





Georgia

Within the project
“Folk & LORE”

November 2020

Welcome to Georgia

Capital- Tbilisi

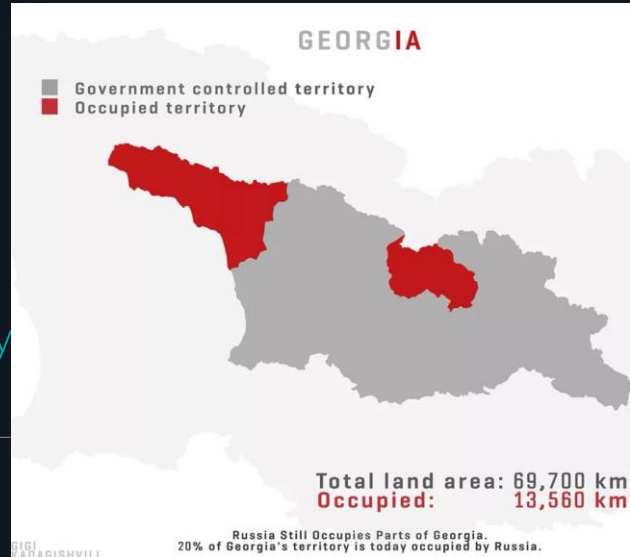
Area- 69,700 km²

Population- 3.7 million

Currency- GEL (Lari)

Government- Unitary parliamentary

Constitutional republic



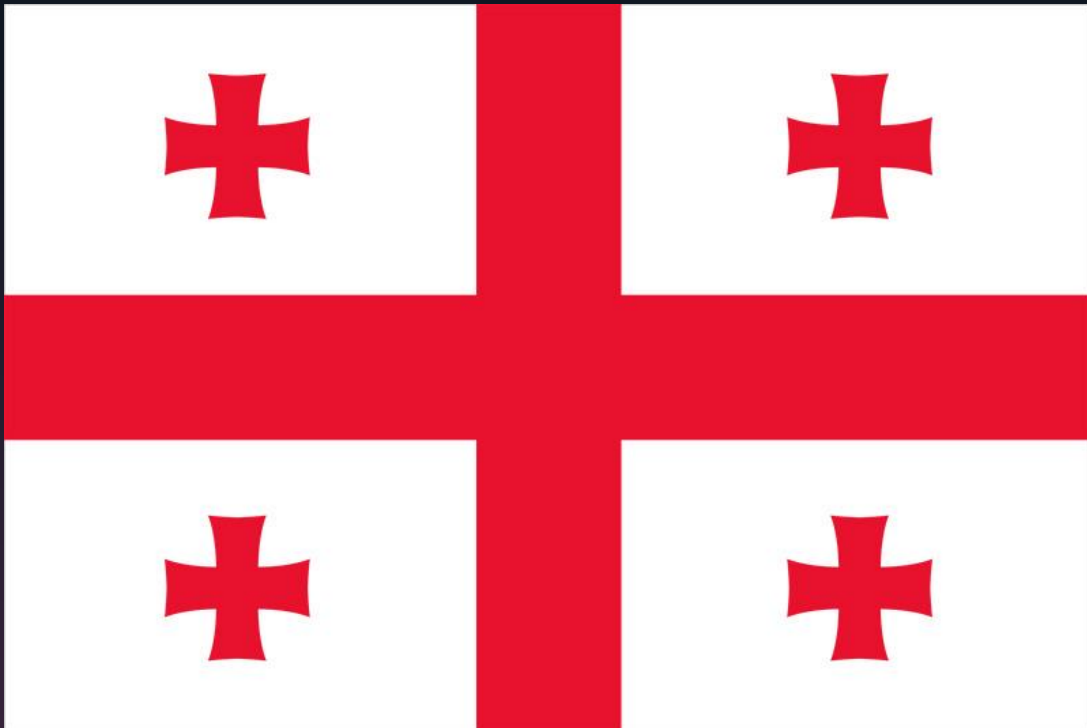
- ❖ located at the eastern end of the Black Sea on the southern flanks of the main crest of the Greater Caucasus Mountains.
- ❖ It is bounded on the north and northeast by Russia, on the east and southeast by Azerbaijan, on the south by Armenia and Turkey, and on the west by the Black Sea.
- ❖ Georgia includes three ethnic enclaves: Abkhazia, in the northwest (principal city Sokhumi); Adjara, in the southwest (principal city Batumi); and South Ossetia, in the north (principal city Tskhinvali). The capital of Georgia is Tbilisi (Tiflis)



motto: ძალა ერთობაშია, Dzala ertobashia, "Strength is in unity."
Anthem: თავისუფლება, Tavisupleba, "Freedom"



