

# The Georgian Times

# Times

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## The Conference on the topic – “China’s Experience for Georgia” was Held on January 22

On January 22, the conference on the topic – “China’s experience for Georgia” was held with the organization of Embassy of the People’s Republic of China and The Georgian Times Media Holding in Tbilisi Holiday Inn.

The goal of the conference was to showcase China’s ongoing social-political and territorial integrity restoration processes in front of the society. The conference also aimed to enlighten the results of the reforms made in China as well as the country’s experience in terms of the people’s social protection, battle against the corruption and the causes of the successes achieved by China which yielded the fast-track development of the country.



On p. 6-7

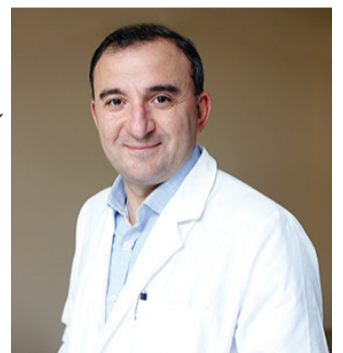
### BAAMC WEALTHY Your Financial Partner



### Tbilisi State Medical University



### Archil Chkhotua brand of Georgian urology



### World Class Physician from Georgia



### The Research Institute of Clinical Medicine - the biggest diagnostic and treatment center in Georgia



### A doctor who gives life – transplant surgeon and Doctor of Medicine Professor Koba Shanava



### David Nikoleishvili’s Revolutionary Urological Surgeries



### High Standard of Surgery – Davit Giorgadze



### New Centre for Implantology and Orthopedic Stomatology Opened in Tbilisi



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# Tbilisi State Medical University

*The history of higher medical education in Georgia covers 100 years, which represents the history of Tbilisi State Medical University. The Faculty of Medicine at Tbilisi State University was established in 1918, and as it continued to grow, was separated as an independent institution – Tbilisi State Medical University – in 1930.*

For over 60 years TSMU was the only medical education and research centre in Georgia. Nowadays it is the country's most prestigious medical school, ranked first amongst all medical and health science programmes according to the mean indicators used.

TSMU has very successful students, their good educational background is complemented by strong motivation and overall intellectual maturity. There are currently almost 7400 active students at TSMU, including 2400 from overseas from 68 different countries.

TSMU offers five undergraduate programmes (medicine, stomatology, pharmacy, public health, physical medicine and rehabilitation), nursing and vocational programmes and masters and doctoral programmes. It also incorporates an Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Continuous Professional Development, thus ensuring a quality service at all stages of professional development.

TSMU was the first university in the post-Soviet space to participate in the European project on Quality Culture. It underwent external evaluation by EUA experts in 2002-2003, and was granted the authority to provide education and research programmes in full compliance with authorisation standards.

In 2009-2011 TSMU was a member of MEDINE2—the Thematic Network on Medical Education in Europe, and elaborated accreditation standards for medical schools in Georgia based on MEDINE 2 recommendations. TSMU has established close partnerships with European and International educational organizations such as AMEE and EUA.



TSMU collaborates with more than 100 partner universities and clinics from 40 countries. Every year more than 600 TSMU students, researchers and staff gain the opportunity to study, train and share experience in different countries under bilateral agreements and international projects. 160 of

these have been assisted by the The Erasmus+ programme. Connections with international organizations and partner institutions help TSMU to develop a highly qualified faculty, take part in joint American, French, and Austrian programmes and promote research.

TSMU invites outstanding professors from the US, EU, Great Britain, Turkey and Israel to deliver lectures and conduct medical activities at TSMU clinics. Since February 2012 approximately 450 foreign professors have visited the institution.



- Traditional and most sought-after medical school in Georgia
- 5 Faculties: Medicine, Stomatology, Public Health, Pharmacy, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, plus Nursing and Vocational programmes and USMD programmes
- 12 Masters programmes, over 100 PhD programmes
- Almost 7,400 active students, over 2400 from 68 countries
- High employment rates for graduates
- 5 University clinics, approximately 170 affiliated clinics
- 2 scientific research institutes
- Around 10 major infrastructure projects being completed at the university campus and university clinics
- Over 100 partners from over 40 countries
- Training opportunities at the world's leading universities and clinics
- Bilateral exchange programmes with partner universities worldwide
- Erasmus+ international credit mobility programme agreements with 21 leading European Universities
- Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Continuous Professional Development
- Modern teaching, learning and assessment methods
- Active student life
- Foreign Language Center authorised to bestow international certificates in accredited languages (German, English) according to level of knowledge.

