

## **IOSEB IMEDASHVILI AND THEATRE**

### **ABSTRACT**

In Georgia as well as all over the world, the late 19th and early 20th century proved to be crucial for further development of the society. It was during this period that social issues have become a focus of particular interest and young writers entered to the literary scene, who had already been brought up in the intellectual atmosphere created by the generation of the “Tergdaleulis”. Most of them later worked in Soviet Georgia and, in fact, created the 20th century Georgian literature.

With his diverse activities and interesting work, Ioseb Imedashvili is distinguished among Georgian writers working at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. He also committed himself diligently to the service of the Georgian theatre to help it thrive. Ioseb Imedashvili was connected to the theatre since his youth as a director, actor, and playwright. He wrote novels, poems, poetry, and publicist letters.

When studying the history of the development of the Georgian society, Ioseb Imedashvili appears to be a very interesting figure. His multifaceted work clearly shows that he accepted all of the challenges of his era at the right time and tried to devote full potential to the Georgian culture.

One of the important tasks in the history of Georgian journalism has been and still is the development of a consistent view of such an interesting representative of Georgian public awareness as Ioseb Imedashvili.

The more we examine the work of the writer, the more we become convinced that Imedashvili’s creative materials allow us to determine the central attitude, specificity, while exploring several problems. We are dealing with a rather interesting publicist and, at the same time, a civil rights advocate.

In order to shed light on the socio-cultural dynamics of the modern spiritual life, it is of some interest to get acquainted with and evaluate the publicist processes of some writers in terms of problems of vital importance from the point of view of their contemporaries.

Ioseb Imedashvili’s work and creative heritage have not been monographically studied, therefore, in a certain way, our scholarly work will expand the various types of sources that are available about this interesting author.

The articles on Ioseb Imedashvili written by Leri Alimonaki, Tamar Gomarteli and others are of great interest. Nevertheless, there are some issues that have not been the subject of specific research so far. At the same time, certain views expressed in connection with Ioseb Imedashvili’s work need to be clarified and critically reconsidered, which is necessary in order to clearly understand the significance of his work.

**Keywords:** Georgian theatre, Georgian publicism, Ioseb Imedashvili.