National Flag



National Emblem- The coat of arms



Religion

Christianity- 88.1%

- Orthodox Christians-83.4%
- Catholic Christians- 4.7%

88.1%
Christianity

10.7%
Islam

1.2%
Other/None



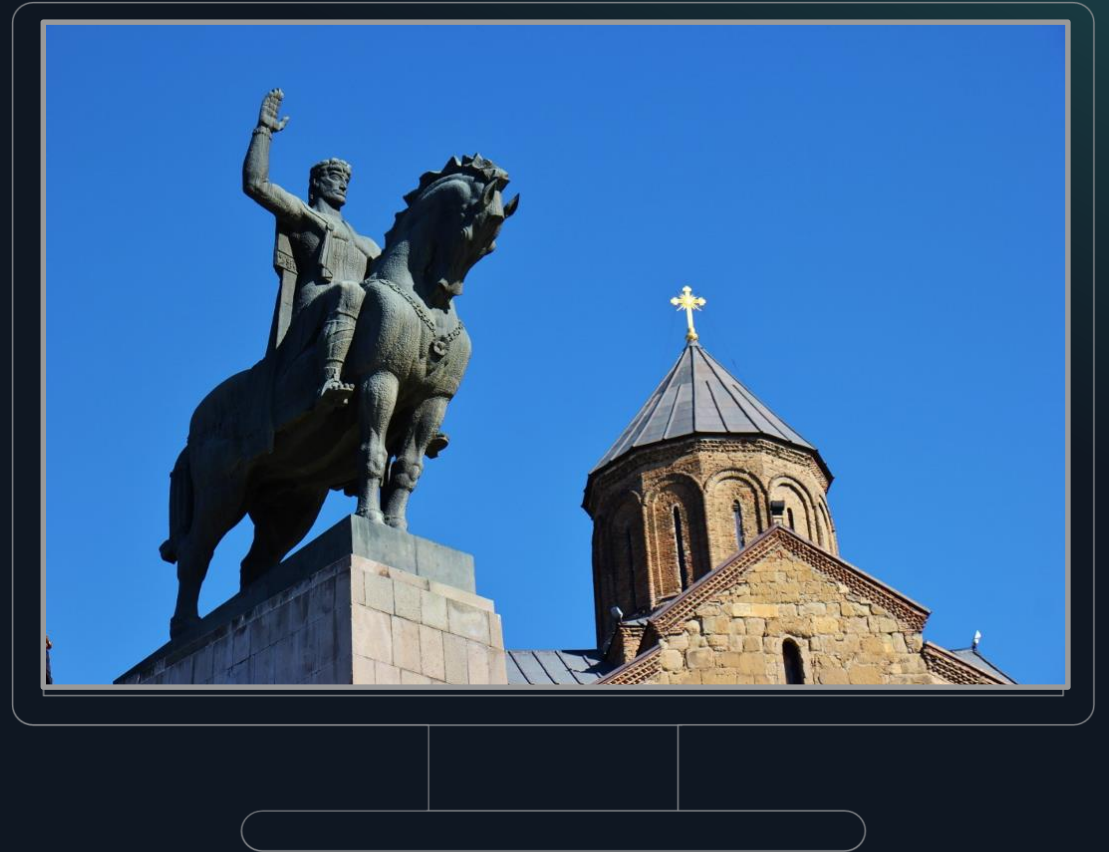
The Capital of Georgia-Tbilisi

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9Ug1ieo-fs&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR0Ak_TD7ewlwPG80upgMG3MfLAANij3Zlqtzd46BuDSsJl0rtbz5_bfL_g



The legend of Tbilisi's founding

The most widely accepted variant of the legend of Tbilisi's founding says that in the mid-5th century, King Vakhtang I Gorgasali was hunting in the heavily wooded region with a falcon. The King's falcon allegedly caught or injured a pheasant during the hunt, after which both birds fell into a nearby hot spring and died from burns. King Vakhtang became so impressed with the hot springs that he decided to cut down the forest and build a city. The name Tbilisi derives from the Old Georgian word "tbili", meaning warm. Archaeological studies of the region indicate human settlement in the area early as the 4th millennium BC.





The Golden Age of Georgia

The Georgian golden age describes a period spanning from roughly the late 11th to 13th centuries, during which the Georgian Kingdom reached the peak of its power and development. In addition to military expansion, in this period Georgia saw flourishing in many fields, such as architecture, painting and poetry.

The first female King of Georgia-
King Tamar (1184-1210/1213)

Language and Script

The appearance of written language.

According to one Georgian scholar, King Parnavaz created Georgian script.

The exact dates of King's reign are not known, but according to the latest sources, he ruled in the 3rd century BC, and many scholars do consider this period as the birth of Georgian alphabet.