## Ongoing Infrastructure Projects





# Archil Chkhotua brand of Georgian urology

*The physician who is named as one of the most successful professionals in the modern urology. Archil Chkhotua is the head of Georgia Urological Association. The name which has already turned into a brand in the field of urology in Georgia.*

### 1. Mini-dossier – brief professional biography

I was born in Tbilisi, Georgia and have graduated the Tbilisi State Medical University. My professional life started from the Institute of Urology where I came in 1992. The director of the institute was Prof. Laurent Managadze, the real leader and creator of modern Georgian Urology. He became my teacher in Urology later on. It was difficult but very interesting from the professional point of view time. Period of development and progress of Georgian Urology. In 1999 Prof. Managadze, called me in his office and said that we needed to develop kidney transplantation in Georgia. These operations were not performed that time in the country. He said I should go for training in a specialized transplant center in Israel and return back to establish the transplant program in the country. Eventually I was sent to the Rabin Medical Center in Israel where I spent almost 2 years of clinical training in organ transplantation. This was followed-up by 1 year practice in Italy (University of Bologna) and 2 more years in Germany (University of Ulm). These were the most interesting and fruitful years of my professional life. Years of living, training and working in the most advanced medical Centers of the world. During this period I was

actively involved in scientific work performing several scientific projects and ultimately published the papers in peer reviewed international medical journals. After coming back to Georgia I defended my thesis on the results of above-mentioned studies.

### 2. Could you speak about your current activities, what type of operations do you perform and where? Regarding medical practice.

I returned to Georgia in 2004 and we started the kidney transplant operations at the National Center of Urology in Tbilisi. This program is the biggest and the most successful one in the country. Besides, my daily clinical practice includes: vascular surgery in urology, oncurology and endourology. We're the only center in the country performing Thulium Laser surgery in Urology (diseases of prostate and urinary bladder).

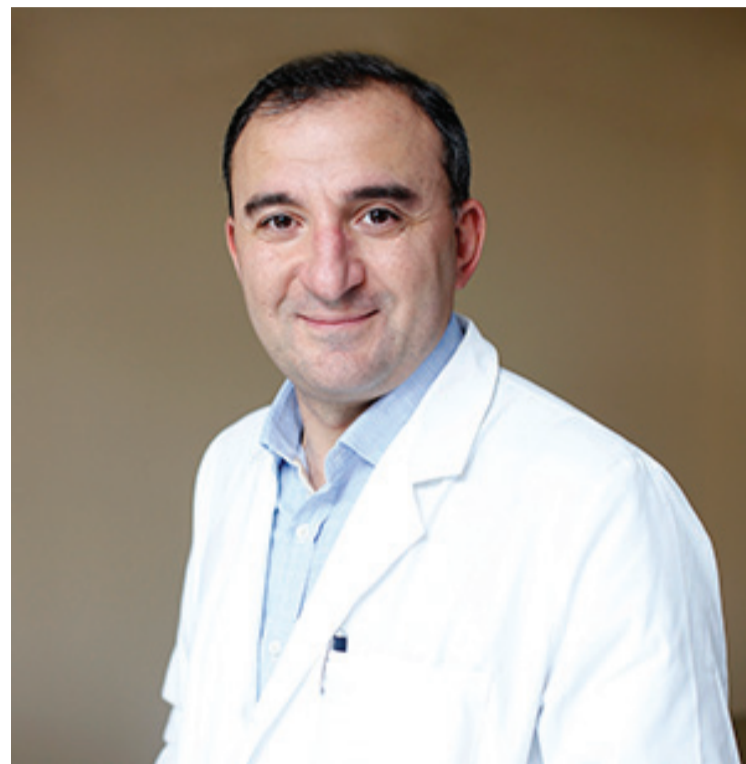
From 2010 I'm the Director of the Center responsible for science. We're actively involved in scientific research in different fields of urology. These are: multicenter, randomized, clinical trials as well as joint research and inter-institutional projects. At the moment we're running 12 different research projects. Of these: one joint project with our Swiss colleagues from the University of Zurich, one with American colleagues, three national

projects and seven multicenter randomized clinical trials.

