How Can We Preserve Circassian Cultural Identity in the Globalizing World and Developing Technology?

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OUTLINE

- 1. Things that constitute cultural identity
- 2. Changes brought in by globalization
- 3. Countermeasures against its effects
- 4. Thought experiments

1. Things That Constitute Cultural Identity

1.1 Geography1.2 Heritage1.3 Language1.4 Religion





















Contemporary Adygha:

- 1. Who is born somewhere else than Kavkaz
- 2. Who doesn't know much about his history except for having a few ideas about the Exodus
- 3. Who doesn't speak Adyghabza
 - But still feels himself to be Adygha...?

2. Changes brought in by globalization

- Individuals are not citizens of a nation state but are consumers in a global capitalist society
- In this global society people can easily change their location for better prospects.
- Replacement of local culture and languages with efficient global culture and languages (e.g. English, Russian, Arabic, etc.)

"My mother was a health official in the KBR government and though she could have come to the United States, she stayed in KBR and sacrificed 12 years of her career to raise me and my brother right with Adyghabza and Xabza.

But my peers have a very different interpretation of being Adygha. To them, I seem old-fashioned, hot headed and proud and therefore I am being left out of the mainstream Circassian community."

B.E.L., USA, 2018

3. Countermeasures Against Cultural Erosion

- 1. Education of parents and education of their children by the parents.
- 2. Extensive use of internet and social media platforms, e.g. Wikipedia, Youtube, Google Translate, etc.



4. Food for Thought 4.1 The Necessity of Preserving our Culture



4.2 Preservation vs Spreading



4.3 The Future of Languages?



Closing Remarks

All things aside,

- Most of our problems arise from our lack of an independent state
- Preserving our language and culture is still very important