[illegible]

Asomtavruli-
ასომთავრული

2	6	11	17	25	36
2	6	11	17	25	36

Nuskhuri-
ნუსხური

1000	6000	10000	8000	9000	10000
dnu	knuu	dnu	kuu	puu	pou
Ქ᲏ᲗᲠ	Ქ᲏ᲕᲠ	Ქ᲏ᲗᲠ	Წ᲏ᲕᲠ	Ქ᲏ᲕᲠ	Ქ᲏ᲕᲠ
Ლ	Მ	Ლ	Ნ	Მ	Პ
8000	100	800	800	800	800

Mkhedruli-
მხედრული



Svan (Georgian: სვანური ენა *svanuri ena*) is a Kartvelian language spoken in the western Georgian region of Svaneti primarily by the Svan people.

Mingrelian or Megrelian is a Kartvelian language spoken in Western Georgia (regions of Samegrelo and Abkhazia), primarily by the Mingrelians. The language was also called Iverian (Georgian *iveriuli ena*).



Georgian literature

The *Martyrdom of the Holy Queen Shushanik* (also translated as *The Passion of Saint Shushanik* is the earliest surviving piece of Georgian literature.

Georgian: წამებაჲ წმიდისა შუშანიკისი
დედოფლისაჲ, (Ts'amebay Ts'midisa Shushanikisi
Dedop'lisai)





The “masterpiece of Georgian literature”

The Knight in the Panther's Skin (Georgian: ვეფხისტყაოსანი) is a Georgian medieval epic poem, written in the 12th century by Georgia's national poet Shota Rustaveli.

Tradition of Hospitality

In old Georgia, hospitality was an important expression of Georgian person's dignity. Inhospitable men were very belittled for people who lived around them. Deserving men had to regal every guest despite of his or her derivation, with the best food and give nice space in his house to rest. There was one rule for Georgians: host had to receive guests in harmony despite of guest's hostile attitude to host family. There is a good Georgian phrase which describes Georgian's attitude about hospitality very good: "guest is God's ". The tradition exists today but has transformed and is suited to present day.



Namtsetsoba

After the wedding day, close friends, relatives, and family members of the bride and groom get together for Namtsetsoba, or The Leftovers Day in English. The reason its called The Leftovers Day is that they bring the food left from previous day and continue celebrating this special day.



Tamada

Nourishment and dishes are an important part of Georgian tradition. Leading laid table is an indivisible part of it, too. The Leader is called Tamada. Tamada has to say Georgian traditional toasts and protect drinking rules. Every toast is interpreted by others at the table and nobody drinks without a toast.

Mekvle

There is a very old tradition in Georgia that is still in place. Mekvle should visit one family on Christmas night or dawn and bring happiness and well-being to the hosts. The Mekvle's visit is important ritual. On Christmas eve, nobody leaves house before Mekvle comes with sweets.



New Year in Georgia

The arrival of the New Year is one of the most important celebrations in Georgia- and we celebrate it twice. Once on January 1st , and then on January 14st, known as Old New Year(according to Julian Calendar). January 2nd is Bedoba, which means "Day of Luck". It's believed, that whatever happens on this day will define what your year is going to be. So everyone avoids work and keeps up as sunny disposition as possible.



Chichilaki

Chichilaki was especially popular in Western Georgia, on Christmas day Chichilaki remains very common and you won't find a home in Western Georgia, especially in villages.





St. Barbara Day

Orthodox Church marks St. Barbara Day on December 17. St. Barbara is patron of Children. On this day, every family bakes Lobiani, a black bean pie. However,, according to the church, this is only local custom and has nothing to do with the day itself. Another custom in many families is to spread rice across the house for prosperity, luck, and well-being.

Georgian National clothes and dances



CHOKA- AKHALUKHI



Dancing shoes



Papakhi and Nabadi



CHIKHTI-KOPI



KARTULI



KHORUMI





ADJARULI



FARIKAOBA/KHANJLURI



SAMAIA



OSURI





KINTAURI



Georgian Music

Georgian polyphonic music tradition is world-renowned and calls upon an enchanting combination of ancient and modern harmonies. In 2001 UNESCO acknowledged this music as “a masterpiece of the world’s intangible cultural heritage”. Its unique, slightly dissonant style has not changed for centuries

In 1977 “Chakrulo”, a Georgian folk song, was included in the Golden Records sent into space on the Voyager.



Georgian Cuisine



Khinkali

Khinkali is Georgian dumpling in which we find either meat, or cheese, or potatoes, or mushrooms. The most common option is made with meat. A good khinkali should have juice inside. It is eaten with your hands, first you have to knead the dough a little and squeeze the juice, and then eat it. Its eating technique is often mistaken for tourists.



Satsivi



Satsivi is an integral part of the New Year's Eve. A cold dish, which consists walnut sauce and turkey or chicken meat.

Khachapuri

Khachapuri is a traditional Georgian food that originates from Imereti, it consists of specially prepared dough and cheese. However, there is khachapuri from other corners, for example Adjara, which differs from Imperils both in visual and composition.

