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Georgian Publishers and Booksellers Association

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THE HISTORY OF BOOK PUBLISHING IN GEORGIA

The roots of book publishing in Georgia go back to the 4th Century when Georgian's conversion to Christianity created demand for manuscripts in Georgian. These manuscripts were copied in monasteries across the country.

Alongside the translation of the Bible, original texts were also created. These early books were of religious content and written by monks. The first Georgian book – The Martyrdom of Shushanik by Jakob Tsurtaveli – was written in the 5th century.

Although 5th Century inscriptions on the walls of churches are maintained. Unfortunately no complete books survived from 5th to 6th Century save fragmentary pages. One Georgian handwritten book which did survive to the present day is the Mt. Sinai (Egypt) Bible from 864.

Despite the fact that Georgian books were printed from the 17th Century onwards, manuscripts still constituted the largest fraction of Georgian literature until the beginning of the 19th Century. And although thousands of books survived through various centuries, even more were allegedly destroyed.

There are about 10 000 titles of both manuscripts and old printed books preserved at the National Centre of Manuscripts in Georgia.



IMPORTANT DATES

468 The first Georgian inscription was made.

495 The first Georgian book "The Martyrdom of Shushanik" was written.

973 The first known Georgian Manuscript of the Four Gospels was created.

1629 The first Georgian book Italian-Georgian Dictionary was printed.

1712 The first book was printed in the capital of Georgia, Tbilisi.

889 The first Georgian newspaper was printed.

1995 The law on intellectual property was adopted.

1995 Georgian Publishers Association, later joined also by booksellers (GPBA) was founded.

997 National ISBN Agency was founded.

2008 GPBA joined IPA as a regular member.



CONTACT INFORMATION OF PUBLISHERS AND BOOKSELLERS

BOOK PUBLISHERS



AGORA PUBLISHING HOUSE ARETE PUBLISHING HOUSE ARTANUJI PUBLISHING AZRI PUBLISHERS **BAKMI-PUBLISHERS** BIBLUS **BOOKS IN BATUMI PUBLISHING** BOOKCAFE **BOOKS IN VAKE** DIOGENE PUBLISHERS DISTRIBUTION COMPANY IRIATONI ELF PUBLISHING HOUSE INTELEKTI PUBLISHING KARCHKHADZE PUBLISHING **UT.GE** OCHOPINTRE PUBLISHING PAUTRA L PUBUSHING PEDAGOGIKA **PROSPERO'S BOOKS'** PUBLISHING HOUSE PEGASI PUBLISHING HOUSE SAKARTVELOS MATSNE WORLD OF LAWYERS SHEMETSNEBA PUBLISHING SULAKAURI PUBLISHING TSIGNI+ERI ZEBRA GROUP **CREATIVE ANGEL PUBLISHING** USTARI PUBLISHING



AGORA PUBLISHING HOUSE

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: French Literature Contact Person: Marina Balavadze Address: 2 Uznadze Street, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 555 54 19 00 E-mail: agorageo@hotmail.com Website: www.agorabooks.ge Rights Manager: Ekaterine Chachkhiani E-mail: eka@agorabooks.ge

Description:

Agora Publishing House was established in 2006. Its editorial policy is fiction - novels, short stories, poetry; philosophical, historical, sociological and anthropological essays, children's books. Agora's publishing priority is translations, mostly from French language.



ARETE PUBLISHING HOUSE

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Fiction, Nonfiction Contac Person: Giorgi darsalia Address: Chavchavadze Avenue 25, Tbilisi, Georgia E-mail: Gdarsalia@gmail.com Tel: +995 322 25 02 55

Description:

Publishing House Arete was founded in 2003. Current priorities of the publishing house are works by renown Georgian author Otar Chiladze and series of world classics.





ARTANUJI PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Foreign Fiction, Nonfiction, Textbooks, Academic, Historical and Children's Books, Postcards Contact Person: Gvantsa Jobava Address: Chavchavadze Ave. 5, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: (+995 32) 2 25 05 22 Fax: (+995 32) 2 25 05 22 E-mail: artanujipublishers@gmail.com Website: www.artanuji.ge Rights Manager: Gvantsa Jobava

Description:

Artanuji Publishing was founded in 2000. Main priorities of the publishing house are nonfiction, history books, foreign fiction, scientific researches, dictionaries, textbooks, children's books, autobiographies and etc.



AZRI PUBLISHERS

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Nonfiction, Sci-Fi Contact Person: Mamuka Khantadze Address: Chavchavadze Avenue 50, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 570 70 00 30 E-mail: dir@azribooks.ge Website: www.azribooks.ge Rights Manager: Vakhtang Kikacheishvili, E-mail: vakhtang@azribooks.ge





BAKMI-PUBLISHERS

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Children's Books Contact Person: Rusudan Mosidze Address: G. Robakidze Avenue 7, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 72 54 99; +995 597 75 65 35 E-mail: bakmipublishing@gmail.com Website: www.bakmi.ge Rights Manager: Nino Khinchagashvili, E-mail: nino55560@mail.ru



BIBLUS

Profile: Bookstore Contact Person: Mariam Tsamalashvili Address: Central: Chavchavadze Avenue 7a; Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 593 41 68 31 E-mail: biblusi@biblusi.ge Website: www.biblusi.ge

Description:

Book chain Biblus was founded on May 23, 2008. The network includes 50 branches throughout the country. Biblus offers a wide variety of books in all genres of literature on different languages and also stationary production.





