

Additional Information №10

Statement of the House of Bagrationis Society (2006) (About the legitimate principles and dynastic rights of the Bagrationi Family)

(Memorandum)

Today, at a time when important political changes are taking place in our country, and Georgia tries to establish its place in the world, it is important to take the necessary steps to protect our national identity, culture and traditions.

We, the Bagrations, should not only be satisfied with the fact that we are members of this Society and the membership card should not be our main goal. We want to kindle in the Georgian people their trust in us, which should be promoted through our care, just as our ancestors did. Today, the people of Georgia require not only spiritual protection, but also material needs. We thank God for the fact that the Georgian Orthodox Church copes with the spiritual needs of the nation, but the Georgians need material assistance as well. That is why we hope that, first of all, our Society be strengthened to take care of the Georgian citizens. If we perceive ourselves as part of a civilized world, then we should realize that what has been lost and forgotten during almost two centuries needs to be restored by relying on the examples of certain European monarchies, where the main principles are protected and kept untouchable. Why should not it be the same with us?

First, too much work has to be done from our part, but the main thing is to strengthen the structure based on the legitimacy principles. Despite the fact that much has already been officially published on the matter, and despite the fact that almost every representative of this Society agrees with the prescribed historical structure, still we need to move ahead. Our commitment would help us to develop our Society not only in Georgia, but also abroad.

We decided to offer you once again a short scientific analysis regarding this issue: the history of the Royal House of Bagration is also important from the point of view of protecting the principles of legitimacy. From a historical perspective this meant that the sovereign rights always passed to the eldest child. This took place in Georgia as well as in other parts of the world. Therefore, if a king dies without issue, then the throne passes to next eldest relative of the Royal House and not to individuals from an offshoot branch. The king's reign continues until his demise and this was the main principle of royal power. In the work of King David IV (the Builder – "Galobani Sinanulisani"), the king developed the viewpoint that royal power comes directly from the God…

...During the five centuries till 1466 the united Georgian Kingdom was characterized by the Royal Family of Bagrationi. The last king of undivided Georgia, Giorgi VIII, was forced to move to Kakheti and establish the Kakhetian kingdom. The representatives of the Kakhetian kingdom, the direct descendants of Giorgi VIII, had on various occasions tried hard to reunite Georgia.

In the 15th century united Georgia was divided into three kingdoms. The former king of united Georgia, Giorgi VIII, became king of the Kakhetian kingdom. The kingdom of Kartli came under the reign of

his relative Konstantine, while that of Imereti under his distant cousin, Bagrat.

If Georgia had not ended up divided into several parts, the reign would have continued by the son of King Giorgi VIII, Alexsander, who became the King of Kakheti instead of united Georgia. After 300 years, the descendants of King Alexander I of Kakheti, Teimuraz II and Erekle II tried to unify the two Kingdoms. King Erekle II (1744-1798) finally succeeded in reuniting the kingdoms of Kartli and Kakheti in 1763...

... After the first The Hague Conference (1899), the Russian Emperor Nicholas II was forced to justify himself before the European diplomacy concerning Georgia, and in 1907 he formally restored the royal rights of the Bagrationis Royal Family. Thus, he restored the Georgian Kingdom, which was illegally abolished by the Romanovs in 1801, thereby ignoring the "Georgievsk Treaty" of 1783 (Elizabeth, Queen of Georgia. Georgian issue. Complete Code of Laws of the Russian Empire (CCL), Vol. XXI, No. 15,835. SPB., 1911, p.1-9)...

...By the Resolution of the State Council of 12th September 1804, and by the decision of the Ministry Council of 12th March 1812, it was established that "only the children of Georgian (Kartli-Kakhetian) Kings and Georgian Princes/Princesses could retain their titles, and their descendants would bear the title of Prince Gruzinski (of Georgia). For the future, the descendants of the Imereti Royal House would bear the title of Prince Imeretinski (Russian State Historical Archive (RSHA), Department of General Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Fund 1284, Inventory 235 (1 room, 3 tables), 1804-1861, Case № 305 - Minutes of the State Council of 12th September 1804, magazines of Ministry Council dated 26th March 1812 and other Provisions of the Members of the Royal Houses of the Caucacus; P. Yudin: "The Fate of Prince Bagration Imereti in Russia" in Russian Archives, St. Petersburg, March 1896, pp. 299-312).

