

## **CULTURAL PHENOMENON OF FEREYDAN GEORGIANS IN IRAN**

### **ABSTRACT**

In the course of the centuries, the Fereydan Georgians succeeded in maintaining their mother tongue, and traditions and customs of their forefathers. In their pursuits, they managed to maintain national consciousness while creating a unique cultural phenomenon in Muslim Iran. Talent, wit and skills of the Georgians have been revealed in various spheres of life. The Georgian ox-cart and residential buildings constructed in line with the Georgian architectural style represent a remarkable example of the household culture.

The Fereydan Georgians have preserved not only the features of household culture but also spiritual compatibility with their historical brothers. The fact that no homicide had occurred during four centuries among the Georgian community is the greatest expression of high spirituality of the Georgians as well as of their love for their fellow countrymen. Knowledge of the native language and reading and writing skills was handed down from one generation to another. As for the Georgian book, it has been regarded as an actual relic in every Georgian household. The Fereydan Georgians had difficulty in obtaining Georgian books. Often, they would copy pieces of Georgian literature and spread them in manuscripts.

Under current circumstances, it is critically important that Said Muliani, the Georgian from Fereydan has compiled “Deda Ena ”(Mother Language) based on Deda Ena by Iakob Gogebashvili) in Georgian and Persian languages for Georgians living in Iran. It ensures that the knowledge of the mother language as well as the contact with the roots will be maintained.

The Georgian cultural phenomenon deserves praise in Iran and is unique throughout the world.

**Keywords:** Fereydan dialect, Georgians of Iran, Georgian culture.