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RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE AND ETHNIC TOLERANCE IN MIDDLE AGES (IN THE CASE OF GEORGIA)

Although cultural assimilation and homogeneity was considered as a condition for peaceful coexistence, it can be traced only as a tendency within the framework of Middle Ages. During the Middle Ages with political and cultural boundaries not coinciding with ethnic diversity and in addition to bilinguism religion remains the most efficient weapon for cultural expansion, assimilation, national and political consolidation.

Even in time of political fragmentation and religious diversity orthodoxy was not only a dominant religion, but the determinant sign of the Georgian nation.

However, religious confrontation in the medieval Georgia rarely grew into an ethnic conflict.