 1, p. 12—20.

<sup>16</sup> J. K. Janczak, *Population relations in the Transcaucasion area at the end of the XIX century*, „Acta Universitatis Lodziensis” 1983, Folia caucasica 1, p. 23—49.

<sup>17</sup> A. Woźniak, *Struktura etniczna współczesnej Gruzji i jej historyczne uwarunkowania* [Ethnic structure of contemporary Georgia and its historical determinants], „Etnografia Polska” 1971, No. 1, p. 285—301.

<sup>18</sup> G. Picchelaury, D. Dzorbenadze, *Spółeczno-demograficzna charakterystyka ludności w starszym wieku w Gruzjińskiej SSR* [Socio-demographic characteristics of the elderly population in the Georgian SSR], „Studia Demograficzne” 1971, No. 26, p. 21—30; G. Picchelaury, A. Agadzanow, *Ludzie starzy i długowieczni w Gruzjińskiej SSR* [Old and old-old people in the Georgian SSR], „Studia Demograficzne” 1974, No. 37, p. 93—104.

living conditions, etc. The analysis has been performed in two age groups: above 60 years and above 90 years of age. It encompasses such elements as e.g. size of age groups, sex structure, place of dwelling, social security, living conditions, education structure, and others. The subject is approached dynamically for different time cross-sections beginning with 1897 and ending with the seventies.

The settlement network has been described in the Polish literature by the Georgians, and that is why we possess only a picture of Georgia in this sphere. W. Gujabidze has analyzed economic and cultural ties between the small Georgian towns and their environs in the light of commuting to work<sup>19</sup>. On the basis of studies on means of transport, functional structure of towns, significance and intensity of commuting, and structure of commuting, the author has prepared a typology of the town under survey. G. Lashkhi gives us an insight into problems of the functioning and role of small towns as centres of services for the rural population. Functional characteristics provided a basis for typology of towns located in the western part of Georgia<sup>20</sup>.

It is also worth noting the fact that there can be found interesting articles devoted to recreation conditions and touristic regionalization of Transcaucasia in the Polish literature. R. M. Kasumow<sup>21</sup> presents in one of his works the Azerbaijani methods of evaluation of the geographical environment for touristic purposes, methods of studies on recreation conditions, and stages of studies leading to regionalization. The same author, in another work of his, describes principles of delimiting touristic regions<sup>22</sup>. To start with, he presents a theoretical study devoted to foundations of regionalization, which is followed by division of the country into touristic regions. The touristic regionalization in Azerbaijan is based on the basic principle, according to which touristic regions should be identical with administrative and economic regions. This ensues from the fact in order to create and ensure a touristic base there are indispensable economic conditions, which can

<sup>19</sup> W. Gujabidze, *Journey-to-work in the small and medium towns of Georgia*, „Zeszyty Naukowe Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego” 1978, ser. II, No. 15, p. 67—80.

<sup>20</sup> G. Lashkhi, *The role of towns in the service system for the agricultural population in the subtropical zone of the Georgian SSR*, „Acta Universitatis Lodziensis” 1983, Folia caucasica I, p. 81—87.

<sup>21</sup> R. M. Kasumow, *Warunki rekreacyjne Azerbejdżańskiej Socjalistycznej Republiki Związkowej i ich ocena z punktu widzenia turystyki* [Recreation conditions in the Azerbaijani SSR and their evaluation from the viewpoint of tourism], „Przegląd Geograficzny” 1973, No. 1, p. 147—151.

<sup>22</sup> R. M. Kasumow, *Regionalizacja turystyczna Azerbejdżańskiej Socjalistycznej Republiki Radzieckiej* [Touristic regionalization of the Azerbaijani SSR], „Ruch Turystyczny” 1970, No. 2, p. 67—73.

be created by this identical character of particular regions. Kasumow claims that it is necessary to ensure, first of all, concentration of population and production activities, which allows to ensure provision of appropriate services for tourists. Landscape, historical and architectural considerations are further factors of touristic regionalization. Touristic attractiveness of Georgia has been evaluated by S. Liszewski on the basis of the Polish methods<sup>23</sup>. Applying analysis of the attractiveness coefficient values, which is a synthetic measure of the natural environment and cultural conditions, and provision of touristic facilities, the author has distinguished areas characterized with different degrees of attractiveness. The performed studies have revealed disproportions between extremely favourable natural conditions and their utilization for touristic purposes in Georgia.

