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### FROM IRANIAN AND GEORGIAN RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS (I-VI CC.): *DASTURI*

From Iranian and Georgian religious relationships the term *dasturi* drew my attention. The word has two meanings in the Georgian language: 1. consent, assent..2. a servant of icon.

In the new Persian language there is also a lexeme ( **دستور** ) (**dastur**), that has also two basic meanings: 1. a) indication; b) rule; c) permission...2) chief priest of Zoroastrians.

It is obvious that the term implies one and the same lexeme.

As is also known during the Sassanidae (dynasty that ruled about A.D. 226 - 641) Georgia had close relationships to Persia that allowed broad scope to the spread of Iranian traditions and particularly, the revival and footing of Zoroastrianism. Supposedly, this term entered the Georgian language space through these waves.

In Old Persian this term has a form **dastva** and in Middle Persian (3d -7<sup>th</sup> cc) – **dastovar** and **dastobar**.

It is probable that the Middle Persian had also its parallel form ( **دستور** ) **dastur**. My conjecture rests on the fact that **dasturi** that seems to have been borrowed from Persian is recorded in the Georgian texts long before the framing of the New Persian language (before the 9<sup>th</sup> c.) e.g. in 'Limonari' written by Ioane Moskhi in about 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> cc.