Thus, my daily clinical practice starts at 9 am with surgeries, continues with the private outpatient practice from 5 pm and ends up at 8 pm.

### 3. What are the current main achievements in Georgian urology and what you're your future plans in this regard?

Urology like other medical specialties is becoming more and more multidisciplinary involving several different directions and variety of other specialties. These are: oncurology, pediatric urology, endourology, female urology, neurourology, andrology, transplantation, urolithiasis etc. It's the rapidly growing and developing specialty much different than it was in 90's when I started working in it. I can say that Georgian Urology is a leader in this region providing all contemporary management in all its fields. We can offer our patients all modern treatment techniques except robotic surgery. These includes: full spectrum of laparoscopy, laser surgery, endourology, minimal invasive surgery, transplantation etc. The future is in further developing these services in cooperation with our foreign colleagues and upgrading relatively "weak" points like: neurourology and andrology. Robot is something we do



not urgently need at the moment but I'm sure it's not too far when we'll need it.

### 4. Urological problems are frequent in men. What are the symptoms and how can patients cope with them?

Urologist is sometimes considered to be the men's doctor, but it is not! We're treating the diseases of definite organs and systems in: men, women and children. Female and Pediatric Urology are important parts of our daily practice. Urological diseases of men are also quite frequent, mainly after 50's and men should be especially care-

ful paying attention to the symptoms indicating on the urological problems. The most frequent ones are: deterioration of urination (weak stream etc.), nocturia (nighttime urination), loin and suprapubic pain, burning sensation while urinating and of course hematuria (blood in the urine). It is known that family history is associated with increased risk of prostate cancer. If the direct relatives (grandfather, father, uncles and brother) of man were diagnosed and/or died from prostate cancer he should consult urologist latest at the age of 45.

## World Class Physician from Georgia

*Zaza Tchaturia is a Doctor of Medicine with many years' experience. He is one of the most successful urologists in Georgia, who has acquired a vast international practice and is one of the most sought after doctors in our country.*

In 1989 Tchaturia graduated the Tbilisi State Medical Institute. In 1993 he presented his doctoral PhD thesis, "Urodynamics Characteristics of Mainz Pouch with Appendix Stoma". He then undertook trainings and internships in urological clinics abroad, including Lund University Hospital in Sweden (1993), Vienna Medical University Hospital – AKH (2004), Hamburg Urology and Genital Reconstruction Centre (2005), the Mercy Sisters Hospital Children's Urology Department in Linz, Austria.

He has worked at the National Centre of Urology since 1990 and his fields of scientific interest are pediatric urology, urethral surgery, urological and genital reconstruction surgery, neuro-urology, Onco-urology and general urology.

### Can you tell us more about your field?

Urology is an interesting and diverse specialism. It involves the dis-

eases of several different organs, therefore its range of pathologies is quite voluminous and diverse. We deal with patients of all ages – including newborns and the elderly.

Originally our field was established as a surgical specialism, but modern urology is broader. General knowledge of neurology and neurophysiology, endocrinology and metabolism and pharmacology are essential for modern urological practice. Fortunately most patients no longer require surgical intervention, but if they do, urology is a high tech field. Urinary stone disease is the best example - the first treatment options are instrumental (extracorporeal lithotripsy, ureteroscopy and percutaneous nephrolithotomy with contact lithotripsy), so indication for surgical intervention is extremely rare.

The most common reasons for visits to a general profile physician and practitioner urologist include: urinary-stone diseases, urinary tract infections, obstructive voiding and urinary incontinence in the elderly and erectile dysfunction in men. The management of prostate hyperplasia in men has changed significantly. Surgical intervention was the only treatment twenty years ago, but medication has



now considerably reduced the role of surgery.

### Do you often deal with urological oncology?

Statistically, urological oncology is one of the main cancer areas for men. According to the American Cancer

Society, one third of newly diagnosed cancers in the USA 2017 were urological: prostate cancer 19%, urinary bladder cancer 7% and kidney cancer 5%. Testicular cancer and penile cancers are rare. Urological oncological pathologies in children are also rare.

The likelihood of prostate cancer developing in men living in US cities is one in eight, and one in twenty-six may develop urinary bladder cancer. Fortunately, urological cancers rarely cause the death of patients – only in approximately 12% of cases. The leading cancers in women include breast and gynecological cancers.

