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TRADE RELATIONSHIP OF KARTLO-KAKHETI KINGDOM WITH IRAN IN THE LATE HALF OF THE 18TH CENTURY (Trade associations)

The Kartlo-Kakheti kingdom of the 18th century had trade relations mainly with Iran and with towns in the Caucasus that were under Iran's domination. Newly formed economic associations – comradeships (guilds) involved in the extensive foreign trade relations in the second half of 18th century.

The area of activities of those merchants who were related to Manuchar Tumanishvili, a prominent businessman through the 'Comradeship' ties embraced trans-Caucasian towns as: Tabriz, Guilan, Ganja, Erevan, Khoi etc.

Merchant record book of Julabashvilis,' traders from Gori, provides considerable materials for the study of the foreign economic relations of the country.

Merchants associations who would import goods and raw materials from Iran to Kartli and Kakheti were founded in Tbilisi.

Books of those comradeships give interesting information about trade relationships in the 18th century. However, after opening the road through Dariali gauge Georgian merchants brought goods from Iran to Russian towns of Mozdok and Astrakhan