BOOKS IN BATUMI PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Fiction, Sci-Fi, Children's Books Contact Person: Irakli Bakuridze Address: M. Abashidze Street 60, Batumi, 6001, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 593 39 59 91 E-mail: booksinbatumi@gmail.com Rights Manager: Nino Kiknadze, E-mail: nucakiknadze@gmail.com

Description:

Publishing House Books in Batumi was founded in the western part of Georgia, in Batumi. The main priority of the publishing house is to publish and popularize Sci-Fi titles in Georgia.



BOOKCAFE



Profile: Organisation of Art Literature and Selling-Exhibition Contact Person: Lia Shalvashvili Address: Tbilisi, Guramishvili Street 15, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 599 80 08 41 E-mail: lishalvashvili@gmail.com Website: www.bookcafe.ge Rights Manager: Nino Kharaishvili



BOOKS IN VAKE

Profile: Bookstore Contact Person: Mariam Kikacheishvili Address: Z.PaliaShvili Street 66, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 23 29 80 E-mail: mariamkik@yahoo.com; info@booksin.ge



DIOGENE PUBLISHERS

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Adult Fiction Contact Person: Mr. Zaza Shengelia Address: Apakidze Street 9, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 21 33 21 Fax: +995 322 21 33 21 E-mail: adm@diogene.ge Website: www.diogene.ge Rights Manager: Zaza Shengelia

Description: Founded in 1996 Diogene Publishers is one of the oldest publishing houses of Georgia.





DISTRIBUTION COMPANY IRIATONI

Profile: Book Distribution Company Contact Person: Nikoloz Kortava Address: Chavhavadze Ave. 17b, 0179, Ibilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 571 03 00 70 Fax: +995 322 18 25 44 E-mail: iriatoni@gmail.com

Description:

Distribution Company Iriatoni was founded in 2013. Company operates throughout Georgia with the main activity of distribution of books, postcards and souvenirs. In total company has more than 1500 points of sales in the country.



ELF PUBLISHING HOUSE

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Children's Literature. Contact Person: Tinatin Didebulidze Address: Kostava 24, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 92 35 70 Fax: +995 322 92 35 70 E-mail: adm@elf.ge Website: www.elf.ge Rights Manager: Leila Kirtadze, E-mail: info@elf.ge

Description:

Re-translating and publishing censorial works of authors of the Soviet Union, translating and publishing contemporary authors, educative-cognitive literature, encyclopedias, atlases etc.





INTELEKTI PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Fiction, Foreign Fiction, Nonfiction, Textbooks, Children's Books Contact Person: Gvantsa Jobava Address: Chavchavadze Ave.5, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: (+995 32) 2 25 05 22 Fax: (+995 32) 2 25 05 22 E-mail: intelektipublishingrights@gmail.com Website: www.intelekti.ge Rights Manager: Gvantsa Jobava

Description:

Intelekti Publishing was founded in 1994. Every year Intelekti publishes up to 250 books, among them: fiction and documentary prose, classical and modern poetry and prose, academic and scientific literature written in Georgian as well as translated from other languages.



KARCHKHADZE PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Children's Books; Novelty Books; Fiction; Nonfiction; Encyclopedias and Atlases; Art Books Contact Person: George Karchkhadze Address: Nutsubidze 1st Plateau 16/15, 186 Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 51 45 27 E-mail: info@karchkhadze.ge Website: www.karchkhadze.ge





UT.GE

Profile: E-book Publisher and Seller Company, Book Solutions Contact Person: Natia Lursmanashvili, Marketing and Business Development Manager Address: I. Chavchavadze Avenue 17 a, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 14 66 55 E-mail: natiaL@lit.ge Website: www.lit.ge

Description:

lit.ge is the first and the largest eBook publisher and seller company in Caucasus. It's operating from 2011. Lit. ge is collaborating with all Georgian publishers and authors. Since 2014 lit.ge is offering eBook solutions, including eBook reader apps and website to different companies.



OCHOPINTRE PUBLISHING



Description:

Ochopintre publishing is a young and increasing company with publishing priority of translated adult fiction.





PALITRA L PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Children's Books, Fiction, Nonfiction Contact Person: Tina Asatiani Address: losebidze Street, 49, 0160, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 38 38 71 Fax: +995 322 38 08 61 E-mail: t.asatiani@palitra.ge Website: www.palitral.ge Rights Manager: Tinatin Peikrishvili, E-mail: t.peikrishvili@palitra.ge

Description:

Palitra L Publishing was founded in 2005. At present, every year Palitra L publishes more than 400 books of Georgian and foreign authors. Palitra L Publishing is working successfully with journals of the biggest Georgian Media Holding "Palitra Media".



