



Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani
UNIVERSITY

Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University
Comission for Culture and Church Unity at the
Roman Catholic Church in Georgia

VIII INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM CATHOLIC HERITAGE IN GEORGIA JUNE 17-18 2025

Scientific Committee:

Nugzar Bardavelidze (Georgian Technical University)
F. Gabriele Bragantini (Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University)
Vaja Vardidze (Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University)
Merab Ghaghanidze (University of Georgia)

Organizational Committee:

Manana Andriadze
Shorena Parunashvili
F. Akaki Chelidze



17 June, Tuesday

10:00

Registration

10:30

Opening the Symposium

Welcome Speech

11:00 – 12:30

First Session

Sergo Vardosanidze

Doctor of History, Doctor of Theology, professor, Tbilisi Theological Academy and Seminary (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Mikheil Tamarashvili, the first Georgian researcher of Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani's diplomatic mission to Europe

Merab Ghaghanidze

Doctor of Philosophy and Philology, Professor, University of Georgia (Tbilisi, Georgia)

"Spiritual Collection" by Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani: The Structure and the Task

Paata Natsvlishvili

Doctor of Social Sciences, Professor, Grigol Robakidze University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

For whom was Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani's "Voyage to Europe" written?

Nugzar Bardavelidze

Doctor of History, Professor, Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani 300 The controversial life of a famous diplomat, scholar and clergyman, seen through the prism of modernity

Moderator: Vaja Vardidze

12:30 – 12:45

Coffee Break

12:45 – 14:15

Second Session

Murman Papashvili

Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Bardzim Aragvis Eristvishvili and Catholicism

Davit Merkviladze

Doctor of History, Independent Researcher

17th century Catholic missionaries' information about Georgian ports

Eldar Bubulashvili

Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Catholic missionaries about the holy relics of the Georgian Orthodox Church



Mariam Marjanishvili

Doctor of Philology, Kutaisi State Historical Museum (Kutaisi, Georgia)
The role of Georgian Catholics for the freedom of their homeland

Moderator: Merab Ghaghanidze

14:15 – 15:15

Lunch

15:15 – 16: 45

Third Session

Nato Kruashvili

Doctor of Pedagogy, Samtskhe–Javakheti State University (Akhaltsikhe, Georgia)
Joseph Khutsishvili – Meskhi Gutenberg At the Origins of the Enlightenment

Tatia Mtvarelidze

PhD student, Ivane–Javakhishvili Tbilisi State
University, Assistant-Professor, Caucasus University (Tbilisi, Georgia)
Newly identified historical sources from the Vatican's Archivio Storico di
Propaganda Fide concerning the brothers of King Vakhtang VI – Catholicos-Patriarch
Domentius IV and Kaikhosro

Elisabeth RICHARD

PhD student EPHE (Paris) and L'Orientale (Naples)
Jean Richard, an aid for Sulkhan Saba or an opportunist ?”

Tamar Tsagareli

Doctor of Art History, Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film State University of Georgia
(Tbilisi, Georgia)
Zakaria Paliashvili's messe (missa) and Catholic Church

Moderator: Nugzar Bardavelidze

18 June, Wednesday

10:30 – 12:00

First Session

Tamar Cheishvili

Doctor, Associate Professor, Ilia State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Maia Damenia

Doctor, Visiting lecturer, Ilia State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)
Homiletic Legacy of the Catholic Missions in Georgia

David Tinikashvili

Doctor of History, Professor, Caucasus University (Tbilisi, Georgia)
Russian Orthodoxy and European Catholicism: The Peculiarity of Russian Efforts to Control Georgians

**Eter Bokelavadze**

PhD Student, Visiting Lecturer, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

The Relations between the Georgian Orthodox Church and the Holy See in the 70s-80s of the 20th century

Avtandil Jokhadze

Doctor of Political Sciences, Associate Professor, Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University

Did the Georgian society have hostile attitude towards the Roman Catholic Church before Georgia's annexation by Russia?

Moderator: Gabriele Bragantini

12:00 – 12:15

Coffee Break

12:15 – 13:45

Second Session**Fr. Gabriele Bragantini**

Visiting Lecturer, Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

25th Anniversary of the Consecration of the New Church in Batumi

Natela Khitarishvili

PhD student

Catholic Church of Vale

ANA CHKUASELI

Assistant-professor, Ilia State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

Ancient Colchian medicine in the 18th-19th centuries

Ekaterine Zaseshvili

PhD Student, Sokhumi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

The textbooks of the Georgian Language preserved in the Istanbul Georgian Catholic Cloister

Tamar Charkviani

Doctor of Sociology, Associate Professor, Caucasus

University (Tbilisi, Georgia)

The Transformation of Youth Religiosity in Georgia: Faith Practices in the Context of Social Change

Moderator: Gocha Barnovi**Summery**