

# Platon Gigineishvili

Platon Gigineishvili is among those few doctors who played great part in healthcare of Adjarian population at the beginning of 20th century, and throughout his life, had a sacred name of the healer.

He was born on Christmas of 1879, in the village Jurukveti, Ozurgeti district, in a large family of Count (Aznauri). Father, Giorgi Gigineishvili, was an educated person who actively participated in public life. During the Turkey occupation of Batumi, he took part in negotiations with the Turks, which was held at Dadiani Palace in Samegrelo.



პლატონ გიგინეიშვილი

Platon graduated from the prestigious gymnasium of Ganja and continued his studies at the Odessa Medical Institute where his talent and diligence attracted so much attention to him that he was appointed as a doctor-intern at the Department of Therapy.

While still being a student, Platon married Nata Mamulaishvili and their first daughter was born. Besides studying, Platon had to financially support his family by himself. After graduating, he worked at the Kherson District Hospital for a short period of time, but soon the First Russian Revolution started, and he was nursing the fighters on the barricades.

In 1906 Platon came back to Batumi, Georgia and he started his career at Batumi City Hospital (now Republican Hospital) where he stayed till the end of his life. In the city center Platon purchased the house which was designed by Italian architect. He also bought 7Ha piece of land on Pheria Mountain and he planted citruses and other foreign varieties of fruits. He was carrying the harvest on the wagons to Russia for selling, until he was dispossessed of the garden by Communists. People until now call this garden "The Gigineishvili Garden". Platon bought a country house in Ketchkhobi from the brother of Russian Emperor Nikoloz II.

Platon was a member of the self-government of Batumi in 1902-1910. He actively participated in the process of drying out the bogs; fought against Malaria and Typhoid.

And then came the Communists and took away the garden in Pheria, the Jurukveti lands, the house of Ketchkhobi. But, nobody touched the house in Batumi, because at that time Platon already had a great authority as he was a well-known doctor. Platon's parents were never told that the property in Jurukveti was taken away by the government.

Within the period of 1922-1942 Platon Gigineishvili was the head of Therapy Department at the Republican Hospital, at the same time he was also performing as the principal of Tuberculosis, Childcare and Infection departments. By the initiative of Platon Gigineishvili Orphanages were opened in "Gorodok", Makhinjauri (in Fysenko Cottage), and Kobuleti (in Kamoev Cottage).

Along with other doctors, Platon Gigineishvili is considered to be one of the founders of the outpatient services for Adjara population. He actively participated in sanitation - educational activities. He was conducting popular lectures.

Platon Gigineishvili played a big role in the development of Adjarian resort business. The first data on the balneological significance of the Black Sea Region of Adjara appeared after a year from regaining Independence from the Ottomans, but nobody paid attention to this case.

In 1911, **Batumi Resort Society** was created by the initiative of the Doctors Society of Adjara, 43 doctors of Moscow Physiotherapy Society arrived in Batumi, who studied Adjara's resort and medical conditions. In 1933 Batumi hosted the **First Republican Resort Conference**, and Platon

Gigineishvili was actively involved in the organization and work of it. Conference presentations included topics such as the development of resort and cultural services provided for tourists, the fauna of Adjara, climate, mineral waters, resort planning, and tourism. This was a complex study of Adjara resort and recreational resources, which has not been conducted since then.

From 1929 until his death, Platon Gigineishvili was the chairman of the **Society of Doctors of Batumi (Adjara)**. Platon was also one of the organizers of the **5th Scientific Congress of Georgian Doctors** held in Batumi, in January of 1929. His report was: "Malaria in Adjara", which analyzed the vast material about diagnosis and treatment of 4200 malaria patients.

The Society of Adjarian Doctors, led by Platon Gigineishvili, played a great role in the development of medicine in the region. Scientific units of different fields created within the society for accomplishing various tasks are still interesting and exemplary. The doctor's contribution was appreciated and Platon Gigineishvili was one of the first who was granted the status of **Honorary Doctor of the Georgian SSR** in 1941 and in 1946, he was awarded as **Honorary Doctor of Adjara**.