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VERS LIBRE IN GALAKTION TABIDZE'S POETRY

From 1915 in Galaktion Tabidze's poetry that is distinguished by its rhythmic-versificative diversity the poetic texts written in free verse style can be found as a separate direction. Despite the fact that in terms of artistic values they can hardly be compared with his poetic masterpieces created by using conventional verse rules of meter they still cannot be left without due concern. This is true due to the fact that during his creative life Galaktion actively tried to firmly establish -this poetic form that had a very weak tradition in Georgian literature.

The key defining factor for the above-mentioned situation was first of all the fact that since the second half of the 19th century in many European countries vers libre had been established as a main form of expressing poetic thoughts. However, in this case local traditions should not be left without attention; the very idea is highlighted in Galaktion Tabidze's notes.

The free verses in Galaktion's poetry can conditionally be divided into three categories: the first category includes the rhymed verses written by applying mixed verse metres; the rhythm and music of such verses, despite the freedom of versification, is still largely determined by the use of harmonious rhythms and frequent alternation of different verse metres for attaining polyphonic tonality.

Unlike verses from the first group, the features characteristic to the vers libre in the second type of texts become so intense that rhythmic-musical harmoniousness and melodiousness are not easy to perceive.

As for the third group of verses, without any exaggeration, they can be considered to be the typical examples of vers libre in Georgian poetry according to distinctly defined characteristic features. In terms of versification such texts are so free and unlimited that most of them no longer incorporate at least the elements of any types of the classical verse metres.

Such freedom of versification frequently coupled with absence of rhyming substantially stimulates the verses that are not characterized by any type of rhythmic and musical manifestations of euphony. From this point of view they do not actually diverge from prosaic texts.

Galaktion created most of his vers libre poems during 1919-1930. While since 1930 the number of poems written in the aforementioned metre has considerably decreased having completely disappeared after 1934.

It is fair to say that despite the author's active efforts the vers libre poems did not bring him considerable success as in terms of the artistic quality they cannot even be compared with his world famous masterpieces.