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MARIAM DADIANI (1605-1682)

Mariam Dadiani became a family member of Muslim King Rostom as a Christian Queen. Thus began a life journey of Queen Mariam - a unique phenomenon of Late Middle Ages. Queen Mariam who had a tragic fate turned out to be a strong person with great spiritual beauty, strong will and the ability to govern wisely.

Revival of the national culture was Mariam Dadiani's first priority. She had a great gift in governing agriculture; the lands that were under her rule, the so-called "Queen lands" became profitable, and the income gained from them was used for maintenance works in many churches and monasteries.

Mariam paid attention to the Georgian literature as well. She invited scholars and scribes and had them complete the hymns, copy the "Life of Kartli" which is known as Mariamiseuli ("Queen Mariam" codex, Mariam's „Kartlis Tskhovreba"). Her contribution to the rescue and preservation of Georgian historical monuments is also to be noted.

Untimely death of her son made her despondent. Queen Mariam dedicated the remaining time of her life to her motherland and to the well-being of her people.