

The concept of publishing different types of notes and fragmentary oral speeches

Esma Mania

*Researcher at Korneli kekelidze National Center of manuscripts of Georgia, 0193,
Aleksidze str, N1/3, Tbilisi, Georgia*

Abstract: In complete scholarly editions of works by classic authors not only their artistic texts are published, but also documentaries: complete and incomplete, redactions and alternative versions, plans and drafts. According to the author's significance and specifics of the written heritage in such editions many other types of material may appear. That is why developing the concept for publishing Ilia Chavchavadze's notepads, various types of statements, individual notes, and fragmentary oral speeches is on the agenda. The manuscripts are kept in the funds of The National Archives of Georgia, The Georgian National Centre of Manuscripts and Giorgi Leonidze State Museum of Literature. While publishing world literature classics, such types of texts are placed in a section "miscellaneous". When it comes to Ilia Chavchavadze this material can be found in such large amounts that it is given not just one section but the whole volume in scholarly edition of his works. In multi-volume scholarly editions, common principles are mostly held, but sometimes the volume specificity requires derogation from the general rule. As far as the contextual classification of the notepad due to the diversity of its constituent texts was impossible, we decided to simply number them in the publication taking into account dates of the notes contained therein. Concerning the organizing issues of notepad's text the publishing team decided to call it a "note" for a more or less completed unit separated by themes, chronology, location, the writing means, or any other data and to number the notes represented in each notepad by the original sequence. The scientific apparatus will contain all the features - sources, notes, comments and indexes - that are necessary for scholarly editions.

Keywords: Ilia Chavchavadze, editorial Studies, textual scholarship, archival studies

Introduction

In complete scholarly editions of works by classic authors not only their artistic texts are published, but also documentaries: complete and incomplete, redactions and alternative versions, plans and drafts. According to the author's significance and specifics of the written heritage in such publications many other types of material may appear. Especially when it comes to the 19th century famous Georgian writer and a versatile public figure Ilia Chavchavadze (1837-1907), "A person, having the greatest contribution to our country's spiritual, cultural, social, and political development. His popularity and importance is not dwindling even centuries later, because the better we come to know his life and work, delving into his literary and documentary heritage, the more clearly we see his dignity and merit" [1]. That is why developing the concept for publishing his notepads, the various types of statements, individual notes, and fragmentary oral speeches is on the agenda. The large volume of this type of material by Ilia Chavchavadze are kept in the funds of The National Archives of Georgia, The Georgian National Centre of Manuscripts and Giorgi Leonidze State Museum of Literature. In the 19th century periodicals, not only the extensive speeches he made at various meetings and gatherings, but also brief inserts and replies of common context are retained.

Editorial Concept

"Every serious publication is preceded by a concept development, which is the competence of the editor-publisher, but it is significant that they do this job in close coordination with textual scholars as "The principles and methods, that they will designate within the concept, should be implemented exactly by textual scholars" [2], especially in the case when we are dealing with publishing a writer's specific heritage - texts not for publishing reason, but of personal type.

While publishing world literature classics such types of texts are placed in a section "miscellaneous", organizing and tool inserting methods are different as well. When it comes to Ilia Chavchavadze this material can be found in such large amounts that it is given not just one section but the whole volume in scholarly edition of the works. After categorizing this material, we determined their sequence in volumes. As we do not have texts ready to be printed, completed, or edited by the writer here, and as the scholarly edition usually publishes original material of the same genre first, then translations, a draft version of the list has formed so: notepads, drafts and plans of publicist letters and oral speeches; Excerpts from others' texts with his own comments and

related or similar content texts found by him; Extracts without comments and parallel texts; favorite phrases and sentences; comments on books; Georgian-Russian dictionary material with reference to sources; Excerpts from reports, reviews, and reportages reflecting fragmented speeches by the writer published in his contemporary magazines and newspapers.

Types of texts written in notepads

After defining the structure of the volume, we developed a concept of what these texts should represent in the main part of the publication and what kind of scientific apparatus to insert in each category. In accordance with the developed concept, in the material placed in the beginning of the volume - in notepads texts consisting of diverse content can be found: quotations from different types of literature, actual domestic and agricultural issues at various stages of the writer's life, Income and Expenditure Accounts, recipes for preparation of medicines, list of books to buy or subscribe and so forth.

