

Gharibashvili Accuses Georgian Dream of Political Persecution in Latest Prison Letter

BY MESSENGER STAFF

Former Georgian Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili has accused the government of conducting a "disgusting and tragic" political campaign against him in a new letter from Rustavi prison.

Gharibashvili dismissed an investigation launched after one of his previous letters as politically motivated and questioned why opposition figures were being interviewed in connection with the case.

He rejected suggestions that he had any links to the United National Movement, saying the government was trying to connect him with the opposition through what he called "ridiculous and weak" propaganda.

"Just as water and oil do not mix, it is impossible to connect me and the National Movement," Gharibashvili wrote.

He also mocked claims that he was an agent of the "deep state" and France.

"I am lucky that I do not know other foreign languages, otherwise, they would probably declare me an 'agent' of other countries as well," he wrote.

Gharibashvili said the government's response to his previous letter had exposed the political system and accused officials of launching inquiries aimed at portraying his actions



as coordinated with the opposition.

"The panic reaction and abso-

lutely inadequate behavior of the government have completely illustrated the system," he wrote,

describing the government's response as a "completely disgusting and tragic masquerade."

He also questioned the handling of an investigation into the death of Lazare Jorbenadze, saying it had been ongoing for nearly five months.

According to Gharibashvili, people and journalists who had publicly raised questions about the case had not been questioned, while people who responded publicly to his letter were questioned soon after it was published.

He called on the government to stop what he described as "dirty political games" against him and said he remained loyal only to Georgia.

"People also know very well that I serve neither the West, nor the East, nor the North, nor the South. I serve Georgia!" he wrote.

Gharibashvili also addressed Shalva Papuashvili directly, rejecting the characterization of the proceedings as a legal process.

"Shalva, this is not a legal process—this is ruthless political persecution!" he wrote.

The former prime minister also addressed his former political allies, saying he was not engaged in a fight with anyone but had been betrayed.

"I am not fighting anyone—you stabbed me in the back," Gharibashvili wrote. "And now I am forced to defend myself and my family from this injustice and cruelty."

\$15 Million Aviation Village Opens in Kachreti

BY MESSENGER STAFF

Georgia has opened a \$15 million aviation complex in the eastern Kakheti region, with the

government saying the project will support tourism, local economic activity and pilot training.

The Ambassador Aviation Village, a 16-hectare facility in

Kachreti, was inaugurated on September 5 by Ambassador Group, a Georgian business conglomerate. The project includes an airfield, flight school, avia-

tion club, aircraft hangar and residential facilities.

Georgian Dream Prime Minister Irakli Kobakhidze said the investment would strengthen the local economy and support Georgia's tourism ambitions.

"Today, a new chapter is being written in the history of Georgian aviation," Kobakhidze said at the opening. "The investment project in the value of USD 15 million, the Ambassador Aviation Village, will make a significant contribution to strengthening the local economy and fully unlocking the country's tourism potential."

The main runway is 1,185 metres long and 18 metres wide, while the hangar can accommodate up to 12 aircraft, according to the Economy Ministry.

Kobakhidze said the complex would also give young Georgians an opportunity to pursue careers in aviation.

"High-caliber pilots will be trained here and will obtain internationally recognized licenses," he said.

He also welcomed the arrival of almost 30 crews of European pilots, saying their presence reflected Georgia's growing role in

international aviation.

The project was financed through a \$15 million investment by Ambassador Group, including a 10 million lari loan approved with support from the Georgian Economic Development Corporation, a government body established in April to attract foreign investment.

Georgian Dream Economy Minister Mariam Kvrivishvili said the facility was designed to promote small aviation, develop aviation tourism and establish Kakheti as a destination for private and recreational aviation.

"What is happening today here in Kachreti is a logical continuation of this process, where the private sector responds to the opportunities created by the state with its own initiative and investment," Kvrivishvili said.

She said the complex could attract foreign pilots and aviation enthusiasts who would travel through Georgia, stay in different regions and spend money on local services.

The opening came as Georgia seeks to expand its wider aviation infrastructure. Kvrivishvili

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