

Toponyms of Dusheti Municipality

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Dusheti Municipality ranks first among the administrative-territorial units of Georgia in terms of the number of settlements, with 290 inhabited localities. The high density of settlements determines the existence of a large number of geographical features within the municipality, which creates the need for their systematic recording, classification, and spatial analysis. These features were recorded according to the administrative units of Dusheti Municipality and grouped based on the principles of orographic, hydrographic, settlement, and river basin classification.

The main objective of the study is to verify and systematize publicly available information on the geographical features of Dusheti Municipality and, most importantly, to edit the data in cases where inaccuracies are identified.

The study of Dusheti Municipality was carried out by students of the Department of Geography of the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences of Tbilisi State University (Lasha Karkusashvili, Khatia Kvelashvili, Mikheil Kapanadze) within the framework of the 2025 student scientific project “Geographical Study of the Toponyms of Dusheti Municipality.” The field research also involved an academic Doctor of Geography, TSU Assistant Professor Giorgi Dvalashvili. The materials collected within the project framework will be used in the master’s thesis titled “Assessment of the Geographical Features of Dusheti Municipality Using GIS,” which will be submitted to Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

Within the framework of the project, geographical features located in the territory of Dusheti Municipality were studied. Research of settlements was conducted, and during the expeditions meetings were held with representatives of the local self-government, as well as with residents of villages and towns. The materials obtained during the expeditions were processed using the ArcGIS software and visualized in the form of maps.

Based on the data obtained from the field research, the book “Toponyms of Dusheti Municipality” was published. The book will be of interest to both the local population and public school students and teachers. It represents an important source of information for both local and foreign tourists.