
Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Location	1
1.2	Climate	2
1.3	Historical Development of Georgia	2
1.4	Political Systems	4
1.5	Economy	4
1.6	Population and Culture	6
 Part I Historical Geography		
2	Ancient History	11
2.1	Seeds of Civilization	11
2.2	Environmental Peculiarities	11
2.3	Cultivation	12
2.4	Culture	12
2.5	Functionality	13
2.6	Basin Evolution	13
2.7	Interaction of Man and Nature	14
2.8	Landscape Evolution	15
2.9	Cultural Mosaic	15
2.10	Habitable Places	15
2.11	Ecological Conditions	17
2.12	Hunting	18
2.13	Other Food Sources	19
2.14	Concentration of Population	19
	References	20
3	Historical and Political Geography	23
3.1	History of Territorial Transformation of Georgia	23
3.2	Geopolitical Problems	26
	References	31
4	Ethnic Groups and Religions	33
4.1	Composition of Georgian Population	33
4.2	Religions	37
	References	38

5	Demographics.....	39
5.1	Demographic Landscape.....	39
5.2	Territorial Disposition of Population.....	39
5.3	Dynamism of Population.....	40
5.4	Natural Growth.....	41
5.5	Population Structure by Age and Sex.....	42
5.6	Migration of Population.....	43
5.7	Social Structure and Employment.....	45
5.8	Employment.....	46
5.9	Geography of Unemployment.....	46
5.10	Urban Geography.....	47
5.11	Where, Why, and When Georgian Cities Were Created.....	47
5.12	Urbanization.....	47
5.13	Geography of Villages.....	49
5.14	Ethnic Geography of Georgians.....	50
5.15	Georgians Outside of Georgia.....	51
5.16	Basic Ethnic Groups.....	51
5.17	Ethnogenesis of Georgians.....	52
5.18	Georgian Languages and Dialects.....	52
5.19	Georgian Surnames.....	53
	References.....	53
6	Sociocultural Geography.....	55
6.1	Standard of Living.....	55
6.2	Education, Culture, and Science.....	57
6.3	Medical Geography and Healthcare.....	59
6.4	Traditions.....	61
	References.....	64
Part II Geological Processes		
7	Geology.....	67
7.1	Geological Formations.....	67
7.2	Seismic Activity.....	67
7.3	Landforms and Relief.....	69
7.4	Scheme of Geomorphological Zonation.....	71
7.5	Expressiveness in the Relief and Geological Structures.....	72
7.6	Mineralization.....	77
	References.....	79
8	Geodynamical Processes.....	81
8.1	Erosion and Surface Wash-Down.....	81
8.2	Mudflow.....	81
8.3	Landslides.....	83
	References.....	85
9	Glacial and Periglacial Processes.....	87
9.1	Glaciers in Georgia.....	87
9.2	Geography of Glaciers.....	87
9.3	Glacial Melting.....	88
9.4	Avalanches.....	89

9.5 Cryogenic Processes	89
9.6 Classification of Periglacial Formations.....	93
9.7 Impact of Cryogenic Processes.....	94
References	94

Part III Ecological Processes

10 Landscapes	99
10.1 Landscapes	99
10.2 Abrasion of Coastline	104
10.3 Impact of Urbanization.....	105
10.4 Karst	107
10.5 Unique Highs	108
10.6 Use of Remote Sensing.....	109
10.7 Factors Affecting Landscapes.....	111
10.8 Transformation of Landscapes	114
10.9 Landscape Mosaic.....	114
10.10 Landscape Architecture	118
References	119
11 Deforestation and Reforestation	121
11.1 Forest Cover.....	121
11.2 Protection.....	122
11.3 Lowlands.....	122
11.4 Biodiversity.....	123
11.5 Anthropogenic Changes.....	125
11.6 Reforestation.....	127
References	129
12 Desertification	133
12.1 Deforestation and Droughts.....	133
12.2 Desertification.....	134
12.3 Desert Landscapes	135
12.4 Soils	136
12.5 Influence of Anthropogenic Activity	137
12.6 Characteristics of Landscapes	137
References	138
13 Ecosystems	139
13.1 Vegetation.....	139
13.2 Arid and Semiarid Ecosystems	139
13.3 Fauna	145
13.4 State Natural Reserves and Ecology	146
References	154
14 Anthropogenic Impact on Environment	157
14.1 Hewing of Forests and Forest Restoration	157
14.2 Felling of Woods and General Depletion of Region's Flora	158
14.3 Conservation of Biodiversity	159
14.4 Biodiversity	159
References	160

Part IV Developmental Geography

15 Economic History	163
15.1 Nature and Society in the Ancient Era.....	163
15.2 Nature and Economy in Antiquity	164
15.3 Nature and Economy in the Middle Ages.....	164
15.4 Economy in the Nineteenth Century.....	164
15.5 Economy in the First Quarter of the Twentieth Century	165
15.6 Economy in the Socialistic Era	165
References	166
16 Economy	167
16.1 Fuel-Energy Complex	167
16.2 Manufacturing Industry.....	169
16.3 Land Fund	172
16.4 Agriculture	173
16.5 Transportation, Communication and Trade	175
16.6 Communication.....	178
16.7 Internal Trade	178
16.8 Resorts and Tourism	178
16.9 Foreign Relations	179
References	181
17 Natural Resources	183
17.1 Water Resources	183
17.2 Agricultural Land Resources	189
17.3 Mineral Resources.....	189
17.4 Soil and Coal Deposits.....	194
17.5 Building Materials.....	195
17.6 Mineral Water.....	195
17.7 Landslides	197
References	199
18 Sustainable Development	201
18.1 Regions of Ecological Disaster.....	201
18.2 Pollution of Ecosystems.....	202
18.3 Transformation of Space and Growing of Cities	202
18.4 Ecological Catastrophe and Zone of Misfortune	202
18.5 Sustainable Development.....	203
18.6 Aesthetics	204
References	204
19 Global Warming and Climate Change	205
19.1 Warming Trend.....	205
19.2 Climate	205
19.3 Climate Diversity	205
19.4 Formation of Climate	206
19.5 Factors Affecting Climate.....	207
19.6 Agroclimatic Districts.....	208
19.7 Hydrography	208
19.8 Soil and Processes of Degradation.....	214
19.9 Erosion.....	218
References	218

20 Laws and Government	219
20.1 Central Government.....	219
20.2 Regional and Local Authorities.....	220
20.3 Electoral System and its Organization.....	220
20.4 Activities and Responsibilities of Government	221
20.5 Defense.....	221
20.6 Protection of Environment and Natural Resources	222
20.7 International Relations.....	222
20.8 Freedoms and Human Rights	223
Index	225

The Geography of Georgia

Problems and Perspectives

Bondyrev, I.; Davitashvili, Z.; Singh, V.P.

2015, XVIII, 228 p. 187 illus., 150 illus. in color.,

Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-05412-4