

# Curriculum Vitae

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## **Tamta Khalvashi, PhD**

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## **Education**

- **Doctor of Philosophy:** Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen (2011- 2015)
- **Research Diploma:** Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford. OSI/Chevening Program. (2009-2010)
- **Study-Research Diploma:** International Gender Studies Centre, Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford (January-March, 2008)
- **MA in Conflict Management**  
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (2004 – 2006)
- **BA in Social Psychology (With Honors)**  
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (2000 – 2004)

## **Positions**

- **Associate Professor: Ilia State University**  
(September 2018 – present)
- **Research Associate: Columbia University, Black Sea Network Project**  
(October 2016 – present)
- **Fulbright Scholar: New York University, Department of Anthropology**  
(August 2016 – August 2017)
- **Assistant Professor: School of Governance and Social Sciences, Free University of Tbilisi**  
(September 2015 – 2018)
- **Academic Coordinator:** School of Governance and Social Sciences, Free University of Tbilisi.  
(October 2010 – March 2011)

- Duties:** Designing the curriculum for the School, interviewing lecturers, organizing public lectures, and coordinating meetings with academic committee members.
- **Executive Coordinator and founding member:** Centre for the Study of Caucasus and Black Sea Region, University of Georgia.  
(Tbilisi, January 2008 – June 2010)  
**Duties:** Organizing seminars concerning the Black Sea and Caucasus region; working on research project proposals; developing international academic network.
  - **Writer:** Journal Focus (Georgian-English) and Journal Pirosmani (Georgian-Turkish).  
(2005-2006)  
**Duties:** Wrote monthly articles concerning Georgian ethnography and culture.

## Teaching Experience

- **Anthropological Methods of Thinking and Research**  
Ilia State University
- **Robots, Animals, Humans: Introduction to Urban Anthropology**  
Ilia State University
- **Anthropology of Debt**  
Ilia State University
- **Political Anthropology**  
Free University of Tbilisi
- **Introduction to Social Theory**  
Free University of Tbilisi
- **Thesis and Dissertation Preparation**  
Free University of Tbilisi
- **Anthropological Methods**  
University of Copenhagen
- **Political Anthropology: Religion, Nation, Ethnicity**  
University of Copenhagen
- **Anthropology of Borders and Boundaries**  
University of Copenhagen  
Free University of Tbilisi  
Ilia State University

## Talks, Conferences and Workshops

- **Social Justice in Times of Crisis:** International Forum organized by the Human Rights Education and Monitoring Center, Georgian National Museum.  
**Title of the paper:** The Limits of Secularism at the Crossroads of Empires.  
(Tbilisi, May 2019)
- **The Mythologies of Medea: Economies and Cosmologies of Dispossession in Georgia:** webinar delivered at the Caucasus Studies Center, Malmo University.  
(April 2019)

- **A Ride On The Elevator: Infrastructures of Brokenness and Repair in Georgia:** A talk delivered at Goldsmiths University's Department of Anthropology Seminar Series. (London, February 2019)
- **Household and Personal Debt: International and Comparative Perspective:** workshop hosted by London School of Economics and Political Sciences.  
**Title of the Paper:** The Debt Holes: Affective Geography of Indebtedness on the Georgian Black Sea Coast. (London, December 2018)
- **Democratic Republic of Georgia (1918-1921): In Search of Form and Content:** a conference hosted by Social and Cultural Studies Institute, Ilia State University.  
**Title of the paper:** Limits of Secularism: Religion and Public Life in the Periphery of the first Democratic Republic of Georgia. (Tbilisi, November 2018)
- **Tbilisi Architecture Biennial**  
**Title of the paper:** A Ride on the Elevator: Infrastructures of Brokenness and Repair in Georgia. (Tbilisi, November 2018)
- **Optimism at the End of the World – Between Hope and Ignorance:** anthropological workshop hosted by Aalborg University, Denmark.  
**Title of the paper:** Peripheries of Optimism: Affective Economies of Indebtedness in Georgia. (Tisvildeleje, August 2018)
- **bbp:Metro:** conference on history, culture and society of Georgia hosted by Academy of Arts at Pariser Platz. (Berlin, May 2018)
- **Ten Years of Crisis: Ethnographies of Austerity:** workshop hosted by University Institute of Lisbon.  
**Title of the paper:** Optimism, Indebtedness, and Moral Breakdown in Georgia. (Lisbon, January 2018)
- **Black Sea Myths and Modern Europe:** symposium hosted by the Columbia University, Heyman Center.  
**Title of the paper:** The Horizons of Medea and New Cosmologies of Dispossession in Georgia. (New York, October 2017)
- **Commons: Public Spaces After Socialism:** An interdisciplinary conference hosted by Columbia University's Harriman Institute for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies/The East Central European Center.  
**Title of the paper:** Towers for Troubling Times: Speculative Futures and Transformation of Public Space in Georgia. (New York, April 2017)
- **The Black Sea: Networks and Horizons:** A talk delivered at the Center of European and Mediterranean Studies, New York University. Co-funded by Erasmus Program of European Union. (New York, March 2017)
- **AAA Conference: Evidence, Accident, Discovery**  
**Participant:** The Ethnographic Writing Workshop conducted by Prof. Ruth Behar. (Minneapolis, November 2016)