Relatively many publications in the Polish literature are devoted to architecture and town-planning of Transcaucasia, and especially to the architecture of Azerbaijan. Many of them can arouse the interest of geographers specializing in studies on geography of towns. Most of these publications are translations into Polish. A remarkable contribution in this field has been made by Szamil Sejfulla Fatullajew, which has analyzed the architecture of Azerbaijan starting from 12th century, with most of his attention being focussed on the architecture of 19th and 20th centuries<sup>24</sup>. The author describes different architectonic styles, building materials, ornaments, etc. Quite a great deal of attention has been devoted to town-planning and spatial distribution of buildings, which is further enriched by drawings and photographs. While analyzing these problems, the author placed emphasis on contributions of the architects of Polish origin to the built-up of Azerbaijani towns, which was done especially for the Polish reader. This found its reflection in a series of articles devoted to the Polish architects creating their works and working in this country<sup>25</sup>. These articles provide us indirectly also with a picture of architecture of those towns, modes

<sup>23</sup> S. Liszewski, *The tourist attractions of Georgia in the light of Polish research methods*, „Acta Universitatis Lodzensis” 1983, Folia caucasica 1, p. 89–105.

<sup>24</sup> Sz. Fatullajew, *Architektura Azerbejdżanu w okresie kapitalizmu* [Azerbaijan's architecture in the capitalist period], „Teka Komisji Urbanistyki i Architektury” 1976, vol. 10, p. 157–170.

<sup>25</sup> Sz. S. Fatullajew, *Polscy architekci w Baku. Architekt J. Płoszko* [Polish architects in Baku. Architect J. Płoszko], „Architektura” 1967, No. 11, p. 464–465; idem, *Inżynier miejski J. Gosławski* [Town engineer — J. Gosławski], „Architektura” 1969, No. 6, p. 225–226; idem, *Twórczość architektów — Polaków w Azerbejdżanie (w okresie kapitalizmu)* [Creative output of architects — Poles in Azerbaijan (during the capitalist period)], „Teka Komisji Urbanistyki i Architektury” 1973, vol. 7, p. 119–138; idem, *Twórczość Kazimierza Skórewicza w Baku* [Creative output of Kazimierz Skórewicz in Baku], „Architektura” 1975, No. 3, p. 99.

and directions of their development. The second half of 19th century witnessed a rapid development of industry and, generally, economic activity in Transcaucasia, which was also reflected in rapid growth of towns. Some of them, among others — Baku, were largely rebuilt, and this refers especially to the central part of the town. The character of this central district is determined by concentration of public utility buildings. The design of rebuilding was prepared by a Pole — J. Goślawski, who was an urban architect.

The present urban-planning problems of Tbilisi are presented in two works of the Georgian authors i.e. I. Ciciszwili<sup>26</sup> and G. Gegelija<sup>27</sup>. The first of them emphasized the necessity of preserving and utilizing the town-planning and architectonic landmarks located in the old district of Tbilisi, and the need for interlinking the old and new architecture along with development of the town. The other one describes town-planning and architectonic solutions adopted in three new districts of the Georgian capital being built in its old centre and its immediate vicinity. M. Bokeria points at an interesting problem of interrelationships between housing construction and climatic conditions<sup>28</sup>. The authoress analyzes differentiation of construction types in different regions of the Caucasus stressing adaptation of rural buildings to local climatic and physiographical conditions.

The geographer wishing to get acquainted with causes of many contemporary processes and find explanation for political and social phenomena reaches for the historical literature. The available publications concerning this region describe its history from the ancient times till the present day. Foremost among them are two items from the history of Armenia<sup>29</sup> and two items dealing with the history of Georgia<sup>30</sup>. D. Marshall in his works focussed his main attention on the ancient times, but he also devoted a great deal of his attention to the Middle Ages and to the present time. M. Zakrzewska-Dubasowa provided a synthetic approach to the history of Armenia starting with the era of

<sup>26</sup> I. Ciciszwili, *Rekonstrukcja historycznych dzielnic Tbilisi* [Reconstruction of historical districts in Tbilisi], „Architektura” 1972, No. 12, 1972, p. 438—441.

