

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

On the rights of manuscript

ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**THE PROBLEM OF REFLECTION OF SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT
IN SABIR AZERI AND VIDADI BABANLI'S PROSE**

Specialty: 5716.01 - Azerbaijani literature

Field of science: Philology

Applicant: **Shahrizad Bahram Nuhova**

Baku – 2021

Dissertation was performed at the Department of Azerbaijani Literature of Baku Slavic University / Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan Republic.

Scientific adviser: Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor
Badirkhan Balaja Ahmadov

Official opponents: Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor
Islam Eynali Garibov

Doctor of Philological Sciences,
Associate Professor
Gulkhani Vagif Shukurova (Panah)

PhD in Philology, Associate Professor
Mati Osman Bayramli

ED 1.05 – Dissertation Council of the Supreme Attestation Commission under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan attached to the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS

Chairman of the

Dissertation Council:

Academician,

Doctor of Philological Sciences,

Isa Akbar Habibbayli

Scientific Secretary of the
Dissertation Council

PhD in Philosophy,

Associate Professor

Ismikhan Mahammad Osmanli

Chairman of the scientific
seminar:

Doctor of Philological Sciences,

Associate Professor

Alizade Bayram Asgarli

INTRODUCTION

Relevance and studying degree of the research issue. It is known that the creativity of the new generations who came to literature in the 60s of the XX century plays an important role in the qualitative change of Azerbaijani prose. The artistic expression of spiritual and moral quests in the works of Isa Huseynov, Anar, Isi Malikzade, Elchin, Sabir Ahmadov, Yusif Samadoglu, Magsud Ibrahimbayov, Farman Karimzade, Sabir Azeri, Vidadi Babanli and other writers allowed the development of new themes and problems. In the renewal of literary thought, themes, images, plot lines, and prose in whole, the role of the youth, later called by the literary criticism the Sixties, was leading. The prose created by the Sixties was distinguished by series of aspects in comparison with the past previous generation. One of the factors determining the longevity of the new prose was the originality of the narrative, the description, and its deliverance from ideological tendencies in the approach to events. The linguistic and stylistic peculiarities of the newcomers to fiction were also one of the main features of the prose of the Sixties. All this brought the prose of the Sixties closer to the literary process of the All-Union and then the world literary process.

For almost forty years, our literary criticism and philology have repeatedly studied the works of these writers from various aspects, analyzed the new images and characters they brought to literature. The works of I.Huseynov, Anar, S.Ahmadov, Elchin, I.Malikzade and others have been researched in terms of one or another problem, articles and monographs have been written. However, there were representatives of the sixties who for some reason were left out of research. The works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli are among them. Thus, both writers, in addition to having an original style of description, also played an important role in the formation of a new prose as one of the leading representatives of the literary process of the 60s and 90s as a translator of the period and the social environment. Therefore, to involve the works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli in research in this context and to evaluate them from the point of view of contemporary literary criticism also serves to complete the

aesthetics of the literary work of the Sixties. The literary process emerges in its entirety only when the creativity and works of its representatives are objectively evaluated and studied in detail in the context of the literary environment and related problems. The study of the works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli in terms of the reflection of the social environment allows us to come to new conclusions to reveal the prose of the Sixties in all its aspects.

It is no coincidence that the dissertation is devoted to the problem of the social environment in the works of both writers. Because our literature, which at different times was forced to carry out various literary movements at the behest of the Soviet government, is trying to find its right path, as if shaken by those difficult conditions. In this sense, the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli, whose stories, narratives and novels are always met with great interest by a wide range of readers, resonates with each other, as well as with great interest in terms of problem setting and artistic solution.

The urgency of the topic is due to the fact that both writers, in addition to being prominent representatives of the prose of the sixties, also took an active part in the construction of the prose of the 60s and 90s, wrote works that won the sympathy of a wide readership. However, the work of both writers has not been studied in the context of the social environment and no fundamental research has been written about them.