As the principle of scholarly publishing is genre-chronological, and in this thematically diverse material differentiation is impossible according to the first criteria, we have therefore decided to emphasize on sequence interrelationship between notes and discuss the notepad as one integrity. This is also logical in the sense that the dating of the notepad notes is very often only due to their chronological interrelationship. Meaning that, when any particular note in the notepad is dated, or it is possible to detect the exact date, for example, as 7 October of 1892, we are given the opportunity to date other notes in the same notepad as the period before and after 7th October.

As far as the contextual classification of the notepad due to the diversity of its constituent text was impossible, we decided to simply number them in the publication taking into account dates of the notes contained therein. I mean that the earliest notepad will be represented with the first number, etc. Since some notepads are written in a very large time interval and are overlapped by the time intervals of other notepads, we decided to define their sequence by the upper margin. For example, in one of the notepads [3] the earliest text is dated by 1880, the latest - by 1904. In the second notepad[4] the earliest is dated by 1882 and the latest by 1896. Accordingly, the first notepad in the volume will be published after the second.

According to the decision made by the editorial board of Ilia Chavchavadze's complete works, different persons worked on the Russian and Georgian material of the notepads and it was determined to include them separately in the volume, that would ruin the integrity of the notepad and would prevent readers even from logical perception of chronological sequence. In notepads not only notes performed in these two languages can be found, but also a small number of other foreign-language texts as well. So we decided to place the material in the original sequence, regardless of in which language it is written and supply Georgian translations in appendix. We think such an approach is more consistent with the scholarly principles of the edition.

In multi-volume academic editions, common principles are mostly held, but sometimes the volume specificity requires derogation from the general rule. In the already published 18 volumes of Ilia Chavchavadze's works Russian texts are included with modern orthography. This is no wonder if we consider that in 1987, when this concept was developed, 80-thousand copies of the book came out, and it somewhat served the scholarly and popular publication functions. Accordingly, its language should have been accessible to a wide readership. Currently the book comes out with a circulation of 300 and we have the opportunity to strictly adhere to the principles of scholarly edition. Accordingly, we represent not only Georgian but also Russian texts with the original orthography. They will abundantly include graphemes that are no longer in use -

Ѣ, ѣ or used with another function nowadays - Ѣ. this principle is preserved not only in terms of the notepad's Russian texts, but also in other Russian-language materials included in the volume.

Concerning the organizing issues of notepad's text the publishing team decided to call it a "note" for a more or less completed unit separated by themes, chronology, location, the writing means, or any other data and to number the notes represented in each notepad by the original sequence. After some time a writer has turned a few notepads over and made notes from the other side as well. We remarkably discussed each of these cases. In one of them, where the wines preserved in Ilia Chavchavadze's cellar are mentioned, indicating the volume, vessel and location [5], this was clearly due to the fact that more empty places were left at the back of the notebook, at the bottom of the sheets. One note from the book's back side continues with two notes from the front side of the notepad. Our assumption on the integrity of three texts given on different pages is supported by the fact that they continue each other not only thematically, but also by numbering too. It seems that the writer placed this list where there were empty spaces. We have not violated the integrity of this note and we have presented it as one note. In the other notepads, where no such connections were found, the chronological order between the two entries of the different sides in the notebook is followed.

To facilitate accurate organization and perception of the material, we apply the same numbering of notepads and notes in the scientific apparatus, provide them with dating information and comments.

Original Drafts

As mentioned above, the next category of material presented in the volume is plans and drafts for Publicist Letters and Oral Speeches. This material is fragmentary, but very important because it entirely belongs to the author. For example, in the volume for the first time will be published the draft of speech to be said to the Viceroy of Caucasus regarding the issue of restoration of Georgian autocephaly [6], notes regarding alien residents case [7] etc. In the case if the final version of these drafts, even in a very different form, were published during the writer's lifetime, we discuss the interrelation between the texts and indicate the source as well.

Another category of the volume material is the extracts from others' texts with his comments and texts with similar or opposite content found by Ilia Chavchavadze. In The National Centre of manuscripts this type of noteworthy extracts on the following issues of the bank (Loans, Bonds, Money Market, Influence of Capital, Conversion Issues, Parallels from Experiences of Other Countries, etc.) are kept.

