

## RUSUDAN KASHIA

### FOR THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "KARKHANA"

The term "karkhana" is first found in the Georgian text in the 18th century Tbilisi documents. The term is used to have meanings as *an enterprise; warehouse, or closet*.

According to *Dasturlamali* and historical documents the royal warehouse employed people on the positions of *mushribi* and *naziri*. Apart from them two other people involved in the warehouse were *iasauli* and *sakhlitukhutzesi* (house-manager).

The documents show clearly that the *karkhanas* belonging to Tbilisi artisans functioned as warehouses and they acquired meaning of "sakuchnao" (the closet).

N. Bertzenishvili uses the term "family karkhana" to refer to dye-house, which expresses the processes going on in dye-works with its hired labor-force and the relationships reflecting the transition to manufacture industry.

The first mentioning of "karkhana" in the sense of a mill (factory) appears in Akhtala and Alaverdi mining industry.

The word "karkhana" acquires the meaning of "enterprise" in the late half of the 18th c. and it is related to the advent of manufacture type enterprises in Tbilisi.