<sup>27</sup> G. Gegelija, *Trzy przykłady współczesnej architektury gruzińskiej* [Three examples of modern Georgian architecture], „Architektura” 1972, No. 12, p. 442—445.

<sup>28</sup> M. Bokeria, *Interrelations between folk architecture and climate in Great Caucasus*, „Acta Universitatis Lodzianensis” 1983, Folia caucasica 1, p. 65—79.

<sup>29</sup> L. D. Marshall, *Armenia — kolebka cywilizacji* [Armenia — cradle of civilization], Warszawa 1975; M. Zakrzewska-Dubasowa, *Historia Armenii* [History of Armenia], Wrocław 1977.

<sup>30</sup> J. Kawtaradze, *Gruzja w zarysie historycznym* [Historical Outline of Georgia], Warszawa 1929; L. D. Marshall, *Dawna Gruzja* [Old Georgia], Warszawa 1972.



Urartu and revealing in this way the history of one of the oldest nations in the world. An interesting work of J. Kawtaradze was written in Polish and published in the twenties. On the basis of the Georgian and the Russian literature, the author described the entire history of his nation. The work explains the beginnings of the state and analyzes successive epochs till the contemporary times of the author.

The publications dealing with political issues are exclusively of historical character and their problem area boils down to bilateral relations<sup>31</sup>. Quite interesting among them is the work of L. Widerszal, in which the author describes quite comprehensively the political relations in the Caucasus region in 19th century<sup>32</sup>. A great deal of attention was devoted in this work to the stance taken by the European countries to the Caucasian problem and to the role played by Poles in this field. He also devoted also a lot of attention to the Poles staying in the Middle East during this period.

The ethnographical problems can boast quite a wide range of publications in the Polish literature. Most of them were written by the Polish in exile or by old travellers. The latest contributions in this and other areas are scarce and fragmentary. Among more valuable contributions are publications presenting the folk architecture in Georgia<sup>33</sup>. A. Łotysz states that differentiation of the Georgian natural environment and its historical destiny constitute two fundamental factors accounting for the diversified picture of the Georgian folk architecture. From this point of view, the author divided the country into three parts — the plateau including Kartalia and Meschetia, the western part being the historical Kolchida, and the mountainous part encompassing the Caucasus regions or Svanetia and Hevsuretia. The work provides characteristics of each province with regard to the above mentioned natural environment conditions and architectural features.

As regards the geographical literature, there are missing in it com-

<sup>31</sup> J. Cincadze, *Stosunki polsko-gruzińskie w XV—XVII w.* [Polish-Georgian relations in 15th—17th centuries], „Przegląd Orientalistyczny” 1960, No. 1, p. 3—13; G. B. Garibdzianian, *Polsko-ormiańskie kontakty rewolucyjne w XIX i w początkach XX wieku* [Polish-Armenian revolutionary contacts in 19th and early 20th centuries], „Z pola walki” 1971, No. 3, p. 25—34; B. Baranowski, *Polsko-azerbejdżańskie stosunki kulturalne w pierwszej połowie XIX wieku* [Polish-Azerbaijani cultural relations in the first half of 19th century], Wrocław 1969.

<sup>32</sup> L. Widerszal, *Sprawy kaukaskie w polityce europejskiej w latach 1831—1864* [Caucasian affairs in the European policy in the years 1831—1864], Warszawa 1934.

<sup>33</sup> A. Łotysz, *Gruzińska architektura ludowa* [Georgian folk architecture], „Budownictwo Wiejskie” 1974, No. 7, p. 18—21; E. Pietraszek, *Muzeum pod otwartym niebem w Tbilisi* [Open-air museum in Tbilisi], „Etnografia Polska” 1971, No. 1, p. 308—310.

prehensive regional approaches. An exception here is a collective work, which came out in a series devoted to particular regions of the Soviet Union<sup>34</sup>. It is of a monograph type. Its first part discusses conditions of the geographical environment, history of the Georgian people and their culture, as well as economic problems according to the main sectors of the national economy. In the second part, the authors present historical-economic regions of Georgia. This work is today the only available monographic presentation of Georgia in the Polish language. A much less comprehensive approach to the natural environment and economic problems of the entire Transcaucasia has been provided by the work of Liszewski<sup>35</sup>.

