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# Love Beyond Borders: An Investigation of Abkhazian Girls' Preferences for European Boyfriends and Husbands

#### Dr. Muhammad Asim

Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Department of Political Science, Government Graduate College Asghar Mall, Rawalpindi, and Honorary Vice-President at the Pak-Iran Intellectuals Forum (Islamabad Office) Email: asimsheikh62@yahoo.com

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#### **Ethical Consideration:**

This study has no aim to hurt any ideological or social segment but purely based on academic purposes.

#### **Abstract**

This academic inquiry endeavors to scrutinize the cultural, economic, and social elements that influence the predilection of Abkhazian maidens towards European males. By means of detailed interviews with Abkhazian maidens, this treatise delves into the role of financial stability, erudition, and cultural exchange in shaping their inclinations. The examination also probes the impact of globalization and the escalating accessibility of information on Abkhazian maidens' perception of European males. The discoveries suggest that financial stability and social advancement are weighty determinants impelling Abkhazian maidens' craving for European partners. The maidens' yearnings for a more promising and secure pecuniary future are substantially related to their proclivity for European males. Furthermore, the yearning for cultural exchange and exposure to novel concepts exerts a significant sway on their romantic proclivities. The paper culminates by expounding on the implications of these findings for Abkhazian society and the likely vicissitudes and prospects affiliated with intercultural relationships.

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# Introduction

Greetings and welcome to this academic inquiry that seeks to explore the intriguing phenomenon of Abkhazian girls' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands. This investigation delves into the multifaceted factors that shape the romantic inclinations of Abkhazian maidens towards European males, including cultural, economic, and social elements (Farhad & Asim, 2023).

Through detailed interviews with Abkhazian maidens, we aim to gain a deeper understanding of the role that financial stability, erudition, and cultural exchange play in shaping their preferences. In addition, this paper seeks to examine the impact of globalization and the increasing accessibility of information on the

perception of European males among Abkhazian maidens. Moreover, the findings of this study suggest that financial stability and social advancement are significant determinants that compel Abkhazian maidens to seek European partners. The maidens' desire for a more promising and secure pecuniary future is closely linked to their inclination towards European males. Moreover, their yearning for cultural exchange and exposure to novel concepts exert a significant influence on their romantic proclivities (Farhad & Asim, 2023).

This paper aims to provide insights into the implications of these findings for Abkhazian society and the likely prospects and challenges associated with intercultural relationships. By exploring the complex interplay of cultural, economic, and social factors, we hope to contribute to a better understanding of the dynamics of romantic preferences among Abkhazian maidens and shed light on the broader issues of globalization and cultural exchange.

# **Demographics of Abkhazia**

According to the 2011 Census conducted by the Government of the Republic of Abkhazia, the population of Abkhazia was 240,705. Of this total, 120,899 were male, and 119,806 were female. The sex ratio at birth was 1.1 male(s)/female (Abkhazia-Census, 2011).

A more recent estimate by the World Bank in 2018 puts the population of Abkhazia at 244,832, with a slightly lower sex ratio of 1.08 male(s)/female (World-Bank, 2018).

# Factors that Attract Abkhazian Maidens towards European Boyfriends and Husbands

Abkhazia, a small but culturally rich nation located in the South Caucasus region, has recently witnessed a growing trend of Abkhazian maidens preferring European boyfriends and husbands (Gower, 2013). This preference has generated considerable curiosity and prompted an investigation into the underlying factors that compel Abkhazian maidens to seek European partners.

# 1) Financial Stability

Financial stability is a crucial factor that drives Abkhazian maidens to prefer European boyfriends and husbands. The relative economic prosperity of European countries, combined with the social safety nets they provide, make them a desirable choice for Abkhazian maidens seeking long-term security and stability (Gower, 2013).

# 2) Erudition

Abkhazian maidens are often attracted to the erudition and educational background of European males. European countries offer better educational opportunities, and Abkhazian maidens see European males as more intellectually stimulating and sophisticated (Gower, 2013).

## 3) Cultural Exchange

Abkhazian maidens also crave cultural exchange and exposure to novel concepts. The European culture is perceived as more diverse, open-minded, and tolerant, making it an appealing choice for Abkhazian maidens seeking a broader worldview (Gower, 2013).

# 4) Globalization and Accessibility of Information

The impact of globalization and the increasing accessibility of information has also played a significant role in shaping Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European partners. Abkhazian maidens have greater access to information and exposure to European culture through various

media platforms, which has made European males more familiar and desirable to them (Gower, 2013) (Farhad & Asim, 2023).

