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Whom Belongs the Knowledge?

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Georgian National Museum



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*Modern Museums

- * Accessible
- * Interactive
- * Open
- * Democratic

*Georgian National Museum

- *Beginning of structural, institutional and legislative reforms in the country's cultural heritage management. Reforms include introducing to modern management practices; elaboration and establishment of museum politics and integrated administrative system; improvement of museum collections safety standards; increase of educational activities; collaboration between museums and academia.
- *Mission: To research, preserve, interpret and make accessible to all, the past and present of Georgia, of other nations and cultures, and the natural world...

* Museums Under GNM Umbrella

- * Four Museums in the Capital
- * National Gallery
- * Four House-Museums
- * Six Museums in the Regions
- * Two Scientific Institutions
- * Fourteen Archaeological Sites and Storages
- * Over Two Million Objects of Art, Archaeology, Ethnography, Natural History

*Registration Documents

Official:

- *Primary Catalogue
- *Discipline-specific Catalogue
- *ID Card/“Passport”
- *“Act” - Delivery/Acceptance/Registration Note

Unofficial:

- *Lists/notes made by curators

*Museum Professionals

*Guardian - “Mtsveli” = Curator

*Museumeli - Keeper, protector,
guardian of objects and knowledge

*Problems Identified during the Implementation of Digital Data base

- *No modern equipment
- *No computer skills
- *No legislative basis
- *Personal attitudes of “Museumeli”

*Factors Causing and Influencing Sensitivity of the Museum Staff

- *Overall Situation in The country
- *Doubts in one's authority

*Authorities of Delimitation - one of the “bodies” necessary for the formation of objects, which “is made possible by a group of relations established between authorities of emergence, delimitation and specification” (Foucault 1982:44)

*“They will publish it, and then? What shall **we** do?”

*“If everyone can access it (the data base), **what are we here for?**”

Discursive psychology - Discourse as “personal order and identity” (Wetherell 2012:52)

Museum as a place of discourse construction and maintenance

Implementation of the “new knowledge” and depriving the “old knowledge” = threat to Museumeli’s identity