Imereti

Samegrelo

Adjara



Elarji

Elarji is an important dignity of Samegrelo. It consists of coarsely ground corn flour and cheese, which are cooked together. Elarji was considered to be a special dish for an honored guest.



Gomi

Gomi is a popular dish from Samegrelo region, made from coarse cornmeal and topped with strips of Sulguni cheese and butter.

Eggplant with walnut paste

A popular Georgian family dish of eggplant with walnuts and spices. This is primarily a summer dish and is served cold.



Pkhali

Pkhali or Fkhali (Georgian: ფხალი) is a popular dish that can be made with many different types of leaves, including spinach, nettles, cabbage and beetroot. It can also be made with vegetables and nuts.



Mchadi

Mchadi is a Georgian cornbread, very popular and traditionally eaten with lobio (beans) and cheese.



Lobiani

Lobiani (Georgian: ლობიანი) is bean stuffed bread, enjoyed all year round and especially eaten on the Georgian holiday of Barbaroba, or St. Barbara's Day (December 17).

Gebzhalia

Gebzhalia (Georgian: გებჯალია) is a softened cheese dish from Georgia's Samegrelo region. Traditionally prepared using cottage cheese, it can also be made with matsoni.



Kharsho

Kharsho (Georgian: ხარშო), also known as Kharcho, is a traditional Georgian dish, usually made with beef or chicken but can also be made with other meats. It can be made with walnuts and with or without rice. This is Megrelian Kharsho, which is hot and spicy. Sometimes with tomatoes or tomato puree.



Matsoni

Matsoni (Georgian: მათონი) is a fermented milk product very similar to yogurt. It is smooth and creamy with a mild, slightly tart flavor. Popular in Georgia and throughout the Caucasus region, Matsoni is rich in mineral content, protein and calcium and renowned for its health giving properties.



Sulguni

Sulguni (Georgian: სულგუნი) is a brined Georgian cheese from the Samegrelo region. It has a sour, moderately salty flavor, a dimpled texture, and an elastic consistency; Its color ranges from white to pale yellow.

Churchkela

Walnuts covered in sweet liquid of Tatar



Gozinaki

Gozinaki is walnut and honey candy, traditional Christmas and New Year's dessert.

Georgian Sweets

Made from boiled grape juice. In the Western Georgia it is mixed with Corn flour and is called Felamushi, in the Eastern Georgia it is mixed with Bread flour and is called Tatar.

Felamushi & Tatar



Georgia- motherland of beverage

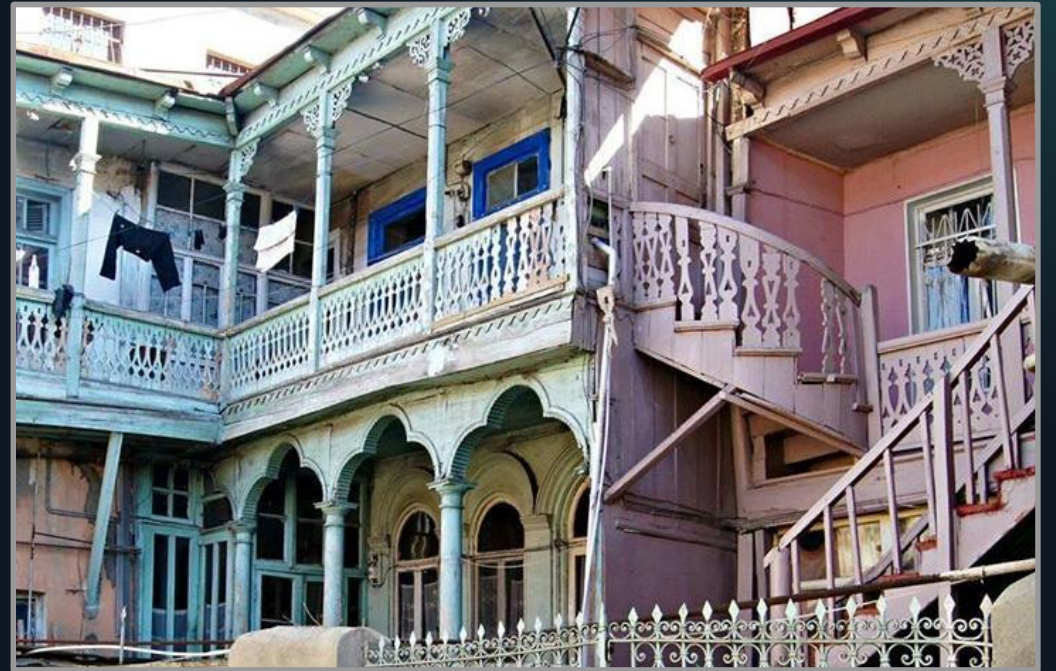


Wine-more than an alcoholic drink



Georgian architecture

Georgia is a country of contrasts. The oldest architecture of the country is carefully preserved from generation to generation, while modern architecture is prospering. Georgian architecture is influenced by many cultures and civilizations. Let's start from the capital of Georgia- Tbilisi. The old part of the city attracts both tourists and the locals, since the city architecture reflects the country's rich history. One street crosses itself a time or two, it's just like a labyrinth. And wooden balconies, they are just so charming.



