

NATO NIKABADZE

HOW TO EVALUATE DECEMBER-JANUARY, 1991-1992 EVENTS?

Following the restoration of Georgia's independence (April 9, 1991) the national government could not maintain the integrity of the united Georgian nation. On the contrary, confrontation was escalating day after day. Both the society and the President were able to avoid the conflict; however, it did not happen.

The Civil war occurred on December 22, 1991 caused bloodshed between brothers leading to the death of hundreds. On January 6, 1992 the President and his supporters left Tbilisi seeking refuge in Grozny. Power passed into the hands of the Military Council (T. Kitovani, T. Sigua, J. Ioseliani).

The new government has called the events a democratic revolution as though leading to the overthrow of the dictatorial regime of Z. Gamsakhurdia. In fact, a coup through armed revolt and a forcible seizure of power occurred in Tbilisi in 1991-1992.

Zviad Gamsakhurdia's national worldview as a system represented a type of ethnic nationalism and was rather natural for 1970-90s. It expressed the will of the majority of the Georgian society and the nation.