

# AVTANDIL NIKOLEISHVILI

## HAZIRA

(From the series: Georgian writers of non-ethnic Georgian origin)

Among ashug poets of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Tbilisi who had substantially contributed to the strengthening of the Georgian language ashug poetry Hazira was one of the most prominent figures.

Considering the fact that most of his poems were written for singing purposes it would be more correct to say that he is rather an author of song texts than of poems composed by a professional poet.

In addition to the artistic simplicity the popularity of Hazira's sung poems was determined essentially by the contents of the lyrics that were easy for comprehension and expressed the concerns and troubles plaguing to the thousands of his listeners.

The fact that the great part of Hazira's poems is inaccessible for not only the general public but for the specialists as well my paper offers the discussion of his poems in the context of events of social and national importance and analyzes main tendencies characterizing to this prominent representative of the Georgian ashug poetry.