PEDAGOGIKA

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Textbooks and Scientific Literature Contact Person: Tamar Tatishvili Address: Paliashvili Street15, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 25 23 39 E-mail: g.pedagogika@yahoo.com Website: www.pedagogika.ge Rights Manager: Tamar Tatishvili

Description:

The Publishing House Pedagogika was established in 1994. Pedagogika produces educational, methodic, scientific and children's literature. Our audience are teachers, pupils, their parents, students and other education specialists.





PROSPERO'S BOOKS'

Profile: Bookstore & Coffehouse Contact Person: Steve Johnson Adress: Rustaveli Avenue 34, 0108, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: + 995 32 292 35 92 Fax: 995 32 292 09 01 E-mail: Info@prosperosbookshop.com Website: www.prosperosbookshop.com

Description:

Prospero's Books' mission is to create the environment for the local and expatriate customers to experience the best quality services and products. We strive to be valuable resources to our customers and help them to benefit from each buy.



PUBLISHING HOUSE PEGASI

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Fiction, Nonfiction Literature, Children's Literature Contact Person: Marina Tskhadaia Address: Magalashvili Street 5, Tbilisi,Georgia Tel: +995 322 32 09 78 E-mail: bookpegasus@gmail.com Rights Manager: Marina Tskhadaia

Description:

Publishing House was founded in 2006. The publishing priorities are to publish fiction, nonfiction, documentary prose, children's literature etc.





PUBLISHING HOUSE SAKARTVELOS MATSNE

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Fiction literature, Schoolbooks, Dictionaries, Children's Literature, Journals, Magazines etc. Contact Person: Levan Phophkhadze Address: Magalashvili Street, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 32 09 78; +995 574 40 08 57 E-mail: office@sakmatsne.ge Rights Manager: Levan Phophkhadze

Description:

Publishing house was founded in 1996. The publishing priorities are to publish fiction, schoolbooks, dictionaries, children's literature, journals, magazines etc.



WORLD OF LAWYERS

Profile: Publishing House, Bookstore Publishing Priority: Legal Literature, Scholar Literature. Contact Person: Vakhtangi Shatirishvili Address: Kostava Street 75, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 38 35 99; Mobile: +995 557 51 51 34 E-mail: Lawyers.world@yahoo.com Website: www.law.ge Rights Manager: Nikoloz Shatirishvili, E-mail: Lawyers.world@yahoo.com





SHEMETSNEBA PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Comprehensive Books for Children and Youth, Fiction, Textbooks, Journals, Scientific Literature, Guide-books For Tourists, Reference-Books, Post-Cards *Contact Person:* Lia Shalvashvili Address: Antonovskayas Street 9B, 0177, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 60 23 15; *E-mail:* info@shemetsneba.ge Website: www.shemetsneba.ge Rights Manager: Manana Machavariani, *E-mail:* info@shemetsneba.ge



SULAKAURI PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Adult Fiction, Teenage Fiction, Children's Fiction, Activity Books, Textbooks Contact Persons: Luka Grigolia Address: David Agmashenebeli avenue 150, 0112, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 32 91 09 54 E-mail: info@sulakauri.ge Website: sulakauri.ge / rights.sulakauri.ge Rights Manager: Mikheil Tsikhelashvili, E-mail: michael@sulakauri.ge

Description:

Sulakauri Publishing was founded in 1999 as a small independent publishing house, but after years of hard work it gained huge reputation and nowadays it stands as the leading publishing house of Georgia.





TSIGNI + ERI

Profile: Publishing house Publishing Priority: Psychological, Scientific-Popular, Children's Books, Encyclopedias, Bilingual Editions Contact Person: Mzia Razmadze Adress: 2 R. Laghidze Street, 0108, Tbilisi, Georgia, Tel: +995 571 13 12 11 E-mail: tsignieri@yahoo.com; mzia_r@yahoo.com Website: mpggroup.ge Rights Manager: Irina Robakidze, E-mail: irobakidse@yahoo.de



ZEBRA GROUP

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Children's books, Fiction for Adults Contact Person: Mariam Kasradze Address: Bakhtrioni Street 28, 0194, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel: +995 322 30 81 23 E-mail: mkasradzefr@yahoo.fr Rights Manager: Mariam Kasradze

Description:

Specialized mainly in children's books, the publishing house created series of adult fiction "Zebra Pocket" in 2012.





CREATIVE ANGEL PUBLISHING

Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Guidebooks, History, Fiction, Dictionaries, Works in Translation Contact Person: Maia Beridze Address: Apt. 43, building 26, micro-district 7, 3700, Rustavi, Georgia Tel: +995 599 58 42 49 E-mail: 7irakliberidze@gmail.com Website: www.creativeangelpublishing.com Rights Manager: Irakli Beridze

Description

We've been around long enough to know a thing or two about this business. And since, ultimately, the tree is known by its fruit, we let our books speak for themselves.



USTARI PUBLISHING



Profile: Publishing House Publishing Priority: Fiction, Nonfiction, Educational Literature Contact Person: Tamara Natchkebia Address: Aghmashenebeli Avenue 181-2, 0102 Tbilisi,Georgia Tel: +995 322 34 04 30 E-mail: ustari2010@gmail.com Rights Manager: Tamara Natchkebia