

# Project Summary

The first half of the 17th. century is one of the most important period of Georgian history. The kingdoms of Kartli and Kakheti are facing the threat of complete destruction due to Persian aggression. Some of the Georgian kings fight to death against Persia (Giorgi X, Luarsab II, Teimuraz I), and a part of the kings (Simon-Khan, Bagrat-Khan, Rostom) reveal their pro-Persian political orientation. The group of anti-Persian kings is trying to establish alliance with Ottoman Empire and Russia in order to overcome the resistance of Persia. In the end, East Georgia becomes the administrative unit of Persia (Gurjistan is included the Persian Empire as one of the Wali). Along with foreign and domestic political alterations, the status of Georgian kings and state institutions that had existed over the centuries had been also changed. This important process, first of all, has been reflected in the written sources, linked to the Georgian kings, i.e. in Georgian and bilingual Georgian-Persian historical documents, epigraphic inscriptions and colophons of manuscript books. It is impossible to reconstruct the complete picture of that period history without thorough study of written sources. The aforesaid sources are numerous and they are distinguished by high credibility. The project is aimed at the academic publication of the above-mentioned sources according to the modern standards, commentaries and complex research of the obtained materials. New historical sources which are not published and examined yet will enter in the scientific circulation. For the very first time, in the Georgian scientific literature, the most important issues of the first half of the 17th c. will be considered as a whole, based on their overall understanding, in contrast to the existing researches, where only separate issues of the given period are examined. The publication of the aforesaid sources and its study will contribute to the examination of the new scientific tasks and development of profound study of other related fields. The publication of sources and researches, based on newly revealed material, will be important not only for scholars interested in Georgian history but for researchers of Oriental and European history, since from 30ies of the 17th century Georgia becomes an administrative unit of the Persian Empire (as Gurjistan Wali.) The 17th Georgian was involved in the international political and commercial and economic processes.