The extract with comments done on the backside of the notebook for Ilia Chavchavadze's composition "Otarashvili's Window" is interesting. "Kvali" (A trace) is written on the first line, which indicates that the excerpts are from the newspaper named "Kvali". The material is extracted from the newspaper "Kvali" from editions of 1893 to 1895 years and begins with a quotation from text by George Tsereteli on the School of Agriculture. Then there's a note about somebody who said one thing to the commission and now says another thing. 1896 January 27, the newspaper "Iveria" published feuilleton "Our current Wisdom and Lies" (the third lecture) [8] in which Ilia Chavchavadze criticized Ivane Machabeli, who was a member of the board establishing an Agricultural School in 1892-1893 and who had signed the expediency of this school, but in December of 1895 he was saying that he had no precise opinion regarding this issue. Ilia Chavchavadze at the end of the article wrote that when a person at one and the same issue once says "yes" and second time - "no", he is lying either in the first case or in the second. If we consider that from the "Kvali" editions, that are referred here, the latest one is dated by 1895 the note must be done after this date.

With the regard to this notebook one more fact is interesting: its basic body is dropped out from the cover and later inserted backwards. This is indicated by the archival numbers on both sides of the cover. As far as the above-mentioned notes are done on the last page that was glued on the cover, it seems from today's perspective as this is the first page of the notebook and an extensive text of "Otarashvili's Widow" is written from the backside of the notebook, which is excluded by the time of creation of these texts: The story was written in 1887, and the above extracts are made after 1895. We think the result of our research should be taken into account and the flaw should be corrected.

Excerpts from other authors' works

In many cases the authorial form of the representing extracts is very interesting. He puts the imaginary vertical line separating the writing sheet by two, in the left column he puts extracts from various books and magazines interesting to him, in most cases sources are indicated as well, in the second column his own comments or extracts from other sources are included, that he finds particularly to contrast or enhance the content of the left column extract. In order to make the reader's perception easier, these texts will be presented in two columns in exactly the same way. It is so much easier to understand what part of the extract is related to the author's comment or the parallel text added by it.

Based on the significance of Ilia Chavchavadze as the immense public figure, we decided to completely include the extracts by the author that have no comments, but are directly linked to any of the writer's fields of work (political economy, banking, agricultural issues), or his publicist writings in his academic publication and we tried our best to explain in the scientific apparatus where or why the author could have used the information obtained from these notes. For example, at one point Ilia Chavchavadze has done extensive extracts from N. Beltov's (pseudonym of a famous Social-Democrat - George Plekhanov) work "К вопросу о развитии монистического взгляда на историю" (On the development of a monistic view of history). We assumed that the author would need this text during the polemics with the well-known Georgian Social-Democrat Noe Zhordania - afterwards the Chairman of the Government of Democratic Georgia, and it turned out we were correct. In the article "Frivolity, Bidirectionality, Hypocrisy" [9], published in "Iveria" on April 16, 1900, Ilia Chavchavadze writes: "I remember hearing somewhere in Russian literature, for disregarding intellectual élite measures were taken, I think the Russian Marxist Beltov was the one who disregarded intellectual élite so much... if I could only find Beltov's writing regarding this subject, everything would become clear" [9]. The discovery of the connection between the extract and the publicist letter helped us determine the date of the extract. As it can be seen from the article of April 20, 1900, that Plekhanov's work is not yet discovered by Ilia Chavchavadze, it is natural that the excerpt from his work should be from a later period.

Fragmentary speeches

Ilia Chavchavadze's extensive oral speeches are also printed in chronological order in the volume of publications of Ilia Chavchavadze's scholarly edition, for example, speech done on the feast in respect of Ev. Markov and Baron De-Bai; At the Ordination Ceremony of Bishop of Guria-Samegrelo - His Holiness Alexander and etc.... But during the development of the concept of publication publishing his fragmented oral speeches at various sessions and gatherings were not taken into account. As far as Ilia Chavchavadze participated in all the important endeavors of that period and was often the initiator and one of the most authoritative figures, we decided that it is important to publish not only his extensive, compositionally bound oral speeches, but separate short words and remarks as well. These speeches will be difficult to understand for the reader without context and will therefore require clarification of the situation, where it was said.

