

TINA OCHIAURI

THE KHAKHMATI JVARI GIORGI NAGHVARMSHVENIERI

*Khakhmati Jvari Giorgi Naghvarmshvenieri* is the deity of the Christian origin. Its cult is composed of the certain Christian elements and is chiefly modified according to the popular tribal religion.

*Giorgi Naghvarmshvenieri* and *Samdzimar-kheli* are the *qelgiliani* deities of the netherworld. The cult clearly shows the traces of the early Christian beliefs, and traits commonly characteristic to fertility goddesses.

The spread of the *Khakhmati Jvari* cult in the mountain regions of the east Georgia, and in the adjacent regions is explained by the function of the deity.