### What is the main cause of prostate cancer, and is it related to age?

Men under the age of 50 do not generally have such problems, bar some rare exceptions. There is no accepted thinking regarding this, but it is believed genetics play a role. It is not a problem in countries where life expectancy in men is low. As for treatment methods, active surveillance (i.e. no treatment) is applied to specifically selected patients, especially the elderly, while surgical treatments include radical open and laparoscopic / robot-assisted prostatectomy and on the other hand, radiotherapy. Drug treatments are also widely applied in advanced (hormone deprivation, anti-androgens, chemotherapy) and clinical trials are ongoing the effectiveness of new drugs (targeted, immunotherapy). Most of these methods are used worldwide and are also available in our country.

# The Research Institute of Clinical Medicine - the biggest diagnostic and treatment center in Georgia

*The Research Institute of Clinical Medicine is one of the biggest diagnostic and treatment center in Georgia. It is equipped with the unique modern diagnostic and treatment apparatus and is an acknowledged leader in various trends of radiology, oncology, surgery and laboratory medicine, endoscopy and endoscopy surgery.*

Alexandre Chirinashvili-Head of the Department of Musculoskeletal, Skin and Connective Tissue Pathology. MD, PHD, Surgical Oncologist. In 1976 – 1983 he studied at the faculty of Medicine in Moscow and graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of Tbilisi State Medical Institute. During this period, he was working in Intensive Care Unit and in the Operating Block as a sanitary and nurse. In 1984-1986 graduated clinical residency. In 1986 – 1991 he started working as an assistant and after a surgeon in the Head and Neck Tumors department at the National Center of Oncology. In 1991-2002 Alexandre was Senior Researcher in Skin, Soft Tissue and Bones Tumor Department at the National Center of Oncology and in 2002 – 2006 he was the Head of the Department at the Center. During 1998 – 2004, when he was Clinical Field Brigade Lead, more than 400 oncological surgeries were successfully conducted in regions. In 2010, he received advanced training sessions in the field at the ATA-Turkey Clinic and at Turkey National Center of Oncology.

Alexandre holds licenses in general surgery, oncological surgery, oncology and from health organization. He is the author of more than 80 scientific articles and participated in various oncological congresses throughout Europe. Prior to the reorganization of the Scientific Board of Oncology Center he was the Chairman of the Young Oncologists of Georgia. He is Board Member of Georgian Oncologist Association, Head of Residents of Tbilisi Medical University in the field of Skin and Soft Tissue Tumors, Chief Expert at the Expert Council at the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, Member of European Society for Medical Oncology – ESMO and Member of The British Sarcoma Group -BSG.



Currently Alexandre is the Head of Department at the Research Institute of Clinical Medicine. The clinic provides diagnostics and treatment of all types of congenital and acquired diseases (skin growths, birthmark, papilloma, angiomas, etc.) using physical and dermatoscopy methods:

1. Surgery during all kinds of skin cancer-wide excision of tumor with one moment plastics using local tissue and skin flap as well;
2. Surgical treatment of melanoma – wide excision of melanoma with skin transplantation;
3. Axillae and groin lymphadenectomy for the metastasis of skin cancer and melanoma;
4. Surgical treatment of benign soft tissue tumors (fibro-lipoma, atheroma, hemangioma, etc.)
5. Surgical treatment of all kinds of soft tissue sarcomas;
6. Extremity-saving surgery for soft tissue sarcomas: excision of tumor, reconstruction of muscles, blood vessels and nerves;
7. All kinds of amputations and exarticulations of advanced bone and soft tissue malignant tumors of extremities and fingers;
8. Surgical treatment of malignant and benign bone tumors.

## A doctor who gives life – transplant surgeon and Doctor of Medicine Professor Koba Shanava

**The first liver transplant in Georgia was only conducted in 2013.**

**Since 2015, Transplant Surgeon Koba Shanava has carried out 14 successful liver transplants.**

Shanava completed his qualification at Seoul National University in South Korea. Of his 14 transplants, the last was of special importance, as it was the country's first paediatric liver transplant from a live donor. 4-year-old Alexandre was given part of his father's liver, and has taken to it well so far.

Here Shanava talks about his career and its importance.