The building preserved its stained glass windows for over a hundred years



Yet another remarkable feature of this building is its balconies decorated with exquisite carvings and ornaments as well the beautiful spiral staircase.



You can see all this in just a small city, Tbilisi, which is a perfect mix of old and modern.



Ministry of Internal Affairs, Tbilisi

The building of the modern concert hall was designed by the famous architect Massimiliano Fuksas. The building consists of two cylindrical buildings, in which there are an exhibition hall and a musical theatre. The Concert Hall, as well as the Bridge of Peace, are the most striking examples of modern architecture in the historic centre of the city.

Svaneti and Svan Towers

Now let's move to Svaneti. Svaneti is a historic province of Georgia, in the northwestern part of the country. It is well-known for its unique towers. there are many nice mountains and many nice towers in the world. But in Svaneti, there are both and match together very well. The usual Svan tower is built of shapes, has a square footprint and is 25 - 30 meters high. The entrance, located at the second floor is accessible only by a ladder or a wooden staircase so it can be removed at the case of emergency and very hard to access. The tower usually has four to five stories. The upper store beneath the roof served as a battle platform - here were located loopholes through which could the defenders shoot at anyone approaching the tower.





Did you know that we have a city called "city of love" in Georgia? Well, that's pure truth, and it is called Signaghi. While walking on the cobbled streets of Signaghi in Georgia, it feels like Italy - there's wine, colorful Instagram-worthy buildings, medieval architecture and the stunning Caucasus mountains in the horizon.



Signaghi- City of Love



Dadiani Palace in Zugdidi
City, Samegrelo region

Batumi City in Adjara
region



Rabati Castle

Rabati Castle is a medieval fortress built in the 9th century under the name "Lomisa Castle" in the city of Akhaltsikhe in southern Georgia, recently globally reconstructed.





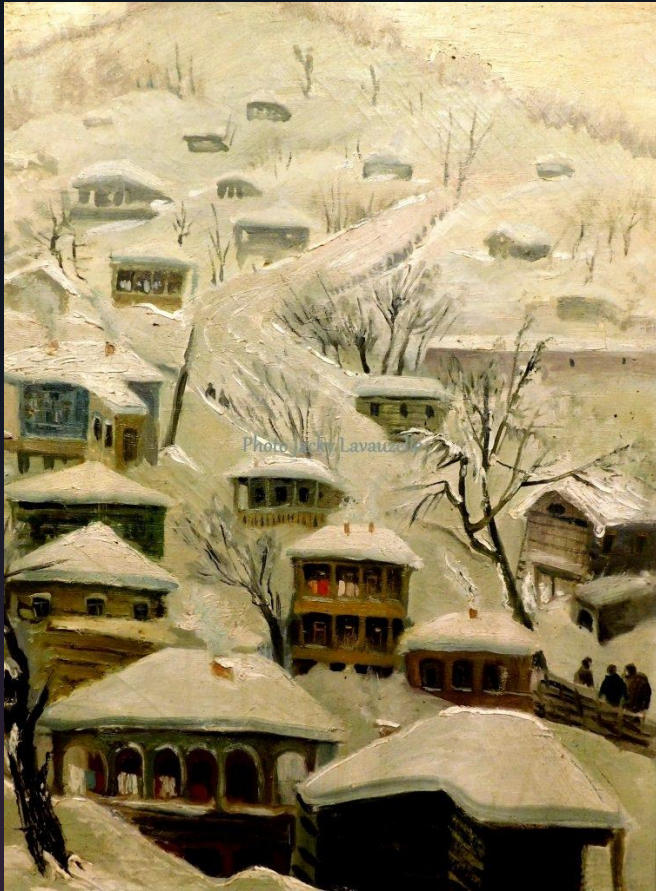
Vardzia

One of the main attractions of the Samtskhe-Javakheti region along with Vardzia. Vardzia is a cave monastery site in southern Georgia, excavated from the slopes of the Erusheti Mountain on the left bank of the Kura River, thirty kilometres from Aspindza. The main period of construction was the second half of the twelfth century. The caves stretch along the cliff for some five hundred meters and in up to nineteen tiers. The Church of the Dormition, dating to the 1180s during the golden age of Tamar and Rustaveli, has an important series of wall paintings. The site was largely abandoned after the Ottoman takeover in the sixteenth century. Now part of a state heritage reserve, the extended area of Vardzia-Khertvisi has been submitted for future inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage

