

# ***Restoration of the Mind Sovereignty***



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## *Restoration of the Mind Sovereignty*

On 25 January, 1918 at 20 minutes past one the first Georgian University in the building of the Tbilisi Gymnasium was opened. This event was called "*Restoration of the Mind Sovereignty*". The University was blessed by the Catholicos Patriarch Kieron II.



The first Rector Petre Melikishvili, Professor Ioseb Khipshidze and the representatives of the Georgian, Armenian, Russian and Polish cultural organizations read their greeting letters at the opening ceremony.

At this time Ivane Javakhishvili himself became the Dean of the only Faculty of the University – The Faculty of Philosophy.

The first lecture was read on 30 January, 1918 by the historian Ivane Javakhishvili on the following issue: "A Man's Personality and its significance on the old Georgian-historic-philosophic Writing and Life".

According to the University Regulations, any citizens of both genders could become students, despite their nationality and religion, in case if they had finished a school. There were 369 students and 89 free listeners and the number of the professors and teachers amounted to 18. The lectures were held in Georgian.





On 30 May, 1918 the highest Body of the Board of Administration – The Professors' Board – discussed especially the issue of the relations of the University with the Government. This Board ascertained that after the University became the National University, it should have the full autonomy. The Government should only have the right of drawing the estimate and control...

Roin Metreveli: "When a foreigner comes and asks the following questions: "Does this country have a university? Does this country have an encyclopedia? And if the replies are positive, it means that this country is developed. And thus Georgia has formed a line with the well-developed countries owing to the opening of the University.

After establishing the university, a completely new cultural era began, and it was headed by Ivane Javakishvili – a man who was a unique event not only in the history of Georgia, but in the history of the mankind as well."