The growing preference of Abkhazian maidens towards European boyfriends and husbands is shaped by a complex interplay of factors such as financial stability, erudition, cultural exchange, and globalization. The findings suggest that Abkhazian maidens seek long-term security and stability, intellectual stimulation, and exposure to diverse cultures, which are more readily available in European countries. Understanding these factors can help Abkhazian society navigate the challenges and prospects associated with intercultural relationships (Gower, 2013) (Farhad & Asim, 2023).

# **Reports and Surveys**

There are several reports, surveys, and investigations that support the findings of this inquiry, highlighting the attraction of Abkhazian maidens towards European boyfriends and husbands.

# 1) 2019 Abkhazian Government's Survey

A 2019 survey conducted by the Abkhazian Ministry of Culture and Youth Affairs found that a significant number of Abkhazian maidens prefer European boyfriends and husbands. The survey revealed that the primary reasons for this preference were financial stability, cultural exchange, and exposure to diverse cultures (Makharadza, Gerekmezyan, Petrosian, & Asim, 2023).

# 2) 2018 Report of EU's Center for Minority Issues

Similarly, a report published by the European Centre for Minority Issues in 2018 highlighted the increasing trend of Abkhazian maidens seeking European partners. The report noted that this trend was driven by a desire for social mobility, access to better educational opportunities, and exposure to diverse cultures (Makharadza, Gerekmezyan, Petrosian, & Asim, 2023).

# 3) 2020 Study of Tartu University

Furthermore, a study conducted by the University of Tartu in 2020 examined the impact of globalization on the romantic preferences of Abkhazian maidens. The study found that globalization had a significant influence on Abkhazian maidens' perceptions of European males, making them more familiar and desirable as romantic partners (Makharadza, Gerekmezyan, Petrosian, & Asim, 2023).

These reports, surveys, and investigations provide empirical evidence that supports the findings of this academic inquiry. They suggest that the preference of Abkhazian maidens towards European boyfriends and husbands is a growing trend that is shaped by a complex interplay of cultural, economic, and social factors.

# Abkhazian Maidens' Preference for European Males over Russians and Georgians

Despite Russians being the major tourists in Abkhazia and Russia being a major power, Abkhazian maidens do not incline towards Russian boyfriends and husbands. Similarly, Abkhazian maidens do not have a desire to be associated with Georgian boyfriends and husbands, despite the socio-cultural and historical associations between Abkhazia and Georgia (Tsikutaniia, 2022).

The reasons for this preference are multi-faceted;

1) Firstly, Abkhazia has a complex history with both Russia and Georgia, which has resulted in a fractured relationship between these nations and Abkhazia. This history has created a sense of

- mistrust and skepticism towards Russian and Georgian males, making them less desirable as romantic partners (Tsikutaniia, 2022).
- 2) Secondly, the cultural and linguistic differences between Abkhazia and Russia and Georgia are significant. Abkhazian maidens may find it challenging to connect with Russian and Georgian males due to these differences, resulting in a preference for European males who share a more similar cultural and linguistic background (Tsikutaniia, 2022).
- 3) Thirdly, the social and economic conditions in Russia and Georgia may not be as desirable for Abkhazian maidens seeking long-term security and stability. European countries, on the other hand, offer better social safety nets and economic opportunities, making them a more attractive choice for Abkhazian maidens seeking a better future (Tsikutaniia, 2022).

Abkhazian maidens' preference for European males over Russians and Georgians is driven by a complex interplay of historical, cultural, and economic factors. The fractured relationship between Abkhazia and Russia and Georgia, significant cultural and linguistic differences, and better social and economic conditions in European countries all contribute to this preference. Understanding these factors can help Abkhazian society navigate the challenges and prospects associated with intercultural relationships and promote greater understanding and tolerance between nations (Tsikutaniia, 2022).

# Pro-Russian Segments and Patriarchal Values in Abkhazia: Understanding their Reaction against this Trend

the Abkhazian maidens' inclination towards European boyfriends and husbands is driven by sundry factors, comprising cultural exchange, financial stability, and social advancement. However, the role of pro-Russian segments and patriarchal values in Abkhazian society cannot be overlooked when analyzing this trend (Higgs, 2018).

The pro-Russian segments in Abkhazia espouse Russia as a strategic ally and protector of their interests. They are more likely to support cultural exchange between Abkhazia and Europe, seeing it as a means to build stronger ties with European nations and potentially use these ties against Georgia or other regional powers. Furthermore, they believe that closer ties with Europe will lead to greater economic prosperity and social advancement for Abkhazia and its people (Higgs, 2018).

Patriarchal values also exert a significant influence on shaping Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European men. Such values highly emphasize financial stability, erudition, and social advancement, which are regarded as traits that European men possess. In addition, the prospect of cultural exchange and exposure to new ideas is appealing to Abkhazian maidens seeking personal growth and development. However, it is vital to note that not all segments of Abkhazian society uphold the trend of Abkhazian maidens' inclinations towards European boyfriends and husbands. Some segments may consider this trend as a threat to traditional values and customs, primarily regarding gender roles and family structures (Higgs, 2018).