Georgians in the world And Georgians for Georgia

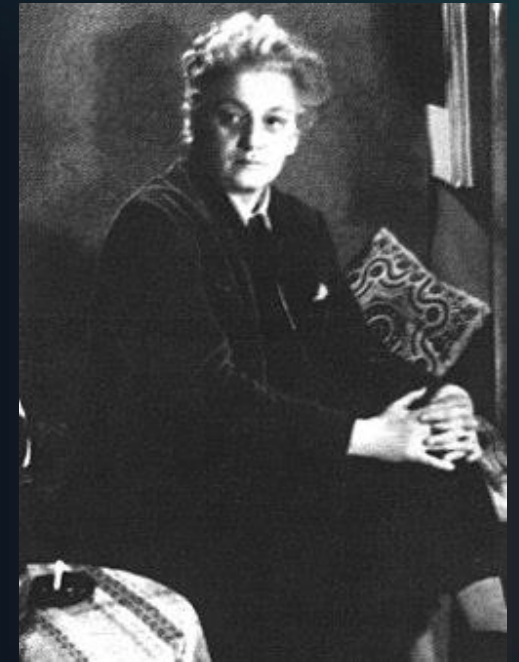


Elene Akhvlediani



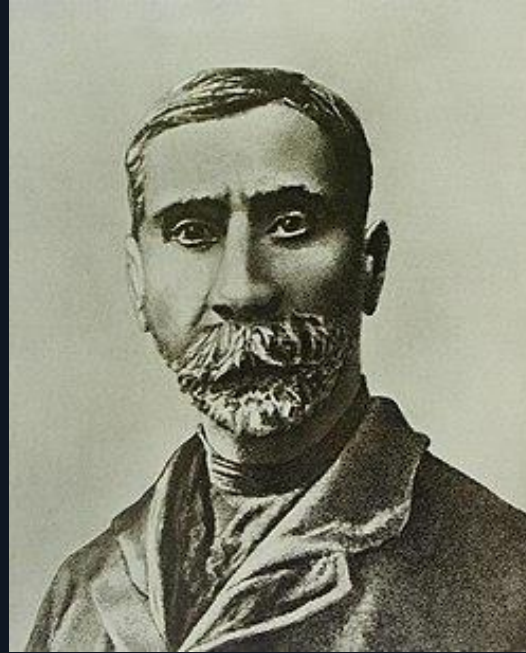
"Kakheti, Winter"

In 1971, Elene Akhvlediani became the first painter to be awarded The Shota Rustaveli State Prize, which is the highest prize awarded by Georgia in the fields of art and literature. She was also an organizer of a female painters group.

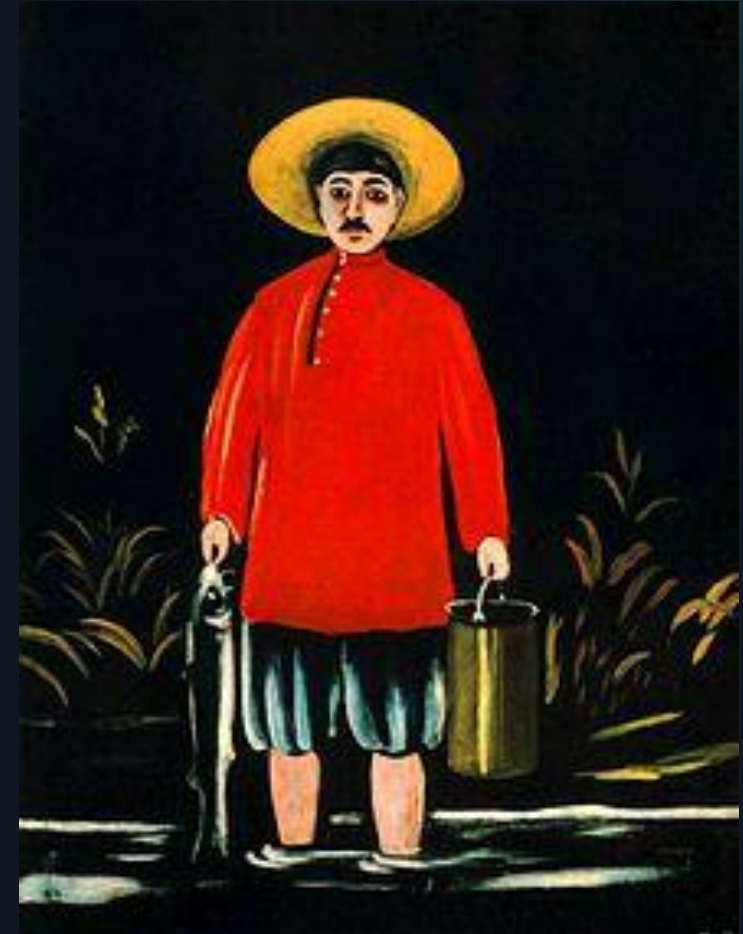


Niko Pirosmani (Nikala)

He taught himself to paint as a child, creating his own oil for painting, and his specialty was painting directly onto black oil cloth. He was always poor, but willing to work, and as such he held many jobs throughout his life. Pirosmani's paintings were influenced by the social conditions of his time and place.

