

## Current Advances in Caucasian Studies

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### The language of the talk – English and Russian

**Title of Paper:** The Problem of The Interpretation of Syriac and Georgian Texts of "Peter the Iberian's Life"

#### **Abstract of Paper:**

1. The Syriac and Georgian texts of “The Life of Peter the Iberian”, an outstanding ecclesiastic figure and a most highly valued and respected saintly man in the 5th century, whose activity is closely associated with Constantinople and the monastic centers in Palestine, play a tremendous role both in the study of his life and activity and the research in the Syro-Palestinian ecclesiastic and political history of the 5th century; However, the research in the textological and theological problems of the Syriac and Georgian texts of “The Life” acquired especial significance after the renowned Georgian scholar Nutsubidze and Honigmann, a Belgian scholar, had identified Peter the Iberian as author of the Areopagite corpus.

2. Collation of the Syriac and the Georgian texts gives us grounds to conjecture that the Syriac and the Georgian texts of “The Life” stem from the same source.

3. It has been my aim to reveal the interconnection between the Syriac and the Georgian texts of “The Life”; except a few separate episodes the texts mainly coincide. However, the Syriac text is altered and the Georgian text of Macarios Meskheli (of Meskheti) has not survived; hence the only text the Syriac text can be compared with is the text restored by the archpriest Paul, where some passages are lacking due to the many flaws present in the original some episodes were added during his work on the text.

4. In spite of the fact that the Georgian text of “The Life” has been worked on and differs from the Syriac text, it should not be underestimated, as it is the Georgian text where important information which can be useful for clarifying some separate ambiguous passages of the Syriac text, is provided.

- **Fields of research:** Christian Orient, Aramaic language, Arabic language, Biblical Studies, A History of Syriac literature, Oriental-Georgian literary Relations.