

NATO GULUA

ARTISTIC REFLECTION OF RUSSIAN-GEORGIAN
RELATIONS IN THE NOVEL "THE GRIEF OF
HEROES" BY LEVAN GOTUA

"The Grief of Heroes" reflects the period of a progressive monarch Aleksandre I and, naturally, the question of the relations between Georgia and Russia is the focus of attention in the novel. It demonstrates in a realistic way the difficult situation obtaining in Georgia, the search for the way out and the grave consequences of the chosen orientation for the country. The writer step by step leads us to the conclusion that the tack of King Aleksandre proved incorrect, the attempt to view the Russian Empire as a friend and protector for Georgia ended in a failure. In the novel, the king still does not regret the ties with the North, he hopes for the bright future, which, perhaps, his generation will not live to see, but his descendants will. The novel is imbued with the hope for the future. It is shown clearly in the book that Georgian figures cherish the contact with "a progressive country", Russia, only with the hope for radiant future. However, they do not rule out either that "almost a protector" of today may turn into an autocrat tomorrow.