Karachay-Balkar is one of the Turkic languages upon which many other languages had active influence.

The homeland of the Karachay-Balkar speakers is the Northern Caucasus. During the course of history the ancestors of contemporary Karachays and Balkars had contacts with various peoples and their languages, such as: Arabic, Iranian languages (including Persian and Ossetian), Turkic languages (including Turkish), Kabardian, and Russian.

Since the XIXth century, when the Caucasus was incorporated into Russia, a large number of Russian loan words entered the Karachay-Balkar language. The activity of Russian lexical elements in Karachay-Balkar is noticeable and manifested in various aspects. Together with Russian loan words so called “international” words also entered Karachay-Balkar and their number inevitably grows.

The purpose of this paper is to present how Russian and “international” elements are active on the ground of Karachay-Balkar word formation.

Given the agglutinative character of the Karachay-Balkar language, only suffixes are involved in the process of its word formation. In our analysis we take into consideration only suffixes of native origin, i.e. Turkic.

To have a possibility of estimating the scale of formative activity of the above mentioned elements we took into consideration both nominal and verbal derivatives. The analysis of the lexical material collected from the modern sources shows that on the basis of nominal word formation the following suffixes are very active: -(a\i)u, -či, -li, -lik, -siz.

Examples:

**Suffix -(a\i)u:**
- avtomatlau ‘automatization’ < avtomatlanirga ‘to automatize’;
- demonstracijalau ‘demonstration’ < demonstracijalarga ‘to demonstrate’;

**Suffix –či:**
- astronomijači ‘astronomer’ < astronomija ‘astronomy’;
- avantürači ‘1. wrangler. 2. adventurer’ < avantüra ‘1. wrangle. 2. adventure’;
- fabrikači ‘factory owner’ < fabrika ‘factory’;
- revolucijači ‘revolutionist’ < revolucija ‘revolution’;

**Suffix -li:**
- absolutlu ‘absolute’ < absolut ‘the absolute’;
- diskussijalı ‘controversial’ < diskussija ‘discussion’;
- kalibrli ‘having a certain calibre’ < kalibr ‘calibre’;

**Suffix -lik:**
- banditlik ‘banditism’ < bandit ‘bandit’;
- bankrotlük ‘bankruptcy’ < bankrot ‘bankrupt’;
- direktorluk ‘the function of a director’ < direktor ‘director’;
- redaktorluk ‘editorship, editing’ < redaktor ‘editor’;

**Suffix -siz:**
- kalorijasız ‘caloryless’ < kalorija ‘calory’;
- kvalifikacijasız ‘without qualification’ < kvalifikacija ‘qualification’;
- magnitsiz ‘demagnetized’ < magnit ‘magnet’.

Not only nominal suffixes take part in the process of derivation from Russian and “international” bases but also verbal and infinitive forming suffixes. The process is observed on a wide scale.

The suffixes -la, -lan, added to the nominal elements, form the verbal bases. There are quite frequent examples that these suffixes are also added to Russian and “international” bases, e.g.:

- demokracijalan- ‘to democratize’ < demokracija ‘democracy’ + suf. –lan;
duxla- ‘to scent somebody’ < dux ‘perfume’ + suf. -la.

The infinitive forms are made with suffixes: -arga, -erge; -îrga, -îrga -urga, -îrge.

Not only native elements but also “international” and Russian words are involved in the process forming infinitive, e.g.:
demokracjalanîrga ‘to democratize’ < demokracijalan- + suf. -îrga;
mašinalarga ‘to mechanize’ < mašinala- + suf. -rga.

From such bases are also formed some forms expressing the categories of mood and voice.

The analysis presented leads to some conclusions.
First of all, it is noticeable that Russian and “international” words (mostly nominal forms) constitute very active formative bases in the process of derivation in Karachay-Balkar.

In this process new, both nominal and verbal forms are formed. Parallel to these conclusions we have to pay attention to the great productivity of several formative suffixes such as: -(a\i)u, -çi, -la, -la(n), -li, -lik, -siz.

Most of those suffixes are also known in other Turkic languages where some of them are very productive as well.