It should be underlined that the number of available tourist guide-books to this attractive region is very small. And although two guide-books of Ś. Spalle<sup>36</sup> present the region under study but this is done alongside presentation of other touristic regions of the Soviet Union. As a result of it information contained in them is very brief and insufficient. The book of G. and A. Miłosz may be an invaluable help for tourists wishing to get familiar with this region but it can hardly be said to be a guide-book<sup>37</sup>.

There can be found rich literature devoted to contacts, cooperation and relations between Poland and Poles and the nations and states of Transcaucasia. Since it is referred to in the other studies included in this volume, it will be omitted here. It is worth mentioning, however, that these problems have been largely popularized by a book written by B. and K. Baranowski and entitled: *Polaków kaukaskie drogi* (Caucasian Routes of Poles)<sup>38</sup>. The authors review in it the contacts between the two countries dating back to 15th and 16th centuries in various spheres of the political, social and economic life. These contacts have been illustrated through presentation of the cultural, scientific, economic and personal activity of the Poles staying in the Caucasus.

While discussing the Polish literature dealing with the Caucasian topics, it is impossible not to mention the contribution of the Polish exiles to our better knowledge of those countries. Its expression is the rich literature published in 19th century and at the beginning of 20th

<sup>34</sup> *Gruzja* [Georgia], ed. F. F. Dawitaja, Warszawa 1972.

<sup>35</sup> S. Liszewski, *Zakaukazie* [Transcaucasia], „Geografia w Szkole” 1984, No. 4, p. 179–187.

<sup>36</sup> Ś. Spalle, *Krym — Kaukaz. Mały przewodnik turystyczny* [Crimea — Caucasus. Small tourist guide-book], Warszawa 1977; idem, *Wybrzeże Morza Czarnego. Informator turystyczny* [The Black Sea coast. Tourist guide-book], Warszawa 1979.

<sup>37</sup> G. and A. Miłoszowie, *Kaukaz* [Caucasus], Warszawa 1979.

<sup>38</sup> B. Baranowski, K. Baranowski, *Polaków kaukaskie drogi* [Caucasian routes of Poles], Łódź 1985.

century both in the form of books and numerous articles. However, the time range of these publications already goes beyond the time framework accepted for this volume. The review of this literature according to particular problems discussed in it has been provided by several publications<sup>39</sup>. Among them of special interest is the work of J. Reyman, in which the author presented in a comprehensive manner the consecutive streams of the Polish exiles to this region as well as all the others who were coming there for other reasons, and characterized these groups of Poles and particular persons. Most of his attention was focussed on the contribution of those people to our better knowledge about the region. The author also points at the fact that hard duties and arduous work performed by them were combined with a careful observation of the nature and people. L. Rubach chose for his studies that group of Poles who had contributed significantly to the industrial development of the region<sup>40</sup>. Among others, he describes P. Potocki — the author of the first project of extracting crude oil from the sea bottom, which was applied in 1922, and B. Statkowski — a designer and constructor of the Transcaucasian railway. Next, he describes the contributions of T. Gorczycki to construction of the oil pipeline from Baku to Batumi, and the Polish geologist — J. Chodźko, who discovered many mineral deposits. Participation of the Polish architects in expansion and construction of the Azerbaijani towns was outlined in another part of this article.

It is worth noting that there are numerous publications of supple-

<sup>39</sup> J. Reyman, *Polacy w górach Kaukazu do końca XIX w.* [Poles in mountains of the Caucasus till the end of 19th century], „Wierchy” 1954, p. 19–58. B. Baranowski, *Z dziejów polsko-gruzińskich stosunków kulturalnych z połowy XIX wieku (opisy Gruzji Mateusza Gralewskiego)* [On the history of the Polish-Georgian cultural relations from the mid-19th century (Mateusz Gralewski's descriptions of Georgia)], „Annales Universitatis Mariae Curie-Skłodowska” 1976, sec. F, vol. 29, p. 175–182; idem, *Polsko-azerbejdżańskie stosunki kulturalne* [Polish-Azerbaijani cultural relations]; idem, *Polskie zainteresowania z XVIII i XIX wieku. Kultura Gruzji* [Polish interests from 18th and 19th centuries. Culture of Georgia], Wrocław—Łódź 1982; J. Fabiański, *Północny Kaukaz przełomu XVIII i XIX w. w świetle relacji Jana Potockiego* [Northern Caucasus at the turn of 18th and 19th centuries in the light of Jan Potocki's relations], „Etnografia Polska” 1971, No. 1, p. 249–283; A. Chodubski, *Inteligencja polska w Azerbejdżanie w końcu XIX wieku i na początku XX wieku* [Polish intelligentsia in Azerbaijan at the end of 19th and beginning of 20th centuries], „Przegląd Polonijny” 1983, No. 1, p. 39–47; A. Woźniak, *Kultura ludowa w Gruzji w relacjach polskich początków XX w.* [Folk culture of Georgia in Polish relations from the early 20th century], „Etnografia Polska” 1983, No. 1, p. 297–320.