One of the factors determining the urgency of the topic is the level of study and research of the problem. Thus, literary criticism have so far given wide coverage to the prose of the Sixties and the generation of the 60s in separate studies and review articles¹. Among

¹ Huseynov A. Prose and time. Baku: "Yazichi", 1980, 185 p. Huseynov A. Art criterion. Baku: "Yazichi", 1986, 314 p., Huseynov A. Dependence on the Hearth. "Edebiyyat ve Injesenet", 1987, January 23, Huseynov A. The truth of life and art. Baku: The Publishing House Center "T", 2000, 203 p; A.Afandiyev. From the microenvironment to the macroenvironment. "Ulduz", 1972, No: 6, pp. 78-83, Afandiyev A. The power of wisdom. Baku: "Genjlik", 1976, 192 p. Anar. The space of prose. "Azerbaijan", 1984, No: 11, pp. 79-93; Mammadov A. Sixties in the eighties. "Edebiyyat ve Injesenet", 1987, September 4, ; Imanov M. Psychologism in modern Azerbaijani prose. Baku: Elm, 1991, 116 p .; Alişanov Sh. The

the critics A.Huseynov, A.Afendiyev, Anar, M.Imanov, N.Jafarov, Sh.Alishanov, N.Aliyeva, J.Mammadli, T.Alishanoglu and others have touched upon these problems in their articles, reviews, and research on prose in the 1960s. However, in all these researches very little attention was paid to the works of S. Azeri and V. Babanlı, their works and the problems they raised in their works were evaluated only from the general context. Some analyzes were made in A.Huseynov's book "Criteria of Art" and his researches on the prose landscape of the 70s and in Elchin's articles in the context of the prose of the Sixties in connection with the works of these writers. However, research on the work of both writers falls more on literary criticism. Reviews and articles on the works of both writers have tried to assess their literary prose². Among the critics B.Nabiyev, G.Khalilov, I.Abilov, V.Valiyev, M.Gojayev, V.Yusifli, B.Ahmadov, R.Kamal and others in their articles, separate works and other papers have analyzed the

boundaries of literary and artistic thought. Baku: "Elm", 2011; ", 1988, April 1, p.8; Aliyeva N. Heroes and style searches in prose of 60-80s. Baku: "Elm", 1997, 160 p.; Alishanoglu T. Azerbaijan "new prose". Baku: "Elm", 1999, 128 p.; and so on.
² Nabiyev B. Vugar's instructive destiny. V.Babanlı. When Conscience is silent. Baku: "Yazıçı", 1982, p. 512-518, Nabiyev B. Roads crossing in blind alley. "Communist", 1986, April 1, Nabiyev B. Novel and modern hero. Baku: "Yazıçı", 1987, 295 p.; Jafarzade A. By the verdict of conscience. "Communist," 1977, May 11; Khalilov G. When studying life incompletely. "Life and cognition". Baku: "Yazıçı", 1980, p. 271-283, Khalilov G. Plates from the life of a shepherd. "Literature and Art", 1972, January 29; Khalilov G. Loyally to the land. "Edebiyyat ve Injesenet", 1979, February 24; Jafarov N. When the conscience is not silent, or V. Babanlı's "Life sentence". "Adabiyat Gazeti", 1997, July 10; Jafarov N. V Babanlı, or the voice of the conscience: (V. Babanlı is 75 years old) Azerbaijan-2002. № 5 p.82-83; Fikret G. The power of the artistic word. S.Azeri. In blind alley. Baku: "Yazıçı", 1984, 254 pp. 3-8; Abilov I. The charm of the hearth. "Edebiyyat ve Injesenet", 1983, September 16; Veliyev V. The heat of the sacred hearth. "Edebiyyat ve Injesenet", 1984, June 22; Gojayev M. Until he realized the necessity. "Azerbaijan", 1984, N12, p.; Yusifli V. Sense of modernity. "New Azerbaijan", 1997, January 18; Yusifli V. Let the conscience not be silent. "Azerbaijani youth", 1979, April 7; Yusifli V. Prose: conflicts, characters. Baku: "Writer" 1986, 168, p.; Bashirov S. 60s Ethical problems of prose. Baku: "Science", 2006, 391 p.; Ahmadov B. Life connected with words. "525th newspaper", March 20, 2013; Rustam K. Vidadi Babanlı: love story of wise age. V. Babanlı. Strange love (novel). Baku: "Chinar-Chap", 2007, pp. 3-4; etc.

