

**TENGIZ GUMBERIDZE**  
**MURMAN LEBANIDZE'S IDEAS**  
**CONCERNING LADO ASATIANI**

Murman Lebanidze, the twentieth century classic poet is one of those who adequately evaluated Lado Asatiani's poetry from the very beginning.

He assigned the author of *A Festive Song* a rightful place among his teachers. Murman Lebanidze dedicated his verse *Lado* to Lado Asatiani. The very verse clearly reflects the author's respect, admiration and love towards Lado Asatiani. At the end of the verse, Murman Lebanidze expresses his desire to achieve Lado's greatness. "I am driving flocks towards the undergrowth and dreaming of Lado's greatness". The poetic genius of both writers is nurtured by the same soil. It should be noted that the energy of Murman's poetry flourishes from Lado Asatiani's literary legacy. The rhythm and music of verses of both poets are touching.

A collection of selected verses by Lado Asatiani published in 1986 includes a title-page with Murman Lebanidze's letter briefly examining Lado Asatiani's beliefs and personal life, and his old or new opponents. The author specified that although Lado Asatiani's poetry had received a positive response in general, neither scope nor intensity of the acknowledgement was sufficient, given L. Asatiani's merit. The study and adequate appreciation of Lado Asatiani's legacy is yet to come.