

*He passed away while reading the lecture*



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Grade: 7

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Ivane Javakhishvili, the great Georgian historian and the founder of the first Georgian University, died while reading a lecture. His last word was "Tatar". It happened on 18 November, 1940.





## *Ivane Javakhishvili's Letter to his Wife*

One day Ivane Javakhishvili sent a letter from Petersburg to his wife. He wrote in the letter, that once he had attended a lecture and the professor suddenly died, while reading the lecture. Ivane wrote, that the lecturer was a very lucky man. He died while doing his beloved work, lying on his students' hands.

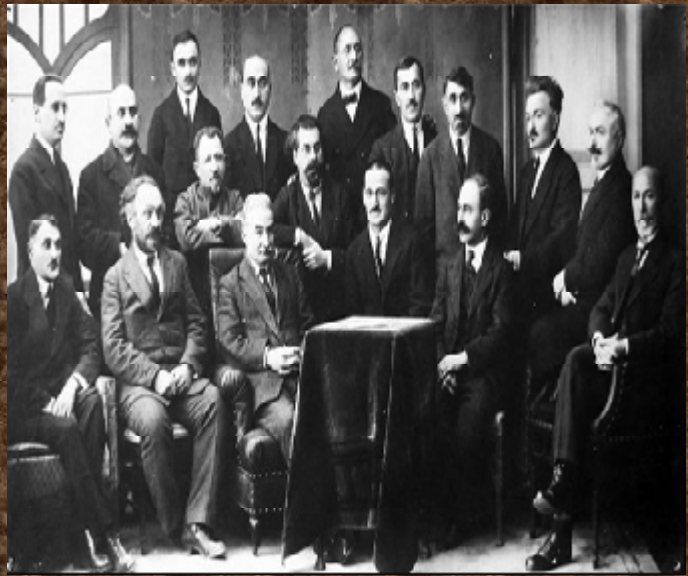
Some years passed and Ivane Javakhishvili, as his destiny had willed, died the same way as that lecturer. On 18 of November, Monday, 1940 Ivane Javakhishvili had to read a lecture in the House of Arts on the following subject: **The Aims of the Georgian Philology and the History of the Ancient Writing**".



## *Ivane Javakhishvili's last lecture*

Some years passed and Ivane Javakhishvili, as his destiny had willed, died the same way as that lecturer. On (18<sup>th</sup>) the eighteenth of November, Monday, Ivane Javakhishvili had to read a lecture in the House of Arts on the following subject: The Aims of the Georgian Philology and the History of the Ancient Writing”.

Giorgi Kvitaishvili, a worker of the University, had witnessed personally that accident. He wrote very emotionally about it: “Postgraduate N.

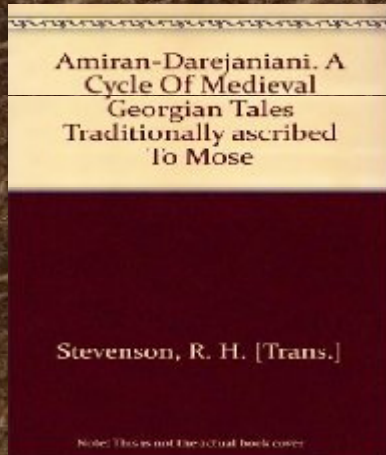


Nikolaishvili and I were walking together. When we went in, the hall was yet empty and we set in the front row. Then Akaki Shanidze, V. tophuria, and Giorgi Tsereteli joined us. A bell rang and Ivane Javakishvili appeared. The people in the hall were very happy and applauded him continuously. A young scientist, Vladimer Machavariani followed him. They sat down at the table.

When I looked at Ivane Javakhishvili I got afraid. It looked as if not a man, but a piece of white marble had entered the room: he had a white, motionless face. At that moment I thought that his days were drawing to a close, that he would die soon. But as it turned out, not his days, but even his hours were numbered.







Vladimer Machavariani opened the meeting, finished his speech very soon and came down. Ivane looked round the audience and began speaking. It was all wonderful.

Ivane Javakhishvili opened his manuscript and read his quote from the "Amiran-Darejaniani", where the word "Tatar" was used. He read a little more and was going to say something more, but he sighed and "ooh ". Then he leaned to the left, then to the right and he was about to fall down from the chair, when Akaki Shanidze and Vladimer Machavariani ran up to him and held him. He was unable to stand up, that is why he was taken to the sitting room. All the people were frightened. At last the emergency was called and till it came, they began rubbing his feet and hands.

## The Accident

People in the hall thought that Ivane Javakhishvili had fainted, as he had a weak heart. Suddenly it slipped from the nurse's lips that Ivane had died. His daughter was there and she began crying. All the people tried to calm her down, but nothing helped. His two sons were there too. The people did not tell anything to his wife as they were afraid she would feel very bad.

All the people were very upset and they were crying.

At this moment Philippe Makharadze, (one of the political leaders of that time) came. He starred at the motionless body.

At last everybody left the place

Akaki Shanidze said at the funeral: "Now I would like to say some words, which I would never say when Ivane was alive. He was a very friendly, a modest person. He was a very standout, a devoted to his work man as well; he didn't like to speak about himself. That is why he was a very exceptional man, Great Ivane Javakhishvili!"