various works by V.Babanli and S.Azeri. Many articles have been written about both works, as V. Babanli's "When conscience is Silent" and S. Azeri's "In Blind Alley" have become an event in the literary world. The problem of social environment in Azerbaijani prose (based on the works of Sabir Azeri and Vidadi Babanli) has not been studied and analyzed in depth.

Object and subject of research. The works of Sabir Azeri and Vidadi Babanli are the main object of research. The fact that both writers live in the same literary environment and describe a close social environment enhances the conceptuality of the research. The nature and specificity of the social environment is analyzed on the basis of a comparative analysis of their works. The study of the problem of the social environment in the prose of prominent members of the sixties stems from the relevance of the subject of the research.

Objectives and tasks of the research. The main purpose of the research is to make a comparative analysis of the problems of social environment in Azerbaijani prose. The following tasks were set for the research work:

- To study the nature and peculiarities of the social environment on the basis of the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli;
- To determine the specificity of socio-psychological events;
- To study the social environment and the problem of heroes in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli;
- To define the concept of individual view of social environment and social processes;
- To study the problem of heroes in the social reality of Azerbaijan, etc.

Research methods. The methodological basis of the dissertation includes new scientific-theoretical provisions to approach the problems of prose in contemporary literary criticism. In this approach, in contrast to the principles of social realism, human values and general theoretical scientific principles occupy a central place in the evaluation of literary and artistic material. The historical principle was followed in the research. As the research work is devoted to the works of two writers, typological-comparisons were also included, and comparative, theoretical methods of analysis were used in the

analysis of the works.

The main provisions set for defense. It is expedient to include the following provisions in the defense:

- S.Azeri and V.Babanli belong to the Sixties and develop the same aesthetic credo;

- Finding a solution to the problems of artistic solution of social problems in the prose of S. Azeri and B. Babanli;

- Issues of understanding the rural environment and moral problems in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli;

- The context of the contradictions of the socio-political life of the urban environment in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli;

- Issues of reflection of the idea of society's stalemate in S.Azeri's novel "In the Blind Alley";

- Expression of a new view of moral and ethical problems in the society in V.Babanli's novel "When the conscience is silent";

- Analysis of socio-political events and literary process of the period in the fiction and documentary prose of both writers; and so on.

Scientific novelty of the research. One of the main scientific innovations of the research is to analyze and study the Azerbaijani prose in terms of the problems of social environment based on the works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli. For the first time, the work of both writers is examined in the context of the social environment. The study identifies the place and position of both writers in the literary process. The fact that both writers belong to the Sixties in terms of their literary and aesthetic position is one of these innovations. The innovations brought to the artistic and aesthetic thinking of the sixties; images and characters, prose, etc. issues are analyzed and certain conclusions are drawn.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research. The main provisions and results of the dissertation can be applied and used in the following cases:

It serves to complete the work of the representatives of the prose of the Sixties. The dissertation can be important in research of formation and evolution of an important stage of the history of Azerbaijani literature. In addition, the results of the study are of

interest for researchers in the humanities, scholars, university professors, students of the Faculty of Philology and the general public.

Approbation and application of the dissertation. The research work was carried out at the Department of “Azerbaijani Literature” of Baku Slavic University of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan in accordance with the main directions of scientific research.

