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**HISTORICAL ASPECT OF THE FORMATION OF GEORGIA'S
CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Summary

Georgia's cultural heritage is an integral part of the world's cultural heritage. Its preservation and increase is one of the priorities of Georgia's state policy in the field of culture. This country is characterized by a trend of steady growth of tourism.

The Georgian people are one of the oldest in the CIS and have a long tradition of state formation. Georgia is a country of ancient culture with a huge number of monuments. The main preserved architectural monuments are mainly churches and monasteries.

The following monuments of Georgian cultural heritage are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List:

1. Historical monuments of Mtskheta, the first capital of Georgia. The site includes the historic churches of Mtskheta, which are examples of religious architecture of the Caucasus in the Middle Ages.

2. Bahrat Temple – built in Kutaisi during the reign of Bahrat III as the main cathedral of his only Georgian kingdom and consecrated in honor of the Assumption of the Virgin in 1003. The majestic temple in size and proportions became a fundamentally new word in the history of Transcaucasia architecture, was richly

decorated with carvings and mosaics and played an exceptional role in the medieval history of Georgia. In particular, it was here that David IV the Builder was crowned.

3. Gelati Monastery – founded by King David IV in 1106, which became his tomb. The cathedral was built before 1125 and for another five years was decorated with mosaics, which are considered the best in the whole Caucasus. At that time, the monastery was the seat of the Gelati Academy, whose members were interested in ancient Greek philosophy.

In Georgia, the National Agency for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage of Georgia, established in 2008, records and protects cultural heritage sites. Cultural heritage sites include immovable (archaeological, historical, architectural monuments, monuments of urban planning and landscape architecture, etc.), movable and intangible objects.

It should be noted that it is important for Georgia to borrow international experience in preserving cultural heritage in the context of hostilities. Today, this is an extremely important task, including for Georgia to become a strong independent state. However, unfortunately, many problems have accumulated in this area that needs to be solved urgently.

Georgia is pursuing an active tourism development strategy, which should help make the country attractive and popular from a tourist point of view. To this end, a national plan for tourism development and investment has been created, which sets goals and objectives, as well as developed ways to achieve them. The Georgian government has taken steps to attract foreign investment in the country's tourism.

Georgia is a country of ancient culture with a rich historical past, a huge number of monuments and natural diversity. All these features make it attractive from a tourist point of view. And the successful state policy in combination with concrete steps of the Government of Georgia create all necessary conditions for development of tourism in the country, and every year attracting more and more tourists not only from the region, but also from all over the world. This is a consequence of an effective state policy in the field of tourism development in the country and the

promotion of its cultural heritage in the international arena. Due to this, in the future Georgia may become one of the leading tourist countries in the world.

***Key words:** protection of cultural heritage, object of cultural heritage, monument.*