- **Peripheries:** Conference in Cooperation with Freiburg and Ilia State Universities.  
**Title of the Paper:** Peripheral Affect: Shame, Marginality and the Nation on the Georgian Black Sea Coast  
(Tbilisi, May 2016)
- **Social and Political Aspects of Marginalization – Theory and Practice:** Forum organized by Human Rights Education and Monitoring Center at Europe House.  
**Title of the Paper:** Shame as Marginality and the Union  
(Tbilisi, January 2016)
- **Religious Connections and Divisions in the Black Sea Region:** Workshop at the New College, Institute for Advanced Study.  
**Title of the paper:** Religious Conversions and their Secret Trajectories along the Georgian-Turkish Borderlands.  
(Bucharest, June 2015)
- **University of Copenhagen Anthropological MEGA Seminar – Law:** Exploring and Analyzing Aspects of Law based on Ethnographic Fieldwork, organizer of the panel.  
**Title of the Panel:** Law and Tempo  
(Sandbjerg, January 2014)
- **AAA Conference:** Future Publics, Current Engagements  
**Title of the Paper:** Proxies of the Future: Liberal Desires and the Quest for Authenticity on the Margins of the Republic of Georgia  
(Chicago, November 2013)
- **EASA Conference:** Uncertainty and Disquiet  
**Title of the paper:** Recapturing the Dissapearance: Materiality, Ephemerality and Photography on the Margins of the Republic of Georgia  
(Paris, July 2012)
- **University of Copenhagen Anthropological MEGA Seminar**  
**Title of the Paper:** Orders along the Borders: Religious Conversions and Their Secret Trajectories  
(Sandbjerg, February 2011)
- **Public Presentation:** University of Birmingham, Centre for Russian and East European Studies.  
**Title of the paper:** Trans-border Politics and Construction of Belonging among Georgians in Turkey.  
(Birmingham, December 2009)
- **Central Asia and Caucasus Studies Conference in the UK:** Focusing on Communities, Societies and States, University of St Andrews.  
**Title of the paper:** ‘We discovered Georgians other than Us’: Identity and Religion among Georgians in Turkey.  
(St. Andrews, November 2009)
- **International Scientific Conference:** ‘Vera Bardavelidze - 110’, Ivane Javakhishvili Institute of History and Ethnography.  
**Title of the paper:** ‘Tradition and Modernity in the Symbolism of Death: Political, Social and Cultural History of the Georgian Gravestones’.  
(Tbilisi, May 2009)
- **Conference on Caucasus Studies: Migration – Society – Language:** Department of International Migration and Ethnic Relations, Malmo University, Sweden.

**Title of the paper:** "Being Between Two Waters": Identity, State Official Narrative and Imagination in Turkey.  
(Malmo, November 2008)

## **Publications**

### **Books**

Forthcoming. *Peripheral Affect*. University of Toronto Press.

### **Journal Articles**

(2019). "Ascending Order", in *The Architectural Review*. February, Issue 1454.

(2018). "The Horizons of Medea: Economies and Cosmologies of Dispossession in Georgia", in *Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute*. 24(4).