On 25th April of 1833, by a decree issued by Emperor Nikolai I of Russia, and by the Resolution of the State Council, the descendants of King Erekle II and Giorgi XII were again granted the title of Georgian Princes (Gruzinski), which later became part of their surname (*Noble Houses of the Russian Empire*, edited by S.V. Dumin, Moscow 1996, p.71). This demonstrates that even the powerful Russian Empire could not change historical facts.

With the decision of Emperor Nicholas II, the great-grandchildren of King Solomon I, Princes Alexander and Dimitri, since 1837 started being styled as Princes "Bagration-Imeretinski", but the descendants of King David II of Imereti were styled as Princes "Imeretinski", which later became their surname (Lists of Titled Persons of the Russian Empire. Edition by the Heraldry Department of the Governing Senate, Spb., 1892). In the nominal list of Imeretian princes and nobles of 1850, one finds Ivane and Teimuraz, the grandchildren of Prince Bagrat, who was the younger brother of King Solomon I. These two are styled as Princes of Imereti (The Nominal List of Persons Belonging to the Princely and Noble Houses of Imereti. Spb., 1851).

Besides the Bagrationis of the Imeretian branch there is yet another family of Bagrationi Princes, which during the rule of Georgian kings was considered as a princely family, but not royals. This family descends from the illegitimate son of the above mentioned Prince Bagrat, Simon. Under Russian domination this particular family was even considered as noble (*The Georgian Central State Historical Archive (GCSHA), Fund No 2, Census 1, Case No 6858, Paper 5; (GCSHA) Fund No 2, Census 1, Case No 2232, Paper 6.*)...

... The elder son of the last King of Georgia Giorgi XII, Crown Prince David (XII), died in 1819 without leaving any heirs. Thus, in 1819 the headship of the Royal House passed onto his younger brother, Prince Ioane (1768-1830).

In 1880, after the demise of Prince Ioan (1830-1880) the grandson of Prince Ioane, the headship of the Royal House passed to Prince Bagrat's son, David (1819-1888). After the latter's demise, the headship of the Royal House passed to his nephew, Prince Peter (1857-1922). This is also confirmed by the grand-

daughter of King Giorgi XII, Her Serene Highness Olga Bagrationi-Gruzinski (1840-1913) in her 1910 "Recollections", in which she states: "*Peter is now a senior of the Royal House*" (*The Georgian Central State Historical Archive (GCSHA), (Chancellery of the Transcaucasian Governor) Fund № 2, Descrip 2, Case № 1415, Paper 3 - the Recollections of Her Serene Highness Princess Olga Bagrationi-Gruzinski; text prepared for publication and notes supplied by I. Bichikashvili, D. Ninidze and A. Mheidze; "Free Georgia", № 91 (June 27)).*

Today the headship of the Royal House of Georgia belongs to the grandson of Prince Peter, the current Head of the Royal House of Georgia, the Crown Prince of Georgia Nugzar Bagrationi-Gruzinski (b. 1950).

From a historical, dynastic and traditional point of view the next royal branch is that of the Bagrations of Imereti. This was established by the nephew of King Alexander I the Great, Bagrat, in the 15th century. The direct descendant of King Bagrat was His Serene Highness Prince Alexander Imeretinski (1837-1900), the Governer-General of Warsaw in 1900, after whose demise the headship of the Imeretian royal branch was transferred to a descendant of Prince Bagrat (the younger brother of King Solomon I), His Serene Highness David Bagration-Imeretinski (1894-1937). Prince David's daughter, Her Serene Highness Nino Bagrationi-Imeretinski (b. 1915), today still lives in Tbilisi and leads the House of Bagrationis Society.

The other noble representatives of the Bagration family all belong to offshoot princely branches: the Bagration-Mukhranskis, the Bagration-Davitishvili, and the Bagration-Babadishi (*D. Ninidze*, "About the origins of the Mukhranbatonis" in Artanuji, №5, Tbilisi, 1996, p. 22-27; D. Ninidze, "The Mukhranbatonis", Tbilisi, 1997; D. Ninidze; "The Scientific and Cultural Heritage of the Bagrationis", edited by Roin Metreveli, Rafael Chikovani, Ramaz Shengelia; "Offshoots of the Bagrationi Royal House in the 16th-18th Centuries", by David Ninidze, Tbilisi 2003, p. 44; Russian State Historical Archives, Department of General Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Fund № 1284, Inventory 235 (Inventory Affairs of Chief Inspector in terms of the Former Royal Houses of the Caucasus), 1804-1861, Letters of the Princes and Princesses of Georgia and their Children, Case №52 (19.12.1811) Paper 2; Russian State Historical Archives, the Third Department of the Senate, Fund № 1343, Inventory 51 (1683-1917), Case № 775, Lists of Georgian Princes and Nobles who confirmed their Noble Origin (1840))...

