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GEORGIA IN GEOPOLITICAL AREA OF EUROASIA (THE 10TH-13TH CC) HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS

ABSTRACT

Due to Georgia's location on the junction of the East and the West the country's geopolitical situation and history were extremely complicated. On the one hand, Georgia was a united, free and independent country, on the other, geopolitically Georgia has always belonged to a certain historical and 'cultural region. According to its natural geopolitical situation Georgia can be divided as follows: Georgia → Caucasus -Minor Asia → Near and Middle East → EuroAsia → the world.

On the whole Georgia (and Georgian culture) has always been an inseparable part of historical and cultural world (the so-called "Oykumene"). The 10 th - 15 th cc Kingdom of Georgia had an extremely significant role in the civilized world. In the first two decades of the 13 th century the territory of Georgia was over 190.000 sq. Km., where 1,5 -2 % of the world lived (cf. 0,1% nowadays). With this great, economic, political, cultural and military strategic potential and state ideology Kingdom of Georgia ("New Rome") become one of the world's great states. In the 12 th- 13 th centuries Georgia claimed to replace the descending Byzantium.