(2014). "Capturing Marginality: Social Role of Photography in the Wake of Rapid Urban Development of Batumi, Georgia", in *Caucasus Analytical Digest*, No. 62.

(2009). "Ziyareti": Imagined Sacred Places and Cultural Transmission among Georgians in Turkey. *Anthropology of the Middle East* 4(2).

### **Book Chapters**

(2019). A Ride on the Elevator: Infrastructures of Brokenness and Repair in Georgia, in *Repair, Brokenness, Breakthrough: Ethnographic Responses*, edited by Francisco Martinez and Patrick Lavolette. London, Berghahn Books.

(2018). "Ruinen der Einheit: Sympathien in der post-kosmopolitischen Stadt," in *Georgien, Neu Buchstabiert: Politik and Kultur Eines Landes Auf Dem Weg Nach Europa*, edited by Luka Nakhutrishvili. (in German). Bielefeld, Transcript Verlag.

(2018). Forward for Georgian translation, "Small Places, Large Issues: An Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology" by Thomas Hylland Eriksen. Tbilisi: Sakartvelos Matsne.

(2016). "Peripheries of Shame," in *Social and Political Aspects of Marginalization: Theory and Practice* (Ed.) Human Rights Education and Monitoring Center, Tbilisi (in Georgian).

(2010). *Conflict and Transformation: Official Rhetoric, Search for Identity, and Citizenship in the Caucasus*. Introduction for the Conflict and Transformation Conference Proceedings. Tbilisi: University of Georgia Press.

### **Web-based publications**

(2019). *Postsocialist City - In Search of Decolonization*. Human Rights Education and Monitoring Center (in Georgian). Available online: <https://emc.org.ge/ka/products/postsotsialisturi-kalaki-dekolonizatsiis-dziebashi>

(2013). Co-authored by Dustin Gilbreath. Hard Money, Hard Times. Eurasianet commentary.

### **Book reviews**

(2018). "Beyond Borders: Conflict and Cooperation in South Caucasus." Osteuropa and Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung South Caucasus (web-based publication in Georgian).

(2015). "Being a State and States of Being in Highland Georgia" by Florian Muhlfried. Social Anthropology, Vol 23.

### **Awards, Scholarships and Projects**

- **Soyuz: Postsocialist Cultural Studies Annual Article Prize.** Honorable Mention for "The Horizons of Medea: Economies and Cosmologies of Dispossession in Georgia" published in Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute.  
(2018)
- **Social Science and Humanities Research Council** of Canada for ethnographic fieldwork on transformations of post-Soviet urban landscapes, collaborator.  
(May 2015 – present)
- **Anthropological Approaches to Religion and Secularism:** Open Society Institute, Higher Education Support Program under the Regional Seminar for Excellence in Teaching (ReSET) program. Tbilisi State University in cooperation with the Program on Central Asia and the Caucasus at Harvard University.  
(Tbilisi, Batumi, Istanbul, 2010-2013)  
**Description:** Involved in workshops and seminars together with a group of faculty members from the former Soviet Union and Mongolia and prominent anthropologists working on religion and secularism internationally.
- **Asia Initiative Dynamics Scholarship** for ethnographic fieldwork on religious conversions in Georgia, University of Copenhagen.  
(June-August 2011)
- **OSI/FCO Chevening Research Scholarship:** University of Oxford.  
(October 2009 – June 2010)
- **Ilia Chavchavadze Scholarship for Young Scholars:** Rustaveli Foundation for Georgian Studies, Humanities and Social Sciences.  
(January 2009 – January 2010)

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

- **Events Manager:** Oxford-Georgian Society, University of Oxford.  
(Oxford, 2009-2010)
- **Participant of photo exhibition 'Javakheti':** Cultural Centre Muza.  
(Tbilisi, 2006)
- **Participant of photo exhibition:** Georgian Contemporary Art Gallery.  
(Tbilisi, 2003)
- **Recipient of Award for Distinguished Photography:** Exhibit of European Monumental Photography Experience, Carvasla Exhibition Hall.  
(Tbilisi, 2002)

## **Languages**

- Georgian – Fluent
- English – Fluent
- Russian – Fluent
- Turkish – Beginner

## **Personal**

**Birthday:** May 12, 1983

**Birthplace:** Tbilisi, Georgia

**Citizenship:** Georgian