

## Antiquity in Georgian Prose

**Abstract** It is unique in the history of world civilization Greece and Rome . Ancient culture since ancient times, and is the subject of scholarly research and debate. Mythological and critical-analytical synthesis of the ancient Greece. Myth and heroic stories were endless examples of the cash register, where people were ideals and standards of living. In ancient Greece, literature, fine arts, scientific thinking has reached the degree of independence, when it became possible to establish the artistic culture of a different genre. The ancient Greeks did not really have competitors. Greek myths of ancient times, and later became a part of European culture. Georgian culture and stories of ancient times can be found in antique motives. News is part of the traditional Georgian literature. Contemporary writers antique motifs still apply, because it is a universal language. The aim of our research is to determine the relation between the old Greek Mythology and modern Georgian literature.

**Key words:** *Antiquity, myth, literature*

### Introduction

Ancient Greek culture and literary heritage has got centuries old tradition in old Georgia. Two factors can easily serve to explain the emergence of these tradition: one is the general , global significance of the Greek culture , and the other –close Greco-Georgian contact, that was reflected in the mythology, literature and historical monuments.

After Christianity became the established religion in old Georgia, most favourable conditions were created to better relation with Byzantine-that of the closet inheritor of the Greek culture. Those ages witnessed intensive translations of hagiographical pieces and theological treaties from Greek into Georgian. Prolific creative work was being conducted in many of the educational centres.

Old Georgian literature was well familiar with Homer , the author of “Iliad” and “odyssey”. Reference to Homer was made in hagiographical as well as in historical literary , pieces, through which Georgian reader identified Homer as an unparalleled writer capable to masterly depict most noteworthy chronicles and personalities. (Asatiani 1987: 167-168)

### Methodology

Research Methodology We use the hermeneutic analysis of the text, which implies interpreting a text itself. Psychoanalysis and comparative methodology to carry out our research. The hermeneutic method

is understood by understanding. The interpretation of the antiquity and the early Christian times meant the determination of the relationship between the essence and the revealing.

## **Main Issue**

Greek mythology has become one of the most important facts of world culture in the post-modern period. Of course, when we talk about mythology, we mean different transformation in artistic culture. In mythology we will consider the classical tradition, which is much larger than its size, because it includes all areas of antique culture (Gordeziani 2005: 286-287). We want to focus on the influence of ancient literature on the world literature, and what extent it covers. Our aim is to make the purpose of using the Hellenic mythology not only in the world but also in the European, but in some modern Georgian works. The ancient world had a close geographical and cultural relationship with Georgia, which was naturally reflected both in literature and in other arts. Intensive relations with the Byzantine Empire promoted dissemination of diverse information in Georgia (Gordeziani 2005: 314). The ancient Greeks were the first in many fields. We have a fictional culture-literature, visual arts music, choreography. All the great genre-epic, lyric, drama, novel was first created in Greece and all the appropriate development went through. In the footsteps of the Greek phenomenon, the Georgian culture was also developed, which still keeps and preserves old traditions. Georgia in late antiquity consisted of two entities Iberia-kartli in the east of the Likhi-Surami range and Colchis –Lasica\_Egrisi with the Eastern Pontus shore west of the Likhi range. So we have to look on both regions to get idea of late antique art, culture, literature, architecture in Georgia. The region always was a hinge between West and East, North and South, and intersection between the Great Powers of Antiquity. The Colchis was long known in the Mediterranean –the Argonaut myth was popular already in Homeric and Classical Greece, and again in the first centuries AD when Rome had direct contact with region (Plontke-luning 2017:1-4). The richness in gold was proverbially, and Strabo describes the collecting of gold with the help of sheepskin rugs in the rivers of the mountains Colchis. The excavations in Vani confirm the gold abundance and high quality of Colchian goldsmith's art. Late Antiquity was so much international, a kind of globalization process. Greek colonization were in east coast of Pontos behind mighty mountains.

When we talk about ancient cultures in Georgia, it is impossible to ignore traditions and primaries. We mean the issue of the formation of artistic thinking patterns and the types of their distribution.

Georgian literature was constantly experiencing East or West, but never lost its originality. Europe-Asia relations, the similarity of the two ideas - the difference still does not lose its actuality in scientific circles.

Old Georgian writings from antiquity not only familiar with the characters of Greek mythology or Greek mythology but also many representatives of the Hellenistic period. Old Georgian literature was well familiar with Homer, the author of the "Iliad" and "Odyssey". Reference to Homer was made in hagiographical as well as in historical literary pieces, through which Georgian reader identified Homer as an unparalleled writer capable to masterly depict most noteworthy chronicles and personalities. Homer and the heroes of his poems were quite frequently associated with concrete historical personalities for building up analogous judgements. Homer's influence is felt in the Georgian literary pieces of later period, as in "Archiliani" by poet and King Archil, Timoty gabashvili's "Pilgrimage", Besarion Gabashvili's "The battle of Rukhy" etc. In the 18th century Georgia was familiar with Sophocles and Euripides, Aristophanes and Menander. In the Georgian literature of the transition period, there was a

great interest in the story, such as the sacrifice of Iphigenia. The Georgian manuscripts trace two versions of the tragedy "Iphigenia".

Plato was quite popular in Georgia in medieval period. Evidence to this is Greek literature into Georgian in the middle ages as well as the medieval original Georgian writings containing references to Plato.

Modern Georgian literature today also addresses antiquity motifs and models. The aim of the research is to help the writer's inner world to find and not only literary parallels. Introducing the current and the latest research on the existence of Greek-Roman culture in the Caucasus, for foreign scientists, antiquity and the Caucasus. What is the Georgian reality of antiquity, myth receptiveness and what purpose it has in the work. Composition of the mythology, chart, literature in different forms. Myth, mythology can be a literary course, school, background, title or a subject. When the myth is seen as a wallpaper, it is always conditioned by traditions that are characteristic of the era. Georgian literature synthesis of traditional elements. He is neither western nor eastern, so he managed and maintained its originality. Below we will discuss details of myth and literature. Based on the specificity of the research, our interest in Greek mythology is called symbolic mythology, Indo-allegorical, Persian-schematic. Greek mythology goes from endless to end. People have a desire to apply what is clear and accessible to him.

As for the terminology, "myth" was the primary meaning of "word". He used the meaning of the story, for example Homer uses the verb derived from this fruit - in the sense of "coming." There are two forms of myth and myth in the Georgian language. The latter refers to the general mythological theory of creativity, and the "myth" - the specific story (Gordezian 2005: 19). The myth is a fruitful collective mindset, conscious and unconscious, so it is less connected with personal experiences. Most of mythological stories are repeated in the folk of different people, these are archetypal motives. Obviously we have opposition elements: light-darkness, earth, cold, etc. The main mythological opposition is the confrontation between the professionals and the laurels.

In our opinion, there is very interesting information in each direction that we have selected in this direction. The famous tragedy of "Euripides" Bacchus Women" gives us much more attention to the inner world of the universe and its unconscious study. Personal duality, unsustainable psyche and neurological conditions that people can not control and eventually lead to death. The above mentioned issues are also very relevant to Georgian authors. As well as the mutual understanding of myth and ritual, the tradition, religion and the research and literary forms in contemporary Georgian writings. Our goal was to show what impact Greek literature had and how it was reflected in Georgian prose. Clearly, will not be able to fully exhausted the issue.

Modern Georgian literature (novel, play) is becoming more popular in modern world and our writers are known in the world. It is interesting to note that the 21st century authors reinforce their work with old stories, myths and loyal stories. Myth is unchanged and has the same effect as the modern reader as before.

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