Name of the organization where the dissertation work is performed. The dissertation work was carried out at the Department of “Azerbaijani Literature” of Baku Slavic University of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan in accordance with the main directions of scientific research.

The structure and total volume of the dissertation. The dissertation was written in accordance with the requirements set by the Supreme Attestation Commission under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Dissertation work consists of an introduction (10 371 conventional marks), 3 chapters (first chapter two paragraphs, 76 172 conventional signs; second chapter two paragraphs - 83 221 conventional signs, third chapter three paragraphs - 99 136 conventional signs) conclusion (5 232) conditional sign and a list of used literature.

The total volume of the dissertation is 288,514 symbols.

MAIN CONTENT OF DISSERTATION

The introductory part of the dissertation defines the relevance of the topic, the level of development, the goals and objectives, methods of research, the main provisions set for defense, the scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the dissertation.

The first chapter entitled “The nature of the social environment in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli” consists of two paragraphs. The first paragraph entitled “S. Azeri and V. Babanli as prominent representatives of the prose of the Sixties” assesses the fact that both writers are representatives of the prose of the Sixties. It is shown that

within the time passed after self-affirmation there was revealed the essence of this generation and prose with all its qualities. The creativity of this generation, which was treated with some caution by the literary criticism of the period, was analyzed more extensively in the following decades, as well as in the literary criticism of the independence period, and the necessary assessment was given in terms of various problems. The critic A.Huseynov, taking into account these factors in the entry of a new generation and prose into a new stage, writes: *“There were taken place significant changes in public life, and aesthetic thinking could not lag behind these changes. That is why the important qualities acquired by literary thought in relation to life, the description of human character, as well as in genre-style indicators, were conditioned, first of all, by the internal movement of the socio-spiritual process.”*³ T. Alishanoglu also dwells in detail on the concept of new prose and defines *“the boundaries of the new prose phenomenon and concept”*: *“Thus, as noted by literary critics, the term “new prose” clings to Azerbaijan's new prose much later, only in the 1970s, at a time when this stage was beginning to stabilize, and is in fact established as a historical category.”*⁴

In the new stage, the prose of the Sixties began to change fundamentally, not only in terms of subject matter and problems, but also in the description of the conflict and the hero, as well as in the means of expression. As moved away from the superficial description, the existing sketchiness, and the heroes of stereotypes, the prose began to pay more attention to man and his spiritual and inner world. As it described the lives of ordinary people, the sincere relationship between the writer and the reader led to a new literary aesthetic criterion. In this new tendency of the time, fiction also abandoned the description of epoch-making events; the general description was replaced by individual portrayal. The notions of ideological content and the party spirit began to withdraw from fiction (as well as from prose!). At this stage, prose took a more vivid depiction of the realities of life.

When analyzing the new Azerbaijani prose, it is necessary to emphasize the work of S. Azeri and V. Babanli. Because the

³ Huseynov A. Prose and time. Baku, Yazichi, 1980, p.48.

⁴ Alishanoglu T. The Azerbaijani “new prose”. Baku, Elm, 1999, p.9.

mentioned writers have also shared the same aesthetic criteria as other representatives of the literary generation. It is no coincidence that all critics and researchers who have analyzed the prose of the Sixties agree on this point. However, research on both writers has been less conducted than that of other members of the Sixties, and it would be more accurate to attribute this fact to the passivity of literary criticism. In fact, the works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli enrich and complement the work of the prose of the Sixties. As the critic Vagif Yusifli wrote: “As a literary generation, Sabir Azeri belongs to the “sixties “... *Sabir Azeri’s prose will not escape the attention of researchers, because this prose also has a lot to see and do.*”⁵

Sabir Azeri's stories, narratives and novels have a special place in Azerbaijani prose for the last forty years. His specific writing style is one of the factors that determines the color of the new prose. In this sense, it can be said that Sabir Azeri has always been devoted to himself, his personal style of writing, his special approach to life and reality. His heroes are distinguished by their morals, outlook, way of thinking and attitude to life.