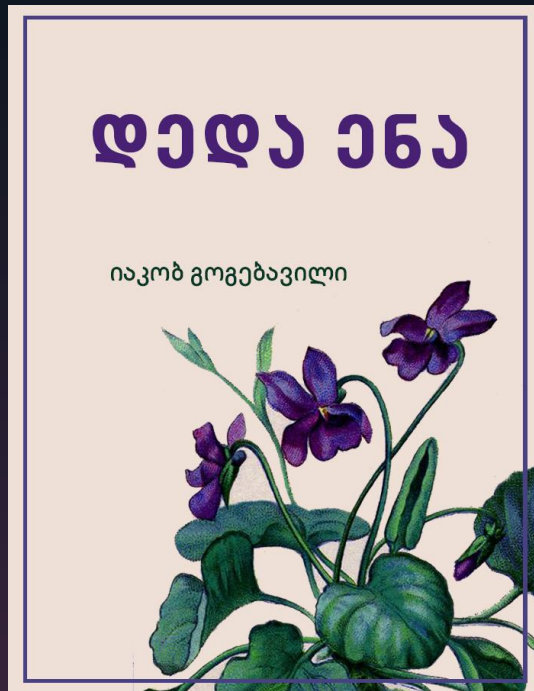


“Fisherman in a Red Shirt”



Iakob Gogebashvili

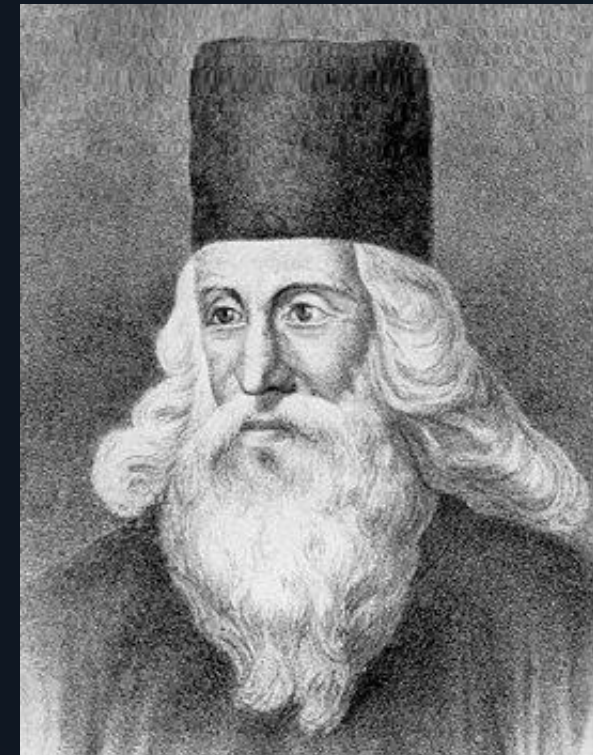
He is the founder of scientific pedagogy in Georgia. He created first Georgian school and alphabet textbook titled „დედა ენა“.



Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani

Made the first Georgian dictionary titled „fichkhis kona“

And created book of Proverbs titled „The wisdom of lies“



Ilia Chavchavadze



Founded the newspaper "Iveria". It has been one of the main centers of Georgian national, spiritual and intellectual life for three decades. Leader of the Georgian National Liberation Movement.

Ilia Chavchavadze is canonized as St. Ilia the Righteous

Vaja – Pshavela (Luka Razikashvili)

Classicist of Georgian literature, poet and writer whose works, despite his period, clearly present the problems of modernity with invaluable works.



