



Zurab Sanadiradze

Master of Philology, New Higher Education Institute – Newuni Assistant Professor

> Irine Arjevanidze Doctor of Philology, Professor

ASPECTS AND CONTEMPORARY REALITIES OF TEACHING GEORGIAN AS A SECOND LANGUAGE IN GEORGIA

Abstract

Learning Georgian as a second language is a significant challenge for foreigners and non-Georgian populations. In this process, the main attention is paid to the unique characteristics of the language, such as the agglutinative structure of the language, complex grammar, phonetic features and original alphabet. The teaching process requires the use of innovative approaches, such as communicative methods, multimedia resources and cultural engagement.

Special attention is paid to the practical use of the language in real situations, through role-playing and dialogic practice.

The effectiveness of learning the Georgian language largely depends on the right methodology and language environment, which helps language learners not only in the technical study of the language, but also in understanding its cultural significance.

Keywords: Georgian language, second language, grammar, alphabet, communication methods, cultural engagement, teaching methodology.

Aspects and Contemporary Realities of Teaching Georgian as a Second Language in Georgia

This issue is highly relevant in modern Georgia, especially considering the multicultural population and the role of teaching Georgian as a second language as a vital aspect of integration.

The topic of learning Georgian as a second language encompasses diverse aspects based on contemporary realities and challenges. Georgian, as a second language, is particularly important for fostering communication and integration for ethnic minorities living in Georgia, as well as for their personal development. In this process, teaching methods, resources, and educational policies play a decisive role.

Linguistic Policy and Integration

Teaching Georgian as a second language in Georgia requires comprehensive and modern approaches. Collaboration between the state, educators, and society is essential to make Georgian not just a subject of study but a tool for everyday integration. Proper policies and innovative teaching methods can promote harmonious coexistence within the country's ethnic diversity. [2]

Georgian serves as a cornerstone of national unity. In a country home to various ethnic groups such as Armenians, Azerbaijanis, Ossetians, and Abkhazians—Georgian acts as a primary medium for communication and integration. Knowledge of Georgian ensures that individuals from different groups can fully participate in society. Teaching Georgian to ethnic minorities not only enhances language proficiency but also promotes national equality and civic consciousness. [3]

Georgian language as a means of cultural identity

The Georgian language is not only a means of communication but also a carrier of Georgia's unique cultural identity. This ancient language is deeply intertwined with the country's history, traditions, and cultural heritage. In a multiethnic country, Georgian serves as a powerful tool for preserving and maintaining cultural diversity. [5]

The state language also performs an educational function, which promotes communication between Georgian and non-Georgian language learners, knowledge sharing, and the creation of a common state society.

The Importance of Learning Georgian for Foreigners

The prospects for teaching Georgian as a second language in Georgia and abroad are considered from various aspects. As the common national language of the country, the Georgian language plays an important role in overcoming ethnic diversity and achieving national unity. Current trends and future prospects include the following main directions:

The Importance of Learning Georgian for Foreigners

Teaching Georgian as a second language offers significant prospects both in Georgia and abroad. As the nation's official language, Georgian plays a crucial role in bridging ethnic diversity and achieving national unity. Current trends and future directions include the following key areas:

> In Georgia, teaching the Georgian language is particularly important for ethnic minorities living in regions such as Kvemo Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kakheti. In these regions, communication and education in Georgian are often hampered. Therefore, state policies and state programs, such as "Teaching Georgian as a Second Language", in which teachers are currently actively involved and trying to provide assistance to those who wish, are aimed at increasing the communicative and cultural integration of representatives of ethnic minorities.

Support from the State and International Organizations: Initiatives from the Georgian government and international organizations aid in the full inclusion of non-Georgian-speaking citizens in social and professional environments. Job offers and retraining programs from the Ministry of Education, Science, and Youth of Georgia, along with dedicated teachers in various regions, play a significant role in this direction. [3]

It is also important to note that the geographical scope of the Georgian language is relatively limited compared to other internationally significant languages. Nevertheless, interest in it continues to grow among international academic circles and foreigners. Groups of students and researchers are particularly interested in the history of the Georgian language and culture, emphasizing its pivotal importance in the region.

Conclusion

The prospects for teaching Georgian as a second language involve substantial reforms, the use of modern technologies, and an increase in interest from foreign learners. Its successful implementation will enhance the state's goals in managing ethnic diversity and promoting the Georgian language and script internationally.



<u>Nº1-2(11)</u>2024

References and Resources:

- 1. National Curriculum: Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (Order №40/N, May 18, 2016, Tbilisi).
- 2. Overview of the Education Sector and Identification of Challenges Faced by Ethnic Minorities and Socially Vulnerable Groups: IDFI Institute for Development of Freedom of Information, Tbilisi, 2024.
- 3. Georgia's First Report on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Georgian Government, 2007.
- 4. Policy Analysis on Civil Integration of Ethnic Minorities, BPPP Policy Research Group, Program for Ethnic Minorities, Tbilisi, 2008.
- 5. Project "Georgia as a Multiethnic and Diverse Country", Tbilisi, 2023.