Although V. Babanli began his literary career with poetry, he played an important role in the formation of a new fiction in a very short time with his below specified books, as “My acquaintances and friends” (1961), “Frosty Nights” (1961) and “Life tests us” (1964). However, with his two-volume novel “When Conscience Is Silent” (1970-1978), the author draws closer to the credo of the Sixties and continues to describe the moral and ethical problems he posed in his earlier works. The republication of this novel several times in high circulation showed that the artistic solution of moral problems was on the right track. He later wrote novels, such as, “Holy Hearth”, “Grandma InsaF”, “Life Punishment”, “Secrets”, “Strange Love” and others when he reveals the problems and contradictions of the society described in his works through the original plot line and conflicts. In these works, the writer tries to analyze the society, to catch the pulse of the time, to create the image of his contemporaries who want to come into direct contact with our lives. He played an important role in the growth of our literature, in the

⁵ Yusifli V. On the way to the sun. “Azerbaijan”, 2008, No: 3, p.154.

expansion of the ideological and aesthetic horizons of artistic thought. The author's messages to the society in the novel "When conscience is Silent" not only corresponded to the art credo of the Sixties, but even became, so to speak, the main question of life and the national thought.

As a representative of the 60s generation, V. Babanli and S. Azeri, each of them has their own characteristics. In fact, these features reveal their individual qualities as a writer, but also provide a stylistic richness. In this sense, the work of V. Babanli and S. Azeri differs by the originality of narration.

One of the aspects that unites S. Azeri and V. Babanli is that both writers were subjected to pressure during the Soviet period for their ideas, thoughts and writings as intellectuals. This pressure was a bit severe in the lives of S. Azeri and V. Babanli. Sabir Azeri was arrested for what he thought, even when he was very young. As to Babanli, he was expelled from the party of which he was a member, and was acquitted only after a certain struggle. This paragraph is reflected in the author's article "Sabir Azeri and Vidadi Babanli as prominent representatives of the "Sixties" prose."⁶

The second paragraph of the first chapter is entitled "**Descriptive peculiarities of the social environment in the works of V. Babanli and S. Azeri.**" It is noted that since the 1960s, there have been some changes in the attitude to the topic of family life. One of the characteristic features of the first period of the V. Babanli's and S. Azeri's work is the description of the family theme. The problem of the family, which was apparently a traditional theme, was the main leitmotif of their works. However, their approach to the subject, their interpretation, the conclusions, criteria and judgments of the images in relation to events, as well as the artistic solution of social problems reflected a completely innovative way of thinking. This problem is mirrored in the stories of both writers. In the below mentioned stories ("Three brothers, one brother's wife and one black cat", "Heartache", "Granddaughter", "Shame", "Mother is back", "Where are you" and others) V. Babanli wanted to show the realities of the time in the descriptive context of

⁶ Nuhova Sh. Sabir Azeri and Vidadi Babanli as prominent representatives of the prose of "Sixties". BDU: Language and Literature. Baku, 2016, pp. 245-247.

social life. In these stories, the writer touched upon certain problems of his time, life and everyday life, and described the life of the villagers with natural boards.

In such works as “The Bride”, “My Acquaintances and Friends” and “Frosty Nights”, V. Babanli prefers young people and their observations of life, which, it should be noted, played a key role in his search for artistic truth. In the story “Life tests us”, the writer refers to a vital plot that makes the intellectuals of the time think and solve in that environment. At the time this work was written, the flow from village to town was very strong, so, young people were flocking from village to town; Young people who came to the city from the countryside to study continued their education in the city, while those who did not come for education stayed here and worked in factories and plants. Hasrat, the protagonist of the story “Life tests us”, was one of them. After graduating from high school in the village, Hasret came to the city to pursue higher education, but could not enter the institute. Hasret works as a worker at a metallurgical plant in Sumgayit. The writer conveys the process of gradual adaptation of a rural child to the complex urban life with extremely natural colors in description of family events.

