



Mzekala Shanidze

(01. 16. 1926) - Philologist, Emeritus Professor at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (2006), Corresponding Member at the Georgian National Academy of Sciences of Georgia (2002), Academician (2013), Honorary Doctor of Ilia State University (2017), Honorary Doctor of Ilia State University (2017), Honorary Doctor of Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University (2021). Graduated from Tbilisi State University, Faculty of Oriental Studies (1948). During her postgraduate studies (1948 - 1951) she was sent to Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), where she studied under Academician Egnate Krachkovsky. In 1951 she defended her PhD dissertation "The Issue of Pharyngeal Sounds in the Ancient Hebrew Language ", and in 1974 - her doctoral dissertation "Old Georgian Translations of the Book of Psalms". From 1953 to 2006 M. Shanidze was engaged in scientific-pedagogical work at the Departments of Semitology and Old Georgian Language of Tbilisi State University; she gave courses in Ancient Hebrew, Comparative Grammar of Semitic Languages, History of Georgian Literary Language; In 1996-1998 she taught Georgian language and Old Georgian language courses at St. Petersburg State University.

At various times M. Shanidze was a researcher at the Department of Manuscripts of the Georgian State Museum (1953 - 1961), senior researcher at the Institute of Oriental Studies (1961 - 1968), head of the Department of Old Georgian Philology at Korneli Kekelidze Institute of Manuscripts, consultant of the same institute (now the National Center of Manuscripts) (from 2002 to present), member of the first convocation of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia (1990-1991). Has participated in scientific expeditions, including visiting Saint Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai (1996, 2002, 2009) to study Georgian manuscripts;

Scientific Conferences: 1996 - International Linguistic Seminar, Bergen; 1999 - The International Congress of Linguists, Paris. M. Shanidze is the author of more than 120 scientific papers; Her works have been published in Germany, France, Belgium, Russia and Greece. Her research interests are: Semitology, Codicology, Textology, Bibliography, Morphology, and Lexicology.

She is a signatory of the Act on Restoration of State Independence of Georgia (1991), a member of the Gelati Academy of Sciences (1995), an honorary citizen of Tbilisi (2015). She has received Akaki Shanidze Prize (1990), Ivane Javakhishvili Award of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences (2011), Shota Rustaveli Award (2012), Order of Honor (1996, 2015), Ivane Javakhishvili Medal (1986, 2016), Kakutsa Cholokashvili Order of Excellence (2019), Medal of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (2019), Order of Queen Tamar (2021).