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### ON PORTRAIT NIKOLOZ BARATASHVILI, IMMORTAL POET

It is unfortunate that there is not a single portrait left of Nikoloz Baratashvili, an excellent representative of the Georgian Romanticism.

After the death of N. Baratashvili, Georgian public figures, and scholars who studied his literary legacy as well as the publishers have many times attempted to find the trace of his portrait though no single true copy of the poet's picture has been identified so far.

The paper discusses the history of search for the poet's portrait and provides materials found along the way that could assist us in finding it. The following materials have been analyzed: sketches and portrait restoration attempts by Tumanishvili, an unknown copy of Tumanishvili's sketch found in Leipzig, the poet's picture found in the Georgian Catholic Monastery of Rome, two unknown pictures from the family collection of the Baratashvilis and the Orbelianis, Nikoloz Baratashvili's portrait – the painting from Yerevan, an attempted copy of a documentary portrait based on the examination of the poet's skull that could assist us in identifying with absolute certainty the ethnicity, sex, age of the deceased and the time passed since death.