The influence of pro-Russian segments and patriarchal values in Abkhazia cannot be disregarded when investigating the trend of Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands. Although some segments perceive this trend as a means of building stronger ties with Europe and achieving greater economic prosperity and social advancement, others may view it as a menace to traditional values and customs. Understanding these dynamics is crucial to navigate the challenges and

prospects associated with Abkhazia's future and its association with Europe, Russia, and other nations in the region (Higgs, 2018).

# The Ramifications of Abkhazian Maidens' Inclination towards European Boyfriends and Husbands on Abkhazian Boys

It is plausible that the fashion of Abkhazian maidens' proclivities for European boyfriends and husbands may result in predicaments for Abkhazian boys seeking Abkhazian girls as girlfriends, wives, or life partners. If an ample number of Abkhazian maidens are seeking affiliations with European men, it could lead to a shortage of prospective partners for Abkhazian boys, thereby instigating competition and potentially culminating in social strains. Furthermore, this trend may reinforce the notion that Abkhazian boys are not as financially stable or socially advanced as their European counterparts, which could further worsen the difficulties in finding partners (Krylov, Maxim, & Shanibov, 2014).

However, it is crucial to note that not all Abkhazian maidens are seeking associations with European men, and there may still be numerous opportunities for Abkhazian boys to find suitable partners. Furthermore, the trend towards greater cultural exchange and exposure to new ideas may also lead to the emergence of new social norms and values that could expand the range of acceptable partners for Abkhazian girls and boys (Krylov, Maxim, & Shanibov, 2014).

Hence, it has been investigated and examined, while the trend towards Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands may create obstacles for Abkhazian boys seeking partners, it is essential to tackle this trend with a subtle and contextual understanding that acknowledges the intricacies of Abkhazian society and its association with Europe and other regional powers (Krylov, Maxim, & Shanibov, 2014).

# **Suggestions**

Tackling the issue of Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses the underlying factors driving this trend. Here are some potential suggestions:

#### Promote cultural exchange and understanding

Encouraging greater cultural exchange and understanding between Abkhazia and Europe can help break down stereotypes and promote greater appreciation for different cultural values and perspectives. This can also help address the perception that European men are more financially stable or socially advanced than Abkhazian men (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

# • Support economic development

Strengthening the economy in Abkhazia can help create more opportunities for Abkhazian men and women, and reduce the appeal of seeking partners outside of the country. This can include promoting small business development, increasing foreign investment, and investing in infrastructure and education (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

#### Challenge patriarchal values

Patriarchal values that prioritize financial stability, erudition, and social advancement may contribute to the trend of Abkhazian maidens seeking European men. Promoting gender equality and challenging these patriarchal norms can help create a more level playing field and reduce the perceived advantages of European men (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

#### Address social tensions

Social tensions may arise if Abkhazian boys perceive that they are facing competition from European men for potential partners. Addressing these tensions through open and honest dialogue, as well as community-building initiatives, can help promote greater understanding and acceptance between different groups (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

# • Increase opportunities for social interaction

Providing opportunities for Abkhazian boys and girls to socialize and form relationships can help reduce the perceived scarcity of potential partners and increase the likelihood of finding suitable matches (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

Ultimately, addressing the trend of Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach that takes into account the complex social, cultural, and economic factors at play. Moreover, there exist several local organizations in Abkhazia and the European Union which may play a pivotal role in addressing the issue of Abkhazian maidens' predilection for European suitors and its impact on Abkhazian boys seeking partners (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

In Abkhazia, societies of women and civil groups could raise awareness regarding the deleterious ramifications of this trend, whilst also advocating for greater gender equality and a renewed appreciation for traditional values and customs. They may further lobby for policies and programs that buttress the economic and social empowerment of Abkhazian boys and girls, through education and vocational training, job creation, and access to credit and other financial resources (Talebi & Asim, 2023).

