

PROJECT SUMMARY

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| Project number | FR/286/1-10/14 |
| Project Title | Fundamental research of Jruchi Monastery history and scientific cataloging of its treasures |
| Research subdirection/ subdirections | 1-10 History of Georgia, Source Study and Historiography of the History of Georgia; 1-40 Art Study of Georgia; |
| Name of the leading organization | Kutaisi N.Berdzenishvili State Historikal Museum |
| Web | |
| Name of the co-participating organization | |
| Web | |
| Project Budget (Lari) | 146240 |
| Project duration (in month) | 36 |

Personnel

| | Key Personnel Name, Surame | Position in the project | Academic degree | Date of birth |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 | Dato Sulaberidze | Principal Investigator | Doctor | 1973-02-09 |
| 2 | Maia Kebuladze | researcher | Master | 1963-10-22 |
| 3 | Tsitsino Mumladze | researcher | Master | 1952-09-01 |
| 4 | Kakhberi Kebuladze | researcher | Doctor | 1975-07-22 |
| 5 | Nino Sarava | researcher | Master | 1979-01-01 |
| 6 | Eliso Chubinidze | researcher | Master | 1968-09-02 |
| 7 | Maia Sachkovi | researcher | Doctor | 1963-08-19 |

Project Summary

The project raises the issue of fundamental research of Jruchi Monastery history and cataloging its scientific treasures. There are many monographic works dedicated to the history of church-monasteries in Georgian Historiography but Jruchi St. George's Monastery has never been an object of complex scientific research. According to epigraphic sources, it was built in 11th century. For some period present dispensation and Evil turned it into military fortress. In II half of XVIII century it was again revived and it functioned as the tomb for the royal family and powerful feudal lords-Tseretelis. In the 19th century Tsarist Russia occupied Georgia and the prosperity of Jruchi Monastery was sacrificed to Russification-Colonization Policy. In 1921 Bolshevik Russia occupied Georgia. In 1923 Bolshevik government prohibited the Liturgy in Jruchi Monastery and parted centuries preserved spiritual and material treasures from mother church. In 1991 the earthquake totally destroyed Jruchi Monastery. Historically toughest fate makes it more necessary to study Jruchi Monastery scientifically from different aspects.

The project includes the preparation of the solid research that would be consisted of two main chapters: 1) Historical essay about Jruchi Monastery and 2) The treasure of Jruchi Monastery (scientific annotation of the jewelry of the church and of book-depository with its colourful illustrations).

The implementation of the project is set according to the following stages:

- 1) Finding and considering existing scientific literature and published sources about Jruchi Monastery.
- 2) Exploring unpublished materials (charters-Gurji, different types of correspondence, lists and others) of Patriarchate Archive, Georgia State Historical Archive, National Centre of Manuscripts, Kutaisi State Archive and Kutaisi State Historical Museum about Jruchi Monastery.
- 3) Writing the historical essay on the basis of found and explored archival materials according to the following chapters:
 - History of architectural buildings
 - Landownership
 - Socioeconomic life
 - Church leaders' work and their chronological list
 - History of Jewelry
 - History of book depository
 - History of necropolis
- 4) Clarifying the exact list of preserved samples of manuscripts about Jruchi Monastery. Finding them in National Centre of Manuscripts, Georgia State Historical Archive and in National Parliamentary Library of Georgia. Their scientific annotation with colourful illustrations based on relevant researches.
- 5) Finding still preserved old printed books of Jruchi Monastery in National Centre, Georgia State Historical Archive, National Parliamentary Library of Georgia and in Kutaisi State Historical Museum and their scientific annotation with colourful illustrations based on relevant researches.
- 6) Finding (clarifying the complete list) still preserved samples of engraved and pictorial works of art (icons, pectoral crosses, liturgical ritual vessels) of Jruchi Monastery in National Museum of Georgia, Kutaisi State Historical Museum, Chiatura and Sachkhere Museum of Local lore and their scientific annotation with colourful illustrations based on relevant researches.
- 7) Finding (Clarifying the complete list) well preserved liturgical vessels of Jruchi Monastery in National Museum of Georgia, Kutaisi State Historical Museum, Sachkhere and Chiatura Museum of Local lore and their scientific annotation with colourful illustrations based on relevant researches.

The project methodology covers historical, philological, art and museum-archival researches. Therefore, implementing selected methodology of the following work is complex and presents the combination of historic-contrastive, structuralistic, empirical, archival and descriptive research methodologies.

In case of successful implementation of the project the processed bilingual (Georgian and English) scientific work will be the first fundamental research of this priory and its history. That will reveal the great interest from researchers of different field of Kartvelologian sciences, universities and high schools, teachers of theological and seminar academies, students and pupils. In addition, it will play a certain role in popularization of material and spiritual culture of the country, that is especially important

nowadays, when Georgia comes out into international arena.

Intellectual property rights arisen during the project and after ending it, will be patented in Georgia.