**You are a pioneer in liver transplantation. Was it difficult to establish this discipline in Georgia?**

We faced numerous difficulties. We organized a training centre and trained the personnel; the Surgery Department of Seoul National University made a great contribution to this. A liver transplant is a very serious and complex operation in



which several teams are involved, and particularly when there is a live donor. In effect, two operations are performed simultaneously. We conduct our main activities, hepatic-biliary surgery and transplant prepa-

ration, at the Inova multidisciplinary clinic, and also general and oncologic-surgical operations including laparoscopic and open surgeries.

**You enhanced your qualifications abroad prior to at-**

**tempting these complicated surgeries. What can you tell us about this experience?**

As soon as I graduated from medical university I left for Pecs in Hungary. I then improved my qualifications in

Munich, Germany and one of the leading clinics in France. After that I worked in the Hepatic-Biliary Surgery and Transplantation Department at Seoul National Hospital. Later I completed a further internship at the Mayo Clinic Department of Transplantation in Florida and then the Yale New Haven Transplant Centre in Connecticut. This was all great experience, and I want to use all the knowledge and experience gained in my own country.

After leaving Tbilisi Republic Hospital I was the Head of Hepato-Pancreatic-Biliary Surgery and the Transplant Department at the Aversi Clinic. Currently I work in the Surgery Department of the Inova Clinic. I have conducted around 1,000 general and oncological

surgical operations so far, in addition to the 14 successful liver transplants. Many patients are suffering from cirrhosis in Georgia and are dying, and hepatitis B and Care also widespread. The state Hepatitis C programme has yielded fantastic results, but the problem is not fully resolved. Those who have had the virus and cirrhosis simultaneously have been cured of the virus but their cirrhosis remains uncured. All these patients are potential candidates for liver transplants, and that is why we need more support in order to develop this field.

Being a doctor is everything for me - a profession, a hobby and a most important challenge. Every life saved makes me feel the happiest person!

# The Conference on the topic – “China’s Experience for Georgia” was Held on January 22

On January 22, the conference on the topic – “China’s experience for Georgia” was held with the organization of Embassy of the People’s Republic of China and The Georgian Times Media Holding in Tbilisi Holiday Inn.

The goal of the conference was to showcase China’s ongoing social-political and territorial integrity restoration processes in front of the society. The conference also aimed to enlighten the results of the reforms made in China as well as the country’s experience in terms of the people’s social protection, battle against the corruption and the causes of the successes achieved by China which yielded the fast-track development of the country.

The attendants of the conference include: **Ji Yan-chi**, Special and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Georgia, **David Saganelidze**, executive director of “Partnership Fund”, TV presenters, journalists, experts, public figures and businessmen.

The first part of the conference developed as follows:

- General speech – **Malkhaz Gulashvili** – Founder and president of The Georgian times Media Holding, political expert

- Welcoming speech – **Ji Yan-chi** - Special and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Georgia

- Speakers – **Vakhtang Maisaia** – Doctor of Political Sciences, associated professor, military policy expert – about the geopolitical influence of China.



**Topic:** How can Georgia benefit from these influences.

- Speaker – **Simon Kiladze** - political expert, **topic:** China’s experience in the labor force management, battle against corruption and territorial integrity restoration.

After the speakers delivered their speeches, the conference participants engaged in the question & answer type general discussion in connection with the topic – China’s economic role for Georgia.

The founder and president of The Georgian Times **Malkhaz Gulashvili** spoke about the importance of the conference:

“Today’s conference is vitally important for our country. China managed to become one of the strongest countries in the

shortest period of time. The country created a new economy, technologies, unique agriculture, even gained a foothold in the space. It created a model for the development of agricultural tourism which led it to become one of the leading countries in the world. Georgia is interested in building relations with China which are the oldest civilizations originated simultaneously. The fact that the Silk Road travelled through Georgia is of utmost importance for us. Georgia signed a free trade agreement with China which promoted the development of Georgian business at the Chinese market. These days, many Georgian companies have a dominant role at the market in China.

Georgian corners are avail-





able in the wide range of regions in China for the popularization of the country. Recently, during the Business Rating Awards, we awarded a person who founded a small Georgia in China.

The geopolitical role of China is enormously increasing across the world. It gradually managed to retrieve the occupied territories that had been broken away due to misfortune.

