

## SHUSHANA PUTKARADZE

### ISTANBUL GEORGIAN CLOISTER - A SYMBOL OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TURKISH AND GEORGIAN PEOPLE

The introductory part of the work makes a brief survey of the Georgian Christian cultural educational centers and their activities, and the deeds and exploits of the religious and secular men for the history of Georgia in Istanbul (former Constantinople), one of the centers of the world civilization.

The body part of the work is dedicated to the Istanbul Georgian Cloister - as one of the most important Georgian cultural centers in abroad functioning to the present. Particular emphasis is put on the activities carried out by the Turkish-Georgian foundation, and by the Zazadz'es' family, and their efforts made for the study of the Istanbul Georgian Cloister.

The work points it out that the treasures presented in Istanbul Georgian Cloister (church, four-storey monastery edifice, rich library, precious archives materials, interesting museum artifacts, enclosed land of about a ha in the centre of Istanbul) been preserved for us by Turkish people, the Republic of Turkey, the fact that should be taken into consideration in the assessment of the many-centuries-old friendly neighborly relationships between Turkish and Georgian people; the fact is a true symbol and an example expression of brotherhood between Moslem and Christian people and their unity. The care towards the Georgia heritage taken by the Republic of Turkey is one of the most heartfelt examples in the relationships of our countries.