<sup>40</sup> L. Rubach, *O Polakach — pionierach przemysłu na Kaukazie i Zakaukaziu* [About Poles — pioneers of industry in the Caucasus and in Transcaucasia], „Problemy” 1970, No. 4, p. 239–240.

mentary nature in relation to this review. They are usually of report and popular type, but they allow to enrich considerably our knowledge about this region. A part of these articles can be found in a popular magazine „Poznaj świat”. These articles due to their character are not an object of the present review.

The performed analysis of the publications devoted to the Caucasus in the Polish literature has revealed that there are missing big and comprehensive works that would be presenting this region in a detailed and multi-lateral way. On the other hand, we can find quite a big number of publications discussing various selected problems of the region. The subjects of these publications have not been chosen in any systematic way, which is a result on individual interests and contacts of their authors. The Polish literature provides a relatively good insight into this region of the world in the area of natural environment and ethnographical problems. This rich literature is a result of field studies, which were carried out, however, quite a long time ago, with a part of it coming from the turn of 19th century. A significant portion of the Polish literature deals with activities of the Poles in the Caucasian region.

The contemporary problems concerning social, economic and political relations of the countries situated in Transcaucasia have received a great deal of attention in the Polish literature, as well as in the Transcaucasian literature reflecting scientific contacts between the specialists from various areas.

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#### KAUKAZ W POLSKIEJ LITERATURZE GEOGRAFICZNEJ

W artykule dokonano przeglądu polskiego piśmiennictwa geograficznego obejmującego region Kaukazu. Autorka stawia sobie za cel określenie możliwości poznania tego regionu geograficznego na podstawie polskiej literatury. Przedmiotem objęta jest literatura mogąca zainteresować geografa, a więc literatura geograficzna oraz literatura dziedzin pokrewnych. Przedmiotem oceny stały się prace wydane w polskich czasopismach i drukach zwartych, niezależnie od narodowości autora i języka w jakim praca została opublikowana.

Opracowanie obejmuje w zasadzie literaturę ostatniego 40-lecia, choć w pewnych problemach sięga okresu wcześniejszego.

Układ pracy jest charakterystyczny dla geograficznych ujęć regionalnych. Roz-



poczyna ją przegląd literatury przyrodniczej, następnie omówiono pozycje na tematy gospodarcze i społeczne, dalej zaś problematyka w literaturze dziedzin pokrewnych, leżąca w zainteresowaniach geografa. W wyborze zostały uwzględnione publikacje omawiające wkład Polaków-zesłańców w poznanie, prace badawcze i działalność gospodarczą prowadzoną na Zakaukaziu.

W wyniku przeprowadzonej analizy zawartości polskiej literatury na temat Kaukazu stwierdzono, że jest ona niepełna. Przedstawia problemy wyrywkowo i fragmentarycznie. Brak jest zarówno opracowań kompleksowych dla całego regionu lub jego części, jak też szerokich opracowań problemowych. Należy podkreślić, iż współczesne zagadnienia w dużym stopniu zostały przedstawione w polskiej literaturze przez Zakaukazyjczyków.

The Caucasus and the Transcaucasian area belong to the most interesting territories of the USSR as far as its geographical and cultural diversity is concerned. It is a region of great importance for the study of the transition from the temperate zone of the USSR to the subtropical zone of the Middle East. (Photo 1) is the subtropical landscape of the Caucasus and Transcaucasian area.

