

The oldest anthropogenic relief forms: river and sea polifunctional canals and terracing of slopes

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Geomorphology is one of the sciences which studies the problems, caused 40-50 years ago by human pressure on the environment. The more population, more pressure on the environment. The relief conditions is directly related to human activity, or to anthropogenic factor, which comprises all forms of human impact on nature. Due to the fact, that natural environment is a constant figure, while population is changing all the time, it is obvious that human impact on nature increases. It can be said, that the human is the only creature on the Earth, who can choose a living environment. The oldest anthropogenic forms are sea and river polyfunctional canals and terraced slopes.

A lot of work is needed for the construction of river canals. They have different functions, such as transporting water over hundreds of kilometers for melioration, agricultural and other purposes. In countries where there is a scarcity of agricultural land and which has a mountainous relief the artificial slope terracing is too important.

Irrigated land, which was transformed into the land favorable for cultivation, provided the population with food. Other solutions have not been invented yet. However, this method also has negative sides, such as highly mineralized anthropogenic lakes, which are the primary result of irrigation.

From the very beginning, the agriculture has become a main economic sector for Georgia, that is why in our article, together with other countries, we will be discussing the oldest unique river canals and terraces, their impact on the environment and on geomorphological processes.