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HEYDAR ALIYEV AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL IDENTITY IN AZERBAIJAN

SUMMARY

The presented article describes the system of national and cultural values and the national identity. One of the merits of Heydar Aliyev is that he succeeded in materializing the ideology of Azerbaijanism. The tolerant views towards the presence of multi-ethnicity in the territory, their national values, traditions and customs led for the prosperity of the ideology of Azerbaijanism. This concept determines the moral commitment of Azerbaijanis in the world to support their historical homeland.

Key words: Azerbaijan, Heydar Aliyev, national- spiritual values, national identity, Azerbaijanism.

Introduction

Modern global problems are subject of economic and political problems as well and change the system of national and moral values. The contribution of peoples to globalization and the values they accept are different. The influence of any nation on globalization depends on the level of development of science and education, not least national identity [Aliev, 2014, p.170]. Formation and protection of the system of national identity in the context of globalization formulates part of the

strategic development plan of the state. The economic and political development of the country becomes the essence of national and moral values. A state interested in participating in global processes, along with its economic, political power, should be recognized by its historical, cultural, national identity, spiritual values and be able to promote them at the highest levels. Maintenance of national-spiritual traditions is pivotal in the terms of preserving the language, religion, identification of the people in the process of globalization in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

National- spiritual values

The people is a founder of national and moral values [Alishova, 2011, p.4]. Azerbaijan has a long history of statehood and tradition. The history of the people is an index of its existence and its cultural values.

Azerbaijan is located at the crossroad between Europe and Asia. This land inhabited by the people from ancient times turned into a battlefield from time to time, subjected to the captivity of various nations, became part of large trade routes and ethnic landscape. This territory has changed with the placement of a large number of people, but did not lose its existence and preserved its language, identity and traditions. The Azerbaijani people occupy a decent place among the world states with the ideas and traditions of the people, their national characteristics and their lifestyles. Consequently, the efforts of the leading figures of the nation resulted in protection of their material and spiritual treasures for centuries. At the end of the 60s, the arrival of Heydar Aliyev to Azerbaijan had opened a new chapter in country's cultural life as well as its political and economic life.

Heydar Aliyev and Turkic Identification

The manifestation of the existence and national identity of any nation is its territory, language, ethnic origin, traditions and self-consciousness. The sovereignty of a part of the historic Azerbaijani lands ensures territorial integrity.

In fact, the language ranked first in the ranking of moral values and identification. Heydar Aliyev has always contributed for the development of the Azerbaijani language. After becoming president in 2001, the Great Leader issued a decree on “Improving the Promotion of the State Language Promotion” in 2001, and the Law on the State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2002 [About the state language in the Republic of Azerbaijan] and the 2003 Law on State Language in the Republic of Azerbaijan. Heydar Aliyev noted that the language of every nation is dear to it [Gasimli, 2010,v 5].

The ethnic origin of every nation is one of the factors that have a strong impact on the formulation of its national identity. After regaining independence, relations with Turkic-speaking states were important political, economic and cultural steps. In one of H. Aliyev’s speeches in 1997 he said that the historical roots of the identity of the Azerbaijani people were formed within the common history of the Turkic peoples - a single ethno-cultural system: “We are have common roots and webelong to the same historical roots, the unity of our people, their spirituality and cultural values has always consolidated us, led for friendship and mutual assistance” [Gasimli, 2010,v 6]. Heydar Aliyev has repeatedly emphasized the importance of Turkic epics “Dede Gorgud”, “Manas”, “Alpamish” and “Koroglu” and described them as national, cultural and spiritual values, creativity of our great poets, writers - Nizami, Nasimi, Yunus Emre, Fizuli, A.Navai, Abai, Mehingulu and others of the entire Turkic world [Alishova, 2011,c 3].

The essence of ethics considered by the Azerbaijani as Turkish-Islamic values is the epics “Dede Gorgud”, a collection of medieval Turkish customs. “The Kitabi Dede Gorgud” epics, which express national identity of all Turkic peoples, were prohibited for some time during the Soviet era. “The Kitabi Dede Gorgud” epics was published for the first time in 1978 under the editorship of Hamid Arasli during the first period of Heydar Aliyev’s rule. In 1997, Heydar Aliyev brought together all the Turkic worlds and celebrated the 1300

th anniversary of Dede Gorgud epic. Our great leader called “The Kitabi Dede Gorgud” epics as “a reliable source of our national existence” [Encyclopedia of Kitabi Dede Gorgud, 2000,p.6]. Dede Gordgud’s monument was erected in Baku and other regions with the initiative and support of Heydar Aliyev and the film on the basis of the work was produced.

