

## MADONA NIZHARADZE

### IDEA AND ARTISTIC ANALYSIS OF DIMITRI BAGRATIONI'S EPIC POEM "THE PASSION OF QUEEN KETEVAN"

Dimitri Bagrationi (1746-1826) is an emigrant Georgian poet. He was a grandson of King Iese.

Aggravated political situations in Georgia and intrigues related to the throne I Bagrationi left Georgia to join the Russian military service. He had a wife Maria Tsitsishvili and two daughters Elisabeth and Anastasia. Elisabeth married Giorgi Avalishvili, a prominent writer and traveler. They did not have children. So the Dimitri Bagrationi died heirless.

A.Nikoleishvili published an interesting study about D.Bagrationi. R.Nakshidze edited the book "Dimitriani," a complete collection of D. Bagrationi's works. Here are his lyric poems and some epic poems, "the Passion of Queen Ketevan" among them. The epic poem repeats almost unchanged the plot of Teimuraz I's epic poem with the same title but is much longer and has more literary images and tropes and other poetic embellishments.

In the opening lines of the poem we see that the poem was dedicated to Ketevan Batonishvili, a daughter of King Erekle II. The princess conspired against the Russian government and was punished to exile to Russia in 1805.

D.Bagrationi describes the passion of Queen Ketevan on the background of his country's tragic fate to relate the past to his contemporary Georgia and with this he tries to stir love and compassion to the homeland in emigrant Georgians.