How can Georgia benefit from it? These are the issues that were discussed during the conference.

Our goal is to allow Georgia use the geopolitical influence of China for the restoration of the territorial integrity.

We are desired to fight against the poverty in the same way as they do in China. The population of China amounts to 1 700 000 000 and only 50 000 000 is below the threshold of poverty. As the president of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping said at the session of the Communist Party of China, where I was present, there would be no people with such status by 2020. China has a unique model to look after the elderly. They made a great pension reform. The age of pension has been decreased up to 50-55.

**Today, 2/3 of the world economy is being created in China. This is worth to be a role model for us** – Malkhaz Gulashvili said to The Georgian Times.

**Ji Yanchi**, Special and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Georgia spoke about the goals of the conference:

**“Today's conference is being held with support of The Georgian Times Media Holding and Embassy of the People's Republic of China. The conference coincides the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “One Belt-One Road” initiative and 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement of China's reforms and openness policy. We are holding the conference with request of experts and journalists. It is noteworthy that during the last forty years China has achieved a lot of significant success in the economy and other fields. Today with its level of economy China is the second country around the globe. The development opportunities and the path to the success and prosperity is very interesting for Georgian. The journalists and experts who are attending the conference paid a number of visits to China. We are committed to share our experience with Georgians and to**

**discuss how Georgia can benefit from this experience in its path to achieve the property and well-being”** – Ji Yanchi said.

According to **David Saganelidze**, Director of “Partnership Fund” mentioned China is the country with the experience of rapidly growing economy and huge market that we need to share:

**“The relationships between two countries and free trade mode gives new and great opportunities to Georgian enterprisers. We are glad that “Partnership Fund” pays its contribution to the extension of the business contacts between Georgia and China and promotion of the export of Georgian products at the market of China. Georgian enterprisers are opened a door to a half billion value market and this is a step taken forward for Georgian economy”** – David Saganelidze said.

The second part of the conference was dedicated to the impressions of the attendants being in China. The emphasis has been placed to the pension reform, China's economic model, “one belt, one road” concept, Chinese model of economy and agriculture, battle against poverty and so forth.

“The similar conferences are vitally important for the state-run development of Georgia. I believe sharing and establishment of the other successful countries, and their tailoring to our reality will be one of the prerequisites for the geopolitical and strategic development of the country.

I hope today's event will be the very first pilot endeavor to share the experience of the developed countries such as China. As for China achieved the greatest success virtually in all sectors from 80-90<sup>th</sup> of the last century up to today. To what point can Georgia apply Chinese experience? For instance, we may name the military strategy, foreign policy, political support for the cooperation of the regional initiative which is very topical for us particularly in the format of Caucasus and Black Sea regions. Chinese political model is particularly interesting for us.

**It is welcome that the dialogue has been launched on these issues and I certainly welcome this great initiative”** – Vakhtang Maisaia said.

**Simon Kiladze** – political reviewer prepared and published a brochure **“Georgia-China relations: historical aspects”** specifically for this conference. According to Simon Kiladze, the

conference is vitally important for Georgia-China relations which is the first event of such format and is a way paved to that specific direction:

“Georgia-China relations have a rich historic past. The Silk Road is one of the confirmations of it which travelled through Caucasus in the twelve-thirteenth century. Later on, China implemented a large-scale project in Caucasus in the twenty-first century. According to the aforesaid project, one of the routes passes through the Silk Road which is of paramount importance for our economy and geopolitical situation as a whole.

Chinese economic miracle – is a well-known expression and it is interesting to know how China manage to achieve such outcomes. As for my brochure it addresses the relations built between Georgia and China starting from the Great Silk Road from the twelve century. As you may know China is mentioned in Rustaveli's “The Knight in the Panther's Skin” which is a proof of the friendly relationships between two countries.

The brochure reads the story of Lau Jin Jou who brought tea from China for the first in Georgia in the nineteenth century.

**Later, Georgian-Chinese relations have been developing in the fields of culture and science. These are the issues which are focused on in the brochure”** – Simon Kiladze said.