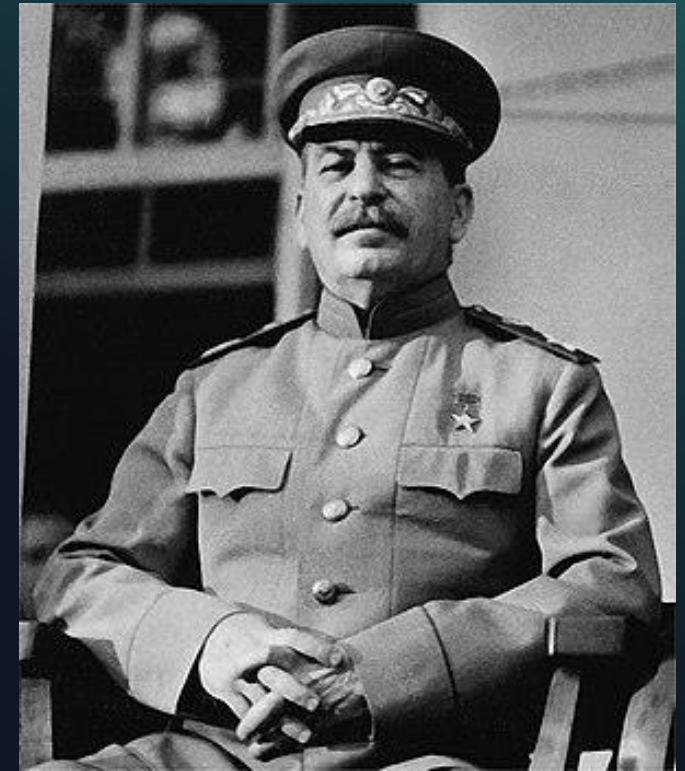
George “Coby” Kobakhidze

Kobakhidze introduced a new product in his manufacturing line in the form of Christmas decorations. He created electric lamps that would replace real candles on Christmas trees. Colored glass ornaments of various shapes were sold in boxes of 12 and 24, carrying the name “Coby”.



Zaza Pachulia

Georgian professional basketball executive and former player who is a basketball operations consultant for the Golden State Warriors of the National Basketball Association (NBA). He won two NBA championships with the Warriors in 2017 and 2018. He has played for the Georgia national team, captaining them in multiple tournaments

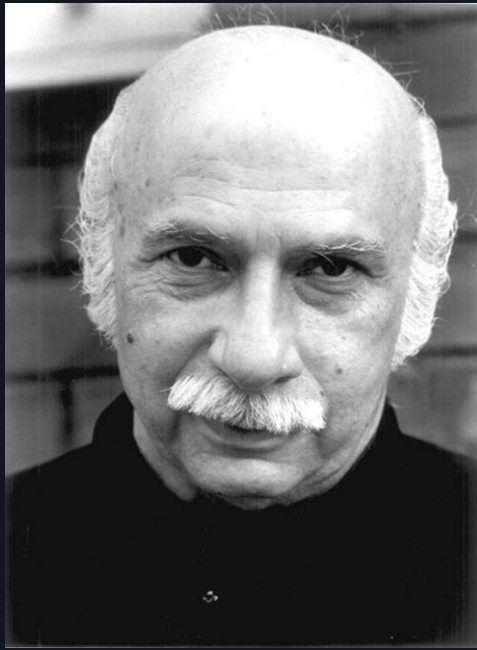


Ioseb Jughashvili (Stalin)

Georgian revolutionary and Soviet politician

Gia Yancheli

Georgian composer



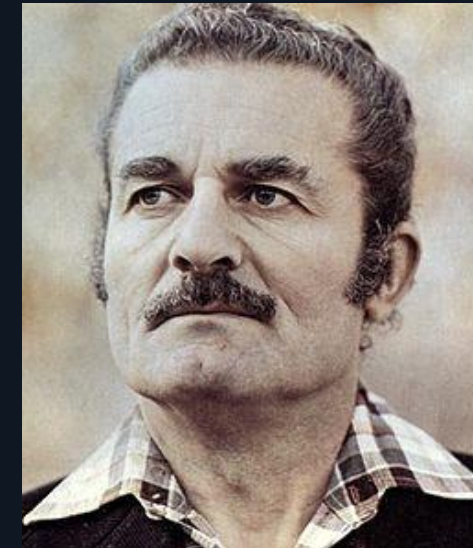
George Balanchine

Georgian ballet choreographer who was one of the most influential 20th-century choreographers.



Hamlet Gonasvili

The main attraction of Hamlet was his special and unique, characteristic, soft timbre voice. He was sung "many times" in Paris three times, the Spaniards kissed him on the throat. Together with the ensemble "Rustavi" he traveled almost all over the world and left no one indifferent with his song, including professional musicians. The songs performed by him are becoming more and more popular abroad today. Foreigners use Hamlet Gonashvili's "Urmul" and "Orovela" in movies and mass shows as a unique manifestation of a mystical event, the possibility of the human voice



Nona Gafrindashvili

She is a Georgian chess player and the first woman to be awarded the FIDE title Grandmaster. She was the fifth women world chess champion.

US Embassy publishes historic photo of Nona playing chess against 28 men



Khatia Buniatishvili

Throughout her career, she has performed at venues around the world. Khatia has participated in the Salzburg, Verbier, Gstaad Menuhin, La Roque d'Anthéron, and iTunes festivals, as well as LA's Hollywood Bowl, BBC Proms, Klavier-Festival Ruhr, and Progetto Martha Argerich.



THANK YOU!

Members:

Lika Tsetskhladze

Tamar Beridze

Sophi Khutsishvili

Nino Tenadze

Mari Sirbiladze

Nanuka Khatiasvili

Tornike Khutsishvili

Mariam Ketsbaia