In light of the foregoing, we decided to include text headings in the academic edition, where, at what type of assembly (Members of the Tbilisi Nobility and Lands Bank, Dramatic Society...) and when were specific words spoken. Then, each speech of the writer is separated by a conditional subset - "speech 1, speech 2" etc. In order for the reader to easily understand the situation, each speech in the scientific apparatus will be accompanied by a note on what stage of the session, to whom, and what content speeches after were these words or remarks spoken. For example, from the account of Tbilisi Nobility and Lands Bank in the main text we include only the following speech: "Gentlemen, Ivane Machabeli was the one to applaud me the most; I know the meaning of that, I know it too well, therefore I should inform you that I inadvertently turned and looked around, wondering: whether I said something that was a nonsense!..." [10]. Here one fact is noteworthy, the columnist in the article included only this directly stated reply by Ilia Chavchavadze, and the actual, essential part of the speech, which was followed by applause and a reply, by periphrasis. According to our concept, in the volume notes we include only the author's direct speech. Certainly, it is impossible to understand the substance of the speech without the context and the usual humor of Ilia Chavchavadze (he perceived the applause in the opposite sense). In the endnote we write, that these words were preceded by his speech in order to refute arguments uttered against him and also expressed desire to establish a special commission to evaluate his and his oppositions activities, provided that those who were gated should have left the public arena. This decision was met with applause by his opposition, as if they had a guarantee that they would win. Ilia Chavchavadze perceived this applause as a gesture against him.

Any type of material needs a peculiar approach, depending on the purpose of the author and the publication. This is the concept we have developed for the publication of the relevant volume of the complete scholarly edition of Ilia Chavchavadze's works. The structure of the texts is scientifically argumentative and easy to understand for the reader, the scientific apparatus contains all the features - sources, notes, comments and indexes that the scholarly publication requires.

Acknowledgement:

This work was supported by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRNSF) [Grant # DP2016_18 'Textual Scholarship and Editorial Studies'].

References

- [1]. Ninidze, M., Amirkhanashvili, I. (ed.). (2017), *Chronicles of the life and works of Ilia Chavchavadze*, Tbilisi, Publishing House "Mtatsminda", 3. <http://dspace.nplg.gov.ge/handle/1234/204739> (Ilia_Chavchavadze_Cxovrebis_da_Shemoqmedebis_Matiane.pdf)
- [2]. Ninidze M., Gigashvili K. (2018), *Textual Scholarship / Textbook for PhD Students*, Tbilisi, 138.
- [3]. Korneli kekelidze National Center of manuscripts of Georgia, Private Archive fund of Ilia Chavchavadze №56.
- [4]. Korneli kekelidze National Center of manuscripts of Georgia, Private Archive fund of Ilia Chavchavadze №57.
- [5]. Korneli kekelidze National Center of manuscripts of Georgia, Private Archive fund of Ilia Chavchavadze №58.
- [6]. Korneli kekelidze National Center of manuscripts of Georgia, Private Archive fund of Ilia Chavchavadze №202.
- [7]. Korneli kekelidze National Center of manuscripts of Georgia, Private Archive fund of Ilia Chavchavadze №199.
- [8]. Chavchavadze I., *Complete collection of works in twenty volumes, volume XIII*, Tbilisi, 2007, 194-195.
- [9]. Chavchavadze I., *Complete collection of works in twenty volumes, volume XIV*, Tbilisi, 2007, 400, 408.
- [10]. The account of Tbilisi Nobility and Lands Bank meeting, Newspaper "Iveria", 17 May 1894 , №102.

Author Profile

Esma Mania is a researcher at the Korneli Kekelidze Georgian National Centre of Manuscripts and a third-year student in the doctoral program in Textual Scholarship and Editorial Studies at Iakob Gogebashvili Telavi State University. She is working on the archives of 19th-century Georgian authors and has published a number of articles in which she develops portraits of them using metatextual data from their archival documents. Her doctoral thesis explores issues related to Ilia Chavchavadze's notepads and speeches.