...We, the founders of the House of Bagrationi Society believe that the Independence of our country should lead to a qualitative turning point in Georgia's history, and therefore a historical mission of our surname should rise again and engage in a process to build a real democratic, independent and civilized society. In this issue we should be guided by Christian beliefs and tolerance.

The above issues provide us the right to protect the legitimacy and succession rights of the Bagrationi family.

The Bagrationi-Gruzinski Royal family

1) HRH Crown Prince Nugzar Bagrationi-Gruzinski



- 2) HRH Princess Anna Bagrationi-Gruzinski
- 3) HRH Princess Mzia Bagrationi-Gruzinski



- 4) HRH Princess Dali Bagrationi-Gruzinski
- 5) HH Prince Badri Bagrationi-Gruzinski



The Bagrationi-Imeretinski Royal family

6) HRH Princess Nino Bagration-Imeretinski



The Bagration-Davitishvili Princely family

- 7) Prince Konstantine Bagration-Davitishvili
- 8) Princess Irine Bagration-Davitishvili
- 9) Prince Giorgi Bagration-Davitishvili
- 10) Princess Alla Bagration-Davitishvili
- 11) Princess Tsiala Bagration-Davitishvili
- 12) Prince Mukhran Bagration-Davitishvili
- 13) Prince Mamuka Bagration-Davitishvili
- 14) Princess Irine Bagration-Davitishvili
- 15) Princess Nino Bagration-Davitishvili
- 16) Princess Khatuna Bagration-Davitishvili









- 17) Prince Avtandil Bagration-Davitishvili
- 18) Princess Rusudan Bagration-Davitishvili
- 19) Princess Nana Bagration-Davitishvili
- 20) Princess Vera Bagration-Davitishvili
- 21) Prince Levan Bagration-Davitishvili
- 22) Prince Michail Bagration-Davitishvili
- 23) Princess Sophy Bagration-Davitishvili
- 24) Princess Tamar Bagration-Davitishvili
- 25) Prince Tariel Bagration-Davitishvili
- 26) Princess Lamara Bagration-Davitishvili
- 27) Prince Giorgi Bagration-Davitishvili
- 28) Prince Nikoloz Bagration-Davitishvili
- 29) Princess Nino Bagration-Davitishvili
- 30) Prince Jano Bagration-Davitishvili
- 31) Prince Giorgi Bagration-Davitishvili
- 32) Princess Elisabeth Bagration-Davitishvili
- 33) Princess Tamar Bagration-Davitishvili
- 34) Princess Nino Bagration-Davitishvili
- 35) Princess Ekaterine Bagration-Davitishvili
- 30) Prince Nodar Bagration-Davitishvili











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31) Princess Nino Bagration-Davitishvili



32) Princess Natia Bagration-Davitishvili



33) Princess Nelly Bagration-Davitishvili



- 34) Prince Vakhushti Bagration-Davitishvili
- 35) Princess Natela Bagration-Davitishvili
- 36) Princess Ketevan Bagration-Davitishvili



The Bagration-Mukhranski Princely family

37) Princess Mariam Bagration-Mukhranski



38) Princess Rusudan Bagration-Mukhranski



The Bagration-Babadishi Princely family

39) Princess Ketevan Bagration-Babadishi



- 40) Prince Michael Bagration-Babadishi
- 41) Princess Irine Bagration-Babadishi
- 42) Princess Elisabeth Bagration-Babadishi
- 43) Princess Tamar Bagration-Babadishi
- 44) Princess Leila Bagration-Babadishi





Famous Georgian scholars and researchers

45) Professor Mariam Lortkipanidze, Doctor of Historical Sciences, head of the Georgian History Department at Tbilisi State University, leading scholar of the Javakhishvili Institute of History and Ethnography of the Georgian Academy of Sciences

ვეთანხმები: პოოსი

46) David Muskhelishvili – Doctor of Historical Sciences (1973), Real Member of the Scientific National Academy of Georgia (1993), Head of Ivane Javakhishvili Institute of History and Ethnology (1999-2006). Head of Commission of History, Archeology and Ethnology of Scientific National Academy of Georgia (2007 - present).



47) Prince Konstantine Cholokashvili, the head of the Society of all Georgian Nobility



- 48) Prince Yuri Chikovani Member of the international Genealogical Academy and The President of Georgian Genealogical Society.
- 48) Joseph (Ioseb) Bichikashvili The Vice-President of Georgian Genealogical Society.

