

ON THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE LITERARY IMAGE OF
KUZMA IN SHALVA DADIANI'S NOVEL
"AN UNHAPPY RUSSIAN"

The publication of Shalva Dadiani's novel "An Unhappy Russian" was marked with severe reaction from the proletariat critics. They were unfair and biased in blaming the author to have distorted the famous historical facts.

The literary critic of that period overlooked the fact that in the image of Kuzma, a teacher and mentor of Prince Iury, the author with great masterly depicted remarkable moral qualities of the Russian people. The image of Kuzma is brought about in the novel to reduce to a certain degree the negative impression exerted by the image of Prince Iury.

Kuzma the Russian, a man of sharp intellect, is a consummated literary image. He is characterized with unfathomed loyalty to his disciple and sincere love towards the Georgian woman.

It is possible that the writer created Kuzma's literary image in order to "rescue" the novel. Shalva Dadiani made use of the distant historical epoch to criticize his contemporary society. To make interested the general public he had introduced Kuzma, a completely imagined personage. It can also be conjectured that in the image of Kuzma Shalva Dadiani paid a tribute to the epoch he lived.