

International Scientific Conference
“Ivane Javakhishvili – 145”
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Report by Natia Phiphia (TSU) , Tedo Dundua (TSU)
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2021 served as the 145th anniversary of the birth of Ivane Javakhishvili, illustrious Georgian historian, the main founder of Tbilisi State University. Ivane Javakhishvili also founded the modern school of historiography in Georgia. His studies in Georgian history are well-known all over the world. Institute of Georgian History at the Faculty of Humanities at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University organized international conference dedicated to the 145th anniversary of his birth. The conference was held on December 28, 2021.

Professor **Tedo Dundua**, director of the Institute of Georgian History and vice-dean of the Faculty of Humanities, made his welcome speech. He also introduced the 17th volume of the Institute’s proceedings. Session language was English.

Leri Tavadze from Tbilisi State University spoke about Ivane Javakhishvili’s academic achievements. As he outlined, “Javakhishvili had a goal to write complete Georgian history from old times to the present”.

Mahsa Veisi, who represented Institute for Humanities and Cultural Studies (Tehran, Iran), described the *Achaemenid Rule in the Caucasus*. As she mentioned, “the vast area had eternal riots, independence struggles and some conflicts over succession”.

Natia Phiphia and Ekaterine Kobakhidze, both representing Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, spoke about different interpretations of some inscriptions found in Mtskheta, specifically their interest focused on three inscriptions related to king Amaspos and his official, Anagranes.

Nino Silagadze, associate professor at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, spoke about *Some Issues about the Royal Images on the Sassanian Silverworks*. She presumed some of them to be produced in Georgia.

Ismail Shams (Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran) in his report *Investigation of Muslims' Attacks on Georgia (the 7th-11th cc.)* made a classification of confrontation between Georgians and Muslim powers. He pointed out that in the Umayyad Era (660-749) “there are some reports in sources about the battles of Caucasus between Arab Muslims and Khazars from the age of Mu'awya to the time of ‘Marwan the last Umayyad Caliph’. In this region, they had mainly taken up a defensive position against Khazars. There is no evidence of war between Muslims and Georgians in this period”.

Leri Tavadze served as a session chair for the second session. Session language was English. **Mircea-Cristian Ghenghea** from Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași (Romania) spoke about “*The Great Metropolitan Antim*” – *the Image of Anthimus of Iberia in the Works of N. Iorga*.

Emil Avdaliani from Tbilisi State University talked about the *Trade Routes and Georgia in the 18th-21st centuries*. He pointed out that “the real opportunity Georgia has nowadays is essentially a historical opportunity”.

Marcin Wieczorek, who represented Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań (Poland), spoke about *Georgia in the Eyes of Polish Political Exiles during the 19th Century*. He mentioned that there are “some notes about Georgians and Georgia itself” in their writings.

Sergei Tambi from the University of Tartu (Estonia) gave a speech about *The Past and the Present of Estonian Diaspora in Tbilisi*. He mentioned one interesting fact – “during the First World War the idea of transferring the University of Tartu to Tbilisi appeared. Tbilisi city governance expressed its readiness to locate the Tartu University in Tbilisi. However, this plan was never implemented”.

Iulian Moga from Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași (Romania) gave a talk about *Foolishness for Christ within Eastern Christendom. Romanian and Georgian Paradigms*. His purpose was to show “the Georgian paradigm, represented by Mama Gabrieli, and some patterns that can be encountered in Romania” and compare them.

Paul Crego, a researcher from Washington, spoke about *The Georgian Exhibition at the Walters Art Museum: the Objections of the Orthodox Church*. He said that some political and social problems made it impossible to have this exhibition.

Niko Javakhishvili, associate professor at Tbilisi State University, served as a session chair for the third session of the conference. Session language was Georgian.

Tengiz Simashvili from Telavi State University (Georgia) spoke about *The Soviet Repressions of September 1924 in the Kakheti Villages (According to Archival Materials)*. His speech was emphasizing the dramatic results of repression, mentioning “stoned family of David Vachnadze, son of Aleksandre Vachnadze” among others.

Apolon Tabuashvili gave a speech about *The Russo-Georgian Negotiations of 1782*. He mentioned that Russians sent a negotiator to Georgia during the talks about the “Greek Project”.

Niko Javakhishvili, associate professor at Tbilisi State University, gave short notes *From the History of Gamkrelidze Family*. He emphasized the fact “none of the Gamkrelidze had ever betrayed the country”.

Alexandre Boshishvili, assistant-professor at Tbilisi State University, spoke about *Riot of 1829 in Tbilisi Uyezd*. He indicated that “Georgians – the nobles and of course the peasants did not want to serve in Russian military”.

Dimitri Shvelidze, associate professor at Tbilisi State University, presented *One Translation of Ilia Chavchavadze*. He mentioned that Ilia Chavchavadze, a prominent Georgian writer, emphasized the importance of the Georgian unity.

Ketevan Tsimintia, PhD student at the Institute of Ehtnology, Tbilisi State University, spoke about *Prohibitive and Inhibitive Factors of Marriage in Samegrelo (Western Georgia)*. She assumed that “prohibitive factors of marriage between different clans were a) customary rules in Samegrelo, b) serving to the same shrine, c) becoming relatives via Christianity and etc. However, marriage taboo determined by Christianity affected only to minor clans rather than big clans. The memory of common origin is an inhibitive factor of marriage, but not prohibitive similarly to the memory of past social inequality”.

Akaki Chikobava from Tbilisi State University spoke about *Forgetting Tradition in Modern Georgian Historiography*. He emphasized some methodic aspects of research in modern Georgian historiography and pointed out that “periodization of history in the works of Georgian scholars follow the Marxists pattern despite the fact that not everyone recognizes the fact”.

There were interesting discussions at the end of each session.