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FROM THE HISTORY OF THE GEORGIAN WRITING (ACCORDING TO THE NUMISMATIC MATERIALS)

The paper discusses the question of the origin of the Georgian writing based on the numismatic materials. It brings forth the idea of scholars that the Georgian alphabet was developed during the pagan period when Georgians worshipped the Moon. As is known, later in the fifth century B.C. the country adopted Zoroastrianism, ancient Iranian religion and the worship of the Moon was substituted by the worship of the Sun. The fact is clearly attested by the numismatic materials preserved in the Kutaisi Historical Museum. Namely, on the fifth century B.C. Kolkhian *drachma* the image of a lion is posed prominent in the front suggesting the conclusion that in the 5th century B.C. the worship of the Moon is changed for the worship of the Sun. Accordingly, the Georgian alphabet must have been created before the 5th century B.C.