At the end of the conference, **Ji Yanchi**, Special and Plenipo-

tentary Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Georgia, thanked the audience for the productive work and promised his support and cooperation to involve them in the similar activities in the future:

**“I believe we held a very interesting conference. Today I heard the opinions of Georgian experts, journalists and representatives of the different fields of the society about Georgia-China. They assessed the economical achievements of China from both practical and academic point of view. I have already mentioned that many Georgian experts know China at the highest level. Sadly I have never been in touch with them so far. This conference allowed me to make a lot of friends among them. Certainly I support the opinions expressed that the similar conferences in the presence of the business sector should be held in the future as well. Special thanks go to the organizers”** - Ji Yanchi said.

As a reminder Georgia has free trade relations with China and a wide range of Georgian companies are operating at the market. However, it is not enough and we need to take stronger steps taking account of the Chinese concept” – “One belt, one road”.

*/Tamuna Dughashvili/  
/Nino Otarashvili/*



# David Nikoleishvili's Revolutionary Urological Surgeries

Exclusively for The Georgian Times

**Speciality: Doctor-Urologist**  
**Title: Candidate of Medical Sciences, Doctor of Medicine (MD., PhD.)**

**Job: Head of Urological Department, Head of International Laparoscopic Training Centre, MediClubGeorgia**

**Education:** 1993-2000 – Tbilisi State Medical University. 2001-2004 – Residency Programme, National Urology Centre. 2004-2006 – Assistant Doctor, National Urology Centre. 2006 – National Urology Centre staff, Candidate of Medical Sciences. 2011 – Head of Laparoscopy Department. 2015-2016 – Head of Urological Department, SofieMedGroup Clinic, Aktau, Kazakhstan. 2016 – Head of Urology Laparoscopy Department, MediClubGeorgia Clinic. 2016 – Head of International Laparoscopy Training Centre, MediClubGeorgia Clinic. 2006 – received degree of Candidate of Medical Sciences in oncology, defending the thesis “The importance of regulating the proteins of cell division during prostate tumor and benign hyperplasia”.



**Personal achievements: Founder of Laparoscopic urology in Georgia.** Performed laparoscopic radical prostatectomy for the first time anywhere in Georgia, Transcaucasia or the Central Asian countries on 27.07.2010. Also performed first laparoscopic tumor-nephrotomy, laparoscopic pieloureteral an-

gle plastic surgery, single-port laparoscopic surgery, laparoscopic adrenalectomy, laparoscopic enucleoresection of kidney tumor, laparoscopic donor nephrectomy and laparoscopic pelvic lymphadenectomy in Georgia and the first laparoscopic radical cystoprostatectomy in Georgia, Kazakhstan and the post-

Soviet countries other than Russia.

Ex- President of the Georgian Young Urologists Association.

Member of Georgian Urologists Association.

Member of Georgian Transplant Association.

Member of the European Urologists Association.

Olympus company expert on urological laparoscopy in CIS countries.

Member of the American Urologists Association.

**Davit Nikoleishvili:** “I graduated from Tbilisi State Medical University in 2000. I then completed a residency programme at the National Urology Centre, where I gained international knowledge and experience. Many years of practical work experience, study, use of modern technologies and internships in foreign clinics are necessary for success in this field.

“I introduced laparoscopic urology to Georgia and this region. In 2010 we performed the first radical laparoscopic prostatectomy in the post-Soviet space in our National Urology Centre. Over the past five years

I have conducted master classes, lectures and internships in Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan. At present I am head of the new and exciting Urological Department of the MediClub Georgia clinic.”

**How would you characterize MediClubGeorgia?**

MediClub is a multi-profile clinic in which almost all medical services are available. Our highly qualified medical staff are our driving intellectual force. The clinic is equipped with high quality technical-material equipment and infrastructure, as found in all the world's leading medical centres.

The Urological Department is the culmination of many years' hard work. I have been a consultant doctor at MediClub for 3-4 years, periodically consulting with patients and performing operations.

About a year ago, on my initiative, the clinic purchased the latest model laparoscopic and endoscopic surgery equipment, made by the Japanese firm Olympus: a 3-D endo-video system, a high-resolution endoscopic video system and instruments used in urological oncology, urinary disease and general urology

treatment. This was the first purchase of such equipment in the post-Soviet space. The endoscopic operations we can now perform are rare even in European clinics, and all kinds of endoscopic operations and manipulations can be performed here at the highest level.

