

Marilyn Kelly-Buccellati
Georgia – A Country of Gold and Faith
Abstract

The profound millennial coherence of Georgia strikes those who look at this admirable country from the outside, as well as serving as a natural background to support and nourish Georgian national awareness.

In this light, Georgia appears as an exemplary model of a human community that remains intact over time, a very long time indeed. On the one hand, the sense of identity has its roots in a very rich natural and spiritual humus. On the other, this same identity is strengthened in comparison with "the other," nourished by peace and strengthened in conflict.

An exemplary model. This is why we propose it, wanting to recognize the value and the courage of a people, relatively small in number, but unalterably faithful to itself, even in the midst of unimaginable misfortunes. We do it by pointing to some of the factors that helped make this phenomenon possible. Here we read a splendid affirmation of the human capacity to feel united as a group, and to relate to others through one's uniqueness. If it is true that no man is an island, it is equally true that no nation is an island. Georgia shows it to us with all the eloquence of great history.

Foreigners, we look at Georgia from the outside. But absorbed by the beauty of its landscape and its history, its architecture and its art, of its faithful adherence to one's own well-defined identity, we feel anchored to his very rich human experience. Which is what Georgia wants to share.