

THE EXPERIENCE OF HEAVEN AND EARTH IN TERENCE GRANELI'S POETRY

ABSTRACT

The article explores the poetry of Terenti Graneli who, according to the poet, serves as a bridge between heaven and earth. His poetry has a poignant way of expressing feelings occurring due to his helplessness, broken dreams, rejection, humiliation or ridicule, and loneliness as well as aspiration for and expectation of the new time, in which the poet probably meant both the change of the system and the other world – the distance, the third dimension, which exists beyond eternal mystery, beyond life and death for which he was so desperately striving.

The poetry of Graneli clearly reveals a tragic picture of the clash of reality and transcendent world. He feels intense suffering about humanity in the mundane world, endures unfairness both from men and authorities. He is fighting for survival. The poet looks for and finds god in the godless epoch.

The desire of heaven, seeking god, and the idea of leaving the earth are closely related to the poetry in his works. While the poet expresses discontent with his earthly life, he tolerates the idea that he as a poet and mediator between God and men will have to endure injustice as well as distress to achieve the goals, but the poetry is the only way to get to the place called “the blue distance”.

According to the poet's theological or philosophical point of view, coming closer to God is possible only through decess and transfiguration, rather than by merely dying, those two notions are not the same in the works of Graneli. Death means the end; as for the transfiguration, it means the beginning of something new. It is the place, the new world where the poet's soul can find peace, since the only thing that brings relief is poetry.

Keywords: Georgian poetry, Terenti Graneli, the experiences of heaven and earth, asceticism.