Describing the topic of family and events from a social point of view is also characteristic for the first stage of S. Azeri’s work. The issue of artistic solution of a social problem plays a key role in the formation of the writer’s prose practice. The author’s first stories, as well as his stories published under the title “Memories of the Hunter”, tell about the life and destiny of his contemporaries. These stories did not differ from traditional prose thinking not only in form and structure, but also took a different position in the way the characters viewed life and everyday events. In the stories “Seagulls are crying”, “Guest”, “The first day of autumn”, “My first boar hunt”, “Friendship”, “Revenge”, “The cranes are coming back” and “A piece of bread” the author expands his possibilities of description in terms of innovative observations and conclusions of the heroes of his stories, views on life, assessment of events in their lives. Every social problem posed in the stories makes the reader think with his lyrical-poetic way of thinking, inner dynamism and drama. In these stories, the author writes about the mysteries of man and his characters, their versatility, problems with nature and its beauties, the

complexity of the relationship between society and nature.

Sabir Azeri's position as a writer is dominated by social and moral problems. In all his works, one side of the problem is formed by events and images from life and reality, and the other side is formed by the spiritual side of events (and their assessment). In the story "The Tale of Bozdag" the spiritual world and pure human feelings of an ordinary guardian - Isa - are given in a very realistic way. The story describes the post-war period. In the story "The torch is burning at night", the writer takes a more global approach to the problem and sheds light on the life and destiny of an orphaned girl, Salima.

Thus, it is clear that in the works of S.Azeri and V.Babanli, belonging to the early period of their activity as a writer, the description of the social environment and the events that took place here was given a wide space. The works of both writer touch upon the social problems of the time and society. These works often described social events in the context of natural phenomena. The modern interpretation of the artistic conflict in the works is connected with moral and social problems, which requires a new approach from the writer. Both writers take a creative approach to life events, go beyond socialist realism and reflect the existing problems by the power of artistic imagination.⁷

The second chapter of the dissertation "**Social environment and the problem of the hero in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli**" is divided into two paragraphs. The first paragraph, entitled "The concept of an individual view of the social environment and social processes", analyzes the works of both writers in terms of the existing problem. The reflection of socio-political processes is described in a unique way in S. Azeri's story "Fog is thinned out".

S. Azeri tried to describe the new society and its essence in the afore-specified work. It is clear that such topics were widespread in the prose of the 30s and 50s. However, in the description of these works, one-sidedness and tendency were manifested in one way or another.

⁷ Nuhova Sh. Problems of the Social Environment in the Creativity of V.Babanli and S.Azeri // Неперервна освіта для сталого розвитку: філософсько-теоретичні контексти та педагогічна практика. Матеріали II Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції, – Дніпро: – 12 грудня, – 2019, – s.202-205.

Ideological tendencies also played a key role in such works. In the 70s, the writer worked on this topic from a different angle. In other words, one of the main conditions here was to correct the mistakes of the past, to describe the essence and character of the period as it is, rather than tendencies. The writer describes Jalil Bey as a proud and courageous man. He has his own ideas about today's life and regime. Although these ideas do not coincide with the existing society and social life, the hero has to endure this situation. In this respect, Jalil bey is more like his predecessor Jahandar agha (I. Shikhli's novel "Stormy Kur"). Undoubtedly, his contemporary is Garay Bey, the hero of S. Vurgun's epic "Komsomol poem". These images are a continuation of each other, but also complement each other. The critic V. Yusifli, looking for the main success of the story in creating a full character, but not only in depicting the reality of the 20s as it is, comparing the image Jalil bey with Jahandar aga (I. Shikhli's novel "Stormy Kur") and Karbalayi Ismayil (the novel of F. Karimzade ("Snowy Pass")) writes: "*The main success of Sabir Azeri should be sought in creating a full character. We should appreciate Jahandar agha ("Stormy Kur") and Karbalayi Ismayili ("Snowy Pass") for what merits they possess. Sabir Azeri created the real HUMAN IMAGE, with all its complexity, all the contradictions of the inner world and, of course, its attachment to the ground...*"⁸

