

## **“GHANI” – Project Concept**

**“Christianity is the religion of love; love means being of one soul, and love for the Lord is, at the same time, the path to deification.”  
(St. Gregory the Theologian, vol. II, p. 312)**

“Love – The Path to Deification” is a cultural and educational initiative encompassing various public activities, including competitions, exhibitions, performances, discussions, and lecture series. The initiative aims to explore the universal and divine nature of love; to reflect on deification as the highest spiritual state of the human being; and to express these values through art. It seeks to inspire the creation of new artworks by synthesizing traditional aesthetic forms of Georgian spiritual and cultural heritage with contemporary artistic approaches.

This initiative represents a unique opportunity to experience spiritual exploration within contemporary art and to reinterpret cultural heritage in a modern context.

### **“GHANI”**

“GHANI” is a project designed for students and emerging artists, forming an integral part of the initiative “Love – The Path to Deification.” The project is organized by the Tbilisi Association of Architects and Sculptors. Its primary components include:

- Competition – held in three professional disciplines: I. Sculpture, II. Architecture, III. Painting and Graphics;
- Exhibition – a collective presentation of selected works;
- Awards – the identification and recognition of winners in each category.

The theme of the competition is based on the Georgian Asomtavruli script letter “GHANI” (⌒). Participants are encouraged to explore the symbolic and visual essence of this letter, as well as related allegorical or artistic representations. They are invited to integrate both traditional techniques and contemporary technological approaches into their work.

The Georgian script is one of the most significant achievements of national culture and global civilization. Among the three Georgian alphabets, Asomtavruli stands out for its monumental graphical form and symbolic meaning. “GHANI” (⌒) is the 26th character in the alphabet and corresponds to the numerical value of 700. It belongs to the Caucasian group of characters and is considered unique, with no direct equivalent in other alphabets.

Some scholars refer to “GHANI” as the “Gate of God.” Its shape evokes the image of an arch, a gateway, or a portal — a space that unites the celestial and the earthly, the material and the spiritual.

The “GHANI” project will serve as a platform where artists, scholars, and the general public can engage in sharing and renewing spiritual, philosophical, and creative perspectives.



Tbilisi Architects and Sculptors Association