

EVGENI BLIADZE
BAGRAT III OF GEORGIA IN THE “HISTORY OF GEORGIA”
BY SULKHAN BARATASHVILI

Sulkhan Baratashvili was born in Tbilisi. He began his studies at “the school for noble children”, further continuing his education at Cadet Corps in Saint Petersburg graduating in 1841. He pursued a thorough study of the European languages and historical literature. S. Baratashvili commenced his comprehensive work in order to write the “History of Georgia”.

During 1865-1871 the five volumes of the “History of Georgia” by Sulkhan Baratashvili were published in the Russian language in Saint Petersburg (the Georgian translation of the work was completed by S. Khundadze. The translated version was published in three volumes in Kutaisi during 1895-1913).

Sulkhan Baratashvili paid close attention to the historical sources. When needed, he had a preference for the Byzantine sources, and applied the materials from the Georgian Chronicles (“Life of Kartli”).

The “History” by Sulkhan provides an extensive part to specify the movement for integration that began in Georgia in the last quarter of the tenth century.

As usual, the movement was characterized with a lack of solidarity. A confrontation emerged, however, through the efforts of David Kuropalates and Ioane Marushisdze, the supporters of the country’s integration still succeeded in changing the course and Bagrat III of Georgia brought the fight to a conclusion. The accounts of the above-mentioned events are specified by the book’s author.