Our technical equipment helps us perform less invasive operations on the kidneys and urinary tract. We can dissolve stones externally with laser equipment, and conduct surgery without resectioning. Our oncological urology work is mainly with the urinary bladder, kidneys, retroperitoneal tumors, adrenal gland cancer, testicular gland cancer, prostate cancer and so forth. Operations, hormone therapy, chemotherapy and targeted treatment are offered here.

We can conduct both laparoscopic and open surgery. We introduced laparoscopy to this country and the region, and our new equipment enables us to perform neater surgeries, which yield better functional outcomes than ordinary laparoscopic surgeries. There is no comparable equipment or treatment available in the region.

# High Standard of Surgery – Davit Giorgadze

**Davit Giorgadze – general surgeon, oncological surgeon, thoracic surgeon, professor, doctor of medical sciences** – was one of the founders of thoracic surgery in Georgia. He graduated from Tbilisi State Medical University in 1982 and subsequently served an undergraduate clinical internship and undertook postgraduate studies at the Moscow Research Centre of Oncology, acquiring a qualification as an oncologist and oncological surgeon.

From 1989-2009 he worked at the Tbilisi Research Centre of Oncology as a surgeon and then director of the Thoracic Surgical Department and in 2006 became a Professor at David Tvildiani University. From 2009 he was director of the clinical department of the Consilium Medulla, and is now a leading surgeon at the New Hospital.

Giorgadze is the author of over 90 scientific works, and has participated in numerous international congresses and symposiums. He has also been lead researcher in six clinical surveys (4 oncological and 2 surgical) and is considered one of the leading thoracic surgeons in Georgia. Amongst other accomplishments, Giorgadze was the first to perform radical surgical intervention in Georgia, conducting the first such oper-

ation due to pleural mesothelioma.

**Davit Giorgadze was awarded the title Best Physician last year. Here he recalls his 32 years of interesting work in this challenging field.**

**Why did you decide to work in the field of oncological surgery?**

I decided to work in this field at the age of 22. As you know, people seek high callings at this age, and though most physicians wanted to cure cancer I decided to fight illness through surgery. I went up to the Moscow As-

sociation Oncology Centre, the leading oncological institution in the Soviet Union, where I acquired deep knowledge and professional experience.

I decided to return to my country following the events of April 9, 1989. I was a member of the Georgian diaspora in Moscow at that time, disseminating news regarding the Tbilisi developments across Russia. Although I had a great opportunity to progress in Moscow I returned Tbilisi and the Centre of Oncology, where I was guided by my teacher Rezo

Gagua. His devotion to his profession encouraged me to follow thoracic surgery. He played an essential role in my professional development.

**Today you perform the most complex operations as the leading surgeon in the field. . . What is your approach towards patients?**

We are making great strides in thoracic surgery, and now perform operations using thoracoscopic or endo-video techniques. These are the future of thoracic surgery, and we introduced them to Georgia 5 years



**Mr. Davit Giorgadze is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the European Medical Association Georgia Thoracic Surgery Section and the head of the European Society for Medical Oncology.**

ago. We perform almost all such types of operations, as they do overseas. Almost 10% of all our operations are performed using thoracic methods, a quite high percentage for Georgia.

I believe we need to take special and careful approaches towards our patients. It is very important for a patient to know their own health condition and prospects, so that they can help to fight their own illness.



# NEW CENTRE FOR IMPLANTOLOGY AND ORTHOPEDIC STOMATOLOGY OPENED IN TBILISI

On 27th October a new centre for implantology and orthopedic stomatology opened on Kuchishvili Street in Tbilisi – The Kakhaber Kharebava clinic. It was established in partnership with Dentsply Sirona, and is a representative agency of Germany in the Caucasus region.



The Kakhaber Kharebava clinic is equipped with the latest German technology, which means problems can be addressed without the need for serious surgery. It offers therapeutic, surgical and orthopedic services and a full range of services for children.



This clinic will enable Georgia to develop dentistry at the highest level, and its German quality services mean results are guaranteed.

The clinic also conducts training in digital dentistry, where professionals can enhance their qualifications under the guidance of Stanislav Keler, Igor Denisov and John Philips.



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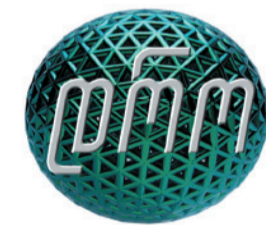
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