As a result of Heydar Aliyev’s cultural policy, the preservation of our national identity, the survival of our national traditions, the transmitting of the spiritual heritage to future generations have been ensured. The great leader, considering the importance of preserving national cultural heritage, drew the attention of the nation to this issue in 2001, with a statement issued on “Protection of national values”.

Heydar Aliyev and Azerbaijanism

The merit of Heydar Aliyev is that he succeeded in materializing the ideology of Azerbaijanism. The roots of the ideology of Azerbaijanism go far into history. The tolerant views towards the presence of multi-ethnicity in the territory, their national values, traditions and customs led for the prosperity of the ideology of Azerbaijanism. Azerbaijan has always been recognized as a territory where multiculturalism, national and religious tolerance is valued, and these values formed the basis of the ideology of Azerbaijanism. The ideology of Azerbaijanism is a concept that defines the moral commitment of world Azerbaijanis to Azerbaijan.

“For every person, national affiliation is a source of pride and I am always proud, and today I am proud that I am Azerbaijani.” The main idea of independent Azerbaijan is Azerbaijaniism, and each Azerbaijanis should feel proud of their national identity, and we must maintain Azerbaijani language - Azerbaijani language, culture, national-moral values, traditions” – said Heydar Aliyev, whose genius has achieved solidarity and integrity and spiritual unity of society by transforming Azerbaijanis into national ideology [Huseynov, 2009, p. 4].

Azerbaijan is a country where many nationalities and religious confessions live together. Domestic and foreign outbreaks in Azerbaijan's political power in 1992-1993, the religious movements from the North and South affected South to the national and religious tensions in the country. Under these conditions, stable development of Azerbaijan was dependent on national and religious tolerance. Therefore, the establishment of a dialogue between religions and cultures for the preservation of different cultures, putting forward the principles of tolerance and stability in Azerbaijan was of great importance.

For Heydar Aliyev, the national, religious identity, national and moral values of an ethnic nation were in the forefront of civilization policy. That's why the great leader noted: "The nation-wide values and the synthesis of the national values are the day and the future of our national ideology" [Aliyev, 2014,p. 172].

Azerbaijan is one of the best examples of tolerance and tolerance in the region and the world. The ideology of Azerbaijanism is the propagation system of the unity of all peoples living in the territory of Azerbaijan on the basis of the same history, the same territory, the same economic development, and sharing the same problems. [Aliyev, 2014,p. 177].

The national leader's systematization of separate elements of Azerbaijanism has led to the establishment and equality of the society in the unity, solidarity, spiritual unity and integrity. This system, based on national cultural heritage, has become a beacon for the future success of the Azerbaijani society.

Conclusion

Heydar Aliyev has always made efforts to protect our national and moral values in order to form the national identity of Azerbaijan. He was loyal to the universal human values and led to the formation of our National Ideology – Azerbaijanism. As the result of the Azerbaijani ideology is on a well-built basis at present, tolerance to national and religious values is a good

model in the world. The President of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, successfully continues this policy founded by national leader Heydar Aliyev [Azerbaijani national identity, 2014, p. 6].

In February 2014, Ilham Aliyev signed a decree on the concept of culture of the Azerbaijan Republic . The main purpose of the concept is to protect the material and non-material cultural heritage, to protect the integrity of the Azerbaijani people. The national identity of Azerbaijan are in secure hands. Actions on towards the development of national and spiritual values by Heydar Aliyev are successfully continued.

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РЕЗЮМЕ

Данная статья описывает систему национально-культурные ценности и национальной идентичность. Одним из достоинств Гейдара Алиева является то, что ему удалось воплотить в жизнь идеологию азербайджанства. Толерантные взгляды на существование многоэтничности на территории, их национальные ценности, традиции и обычаи привели к процветанию идеологии азербайджанства. Эта концепция определяет моральное обязательство азербайджанцев мира поддержать свою историческую родину.

Ключевые слова: Азербайджан, Гейдар Алиев, национальные ценности, национальная идентичность, азербайджанство.