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TEIMURAZ II'S LYRICS WITH PUNS

Qualitative novelty of the renaissance Georgian poetry was marked with the introduction of new motifs and genres. Belles-lettres themes became multifarious. Writers and poets elaborated and simplified the language. They began to compose small size poems, riddles and humorous verses. They made use of puns where two adjacent words give a new word that allowed dual readings of the line. Many poets of this period involved in perpetrating puns. Teimuraz II, famous king and a poet turned to the application of puns in his poetry. Particularly noteworthy of these kinds of poems was his "Mirror of the Saying" in which he describes Georgian customs and traditions, rites. Here we find scenes of feasts, wedding parties, balls, hunting and others. The author elucidates all the details of feasts, describes food and how it is taken, and that after the toast to the king how they compete in poetry and pun perpetration, in particular.

The competition in composing puns in interesting ways was a mark of sharp witticism. It seems that King Teimuraz II distinguished himself to possess exceptional talent in this respect.