One of the works reflecting the problems of the society is S. Azeri's story "the Bored City". The author's story was first published in 1982 in the magazine "Ulduz"⁹. The story touched upon the existing problems of the society. While describing the ugly and provincial art environment lagging behind the development of the society, the literary critic also praised the work of S. Azeri in "deepening of interest in the modern theme, the latest life processes, his efforts to reflect his thoughts in appropriate artistic ways."¹⁰

The work, which reflects the life principles, lifestyle and worldview of the provincial intellectuals described in the story, gives the

⁸ Yusifli V. On the way to the sun. "Azerbaijan", 2008, No: 3, p.155.

⁹ Azeri Sabir. The Bored City (story). "Ulduz", 1982, No: 8, pp. 5-37.

¹⁰ Mammadov J., Bayramov M. The tragedy of immorality. "Edebiyyat ve Injesenet", 1983, November 11.

existing flaws in the context of society. One of the issues of interest to the intellectuals here is the primitive connections and relations arising from the simplicity of the “teahouse society”. The power of sarcasm is also used in the story to expose the environment and ugliness. The critics J.Mammadli and M.Bayramov, who emphasize the existence of event and spatial condition in the work, write in the article “Tragedy of immorality”: *“Since the “longing city” environment does not correspond to the rhythm and harmony of the society's development, the “creative life” described in that environment also represents the ugly taste of a group that is not typical for the society as a whole. Therefore, it should be taken for granted that the negatives here are isolated from society and investigated in an artistic way, and that the writer raises his voice in protest against it.”*¹¹

In S. Azeri's story “When you go to the sun”, the writer turns another problem in society into an object of artistic description. The protagonist of the story, Mustafa, is described by the writer in a difficult situation from the beginning of the work. He should see the supply of gazelle meat for the birthday of the child of one of the high-ranking officials. For this purpose, the secretary of the district committee sends him to hunt in a state-protected reserve with sweet promises. The events that took place are described in the context of retrospection through remembering past and present at the same time in the hunting process. The author talks about the events happened to Mustafa during three days when he was lost in the swamp and those that will be taken place in days to come. Events are becoming more dramatic and changing. The attitude of the hero, who faced death for three days here, to life and events is determined at this time. The narration in the story begins in a calm style, as if Mustafa's being in the bosom of nature, hunting is described as an ordinary event. The nature of the writer's experience in this direction is distinguished by its descriptive originality. The reflection of social problems took a special place in the description of nature in more than a dozen stories written by S.Azeri from the series “Memories of a hunter” (“The first day of autumn”, “Guest”, “My first boar hunt”, “Who

¹¹ Mammadov J., Bayramov M. The tragedy of immorality. “Edebiyyat ve Injesenet”, 1983, November 11.

deceived”, “Cranes return”, “Garagoz”, “Green scent of the desert” , “The Legend of the Eagle”, “Violet of Tabriz”, etc.). S.Azeri and V. Babanli had the concept of individual view of the events of their time, both writers wrote the events with internal drama, vitality and psychological depth. The description of the problems in the moral and ethical aspect creates a new situation in the social environment in the stories by S. Azeri (“Fairy Tale of the Gray Mountain”, “The First Push”, “The Immortal Man”) and V. Babanli's (“The Bride”, “Mother's Revenge”). This problem is analyzed in the article “Description of reality in the prose of Vidadi Babanli and Sabir Azeri”.¹²

The second paragraph of the second chapter, entitled “**The social reality in Azerbaijan and the problem of the hero**”, examines the problem of social reality and the hero in the