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### HOUSEHOLD-CEREMONIAL FOLKLORE AND RITUALS IN *LEO KIACHELI'S* LITERARY WORKS

*Leo Kiacheli*, a famous Georgian writer often employs pieces of folklore and ethnographic-folkloric materials in his literary works. While indicating folkloric customs in his works the writer provides readers with interesting information on how to follow the rules.

It has to be emphasized that by including many of the folkloric samples into his works the author saved them for future generations. Folkloric and ethnographic materials abundant in *Leo Kiacheli's* literary pieces are of great artistic and scholarly value.

Realistic perception and understanding of images, facts and events represented the source of inspiration for his writings.

Wedding as well as funeral customs and rituals of one of the Georgian regions, i.e. Megrelia occupies a special place in *Leo Kiacheli's* writings. The relevant samples are discussed in the proposed article. Folkloric heritage has been individually processed by the writer and has been returned to his nation in a new sophisticated form.