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## MAMUKA MENABDE

### FROM THE HISTORY OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY GEORGIA

In the second half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, under the circumstances of final disintegration of the unified Georgian state, the battle of Aradeti occurred in 1483 where the opposing sides were represented by King Constantine II (1479-1490), the king of still unified Georgia at that time, and Kvarkvare II (1451-1498) the Atabeg of Samtskhe. Several issues connected with the battle of Aradeti attract our attention.

Data of the Georgian sources that depict this battle are scarce and incomplete. From this point of view "Description of the Kingdom of Georgia" by Vakhushti is of interest; despite the fact that the very work offers numerous conflicting data regarding the battle as well as its main characters it provides us with extensive assistance in restoring the real picture.

On the basis of the work by Vakhushti we suppose that the battle of Aradeti might be connected with confrontation over the disputed territories between King Constantine and Kvarkvare the Atabeg. By the time of the battle of Aradeti this confrontation had almost a fifteen-year history; and, finally, like all then-disputed issues in Georgia involving Kvarkvare II, was settled in favour of the latter. Moreover, following the battle of Aradeti, Samtskhe-Saatabago gained full political independence from the "Tbilisi throne".