

«THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS RUSSIAN RULE IN THE CAUCASUS»: THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ACCESSION OF GEORGIA TO RUSSIA (1901)

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The article touches upon the course of anniversary events dedicated to the centenary of the voluntary entry of Georgia into Russian Empire. Official celebrations took place in September 1901 in Tiflis with the participation of the members of Imperial Family. Much attention is given to the benefits provided to the population of Georgia in connection with the anniversary, and to the coverage of the celebrations in periodicals. The main components of the imperial idea underlying the anniversary's rhetoric are characterized. Conclusion is made about the effectiveness of political legitimacy based on the mythologized picture of the glorious past.

Keywords: Transcaucasia, Georgia, Russian Empire, 100th anniversary of the unification of Georgia and Russia, anniversary celebrations.

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