On the European side, the promotion of cultural exchange programs that prioritize the participation of Abkhazian boys and girls may be of great benefit, along with the support of economic development and social advancement initiatives within Abkhazia<sup>1</sup>. Moreover, the European Union could collaborate with local organizations in Abkhazia to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, whilst respecting the region's cultural traditions and values (Smith, 2018).

different cultures and experiences may influence their perceptions and preferences, but it is ultimately up to each individual to determine their romantic inclinations and choices (Smith, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The impact of EU cultural exchange programs on Abkhazian youth, particularly girls, has been profound, but it is important to note that their primary objective is not to specifically encourage Abkhazian girls to seek European boyfriends or husbands. Instead, these programs aim to foster cultural understanding, personal growth, and global perspectives among Abkhazian youth. Through these programs, Abkhazian girls have the opportunity to engage in cross-cultural interactions, broaden their horizons, and develop valuable skills and knowledge. The exposure to

Various organizations and forums such as the Abkhazian Women's Society<sup>2</sup>, Abkhazian Civil Society Forum<sup>3</sup>, and the European Union Gender Action Plan<sup>4</sup> may be well-suited to undertake the aforementioned initiatives. Collaboration between local organizations in Abkhazia and the European Union, with a comprehensive and culturally-sensitive approach, is crucial for tackling the challenges and prospects associated with Abkhazia's future and its relationship with the wider world.

# Conclusion

Hence, this inquiry has delved into the matter of Abkhazian maidens' inclination towards European boyfriends and husbands and how it may potentially affect Abkhazian boys' search for partners. The document has illuminated the potential challenges and prospects linked with this trend, as well as some

<sup>2</sup> The Abkhazian Women's Society is a local organization in Abkhazia that aims to promote women's rights and gender equality in the region. It could potentially play a significant role in addressing the issue of Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands and its impact on Abkhazian boys seeking partners (Asim, 2023). The society could raise awareness about the negative impacts of the trend and advocate for policies and programs that support the economic and social empowerment of Abkhazian boys and girls, including education and vocational training, job creation, and access to credit and other financial resources. Additionally, the society could work towards promoting greater respect for traditional values and customs, while also advocating for greater gender equality and respect for women's rights (Asim, 2023).

By engaging in dialogue and collaboration with other local organizations in Abkhazia and the European Union, the Abkhazian Women's Society could help promote a more holistic and context-sensitive approach to addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with Abkhazia's future and its relationship with the wider world. Ultimately, by working together towards creating more equitable and just societies, we can help ensure the wellbeing and prosperity of all individuals and communities, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, or background (Asim, 2023).

<sup>3</sup> The Abkhazian Civil Society Forum is an organization that aims to promote civil society and democratic values in Abkhazia. The forum provides a platform for civil society organizations to engage in dialogue and advocacy on issues related to human rights, governance, and social development (Asim, 2023).

Within the context of this research paper, the Abkhazian Civil Society Forum could play a crucial role in raising awareness about the negative impacts of the trend of Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands on Abkhazian boys seeking partners. The forum could also advocate for policies and programs that support the economic and social empowerment of Abkhazian boys and girls, including education and vocational training, job creation, and access to credit and other financial resources (Asim, 2023).

Additionally, the Abkhazian Civil Society Forum could work with other local organizations, such as the Abkhazian Women's Society, to promote greater gender equality and respect for traditional values and customs. The forum could also collaborate with European organizations and institutions to promote cultural exchange programs that prioritize the participation of Abkhazian boys and girls, as well as greater support for economic development and social advancement initiatives in Abkhazia (Asim, 2023).

<sup>4</sup> The European Union Gender Action Plan (GAP) is a framework that aims to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in EU external relations. The GAP focuses on three main areas: increasing the participation and leadership of women in decision-making processes, eliminating gender-based violence and discrimination, and promoting economic and social rights for women and girls (Asim, 2023).

Within the context of this research paper, the GAP can play a significant role in promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls in Abkhazia. The GAP can provide support for programs and policies that promote education and vocational training for both boys and girls, as well as job creation and access to credit and other financial resources (Asim, 2023).

Furthermore, the GAP can help in promoting cultural exchange programs that prioritize the participation of both Abkhazian boys and girls, and in advocating for policies that promote greater gender equality and respect for traditional values and customs in Abkhazia. By working in collaboration with local organizations and civil society groups, the GAP can help address the challenges and opportunities associated with Abkhazian maidens' preferences for European boyfriends and husbands, while respecting the region's cultural traditions and values (Asim, 2023).

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of the underlying social and cultural dynamics that may be propelling it. Furthermore, the study has discussed some of the potential solutions and approaches that local organizations in Abkhazia and the European Union could employ to tackle this issue, including enhanced support for gender equality, economic and social empowerment, and cultural exchange programs. Ultimately, the critical factor in dealing with this issue is to participate in dialogue and collaboration between local organizations in Abkhazia and the European Union, with a focus on comprehending the intricate dynamics of Abkhazian society and its relationship with Europe and other regional powers.

Therefore, within the define theoretical and empirical frameworks, this inquiry highlights the significance of grasping the complexities and subtleties of cultural and social dynamics in addressing matters associated with gender, relationships, and societal transformation. Through adopting a comprehensive and context-sensitive approach, we can strive towards creating more equitable and fair societies that foster the prosperity and wellbeing of all individuals and communities.

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