

ONISE BANDZELADZE

WE ALL ARE THE CHILDREN OF ADAM'S

In their history Georgian people had to live in the permanent military preparedness for self-defense that has evidently made an impact on their existence, and on national character. However, the feeling of fanatic hatred towards the invaders has never evolved in the national consciousness. On the contrary, the common Georgian has always aspired to the establishment of friendly relationships with neighbors based on equality principles.

If some stranger peacefully came to Georgia for various reasons, he would be provided shelter and protection irrespective of ethnic, religious or other distinctions.

This disposition of the Georgian people is attested not only in historical realities but also in the specimens of the Georgia folklore that is a significant factor in the sense that folklore expresses the common idea of the people who has created it, and they would never approve the strange and unacceptable to them standpoints.

In the society of the permanent defense the national consciousnesses has developed an image of the hero, chivalrous ideal, the person who is ready offer the due respond to the enemy and protect the motherland in the expense of his life.

However, the bard does not classify the intruders as indiscernible blind mass. The narrator does not forget that in the camp of the enemies there should be people with personal dignities, observers of the Chivalry code and if the story-teller discovers such individuals he tells about them with a certain kind of pleasure. "Who is Better, Where", "The Legend about Lezghins", "Lion, you were Killed by a Lion".

The folklore narrator never confines himself to narrow national interests. The poem "What is a Life" tells that the hatred between the nations is not reasonable and that everyone should live in concordance.

The fact that this poem is very popular manifests that the ideas it conveys have always been acceptable to the people. The same can be said about the Georgian classical literature having its root in the folklore. The idea of coexistence on equality ground has always nurtured the Georgian consciousness that has been revealed in the tolerant nature of its people.