

The Problems and Perspectives of Exploring Caves

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Nowadays the practical importance of the caves is as follows: A) Usage of their water, B) Exploitation of sewerage, C) Treatment of the caves, D) Cave tourism, E) Extraction of useful cave fossils, F) Usage of Caves as warehouses, G) Growing vegetable crops in winter inside the caves, etc. Usage of Cave waters for drinking is allowed in those cases, if their isolation from non-hygiene surface water is ascertained. These kinds of groundwater flows gather water within the pools of uninhabited surface, forested and alpine zone. When caves are used as a treatment, caution should be used in the study of cave and accurate medical diagnosis of disease.

A number of natural and man-made caves are presented as mass tourism facilities and some of them are even announced as Reserve, also they with other tourist facilities go in the national parks. The cave can be used and partly it is already used as storages of food products (wine, fruit, cheese, cereal, vegetables), agricultural-farming and construction equipment.

There are many karst and man-made caves equipped with modern technical facilities (electric lightning, access tunnels, elevators, motor boats for underground rivers and lakes, at dangerous places there are built balconies, railings, stairs, etc.).

In Georgia in addition to New Athos, Sataplia, Prometheus (Tskhaltubo) and Navenakhevi caves, Abrskili, Tsutskhvati, Nazodelavo, Usholta, Garakha, Kortskeheli, Nakhiznevi, Kotiasklde and Khvedelidzebisklde caves have a great perspective of becoming a mass tourism objects, what on the other hand, will be a good opportunity of developing speleo tourism in Samegrelo, Imereti, and Racha areas. Cave tourism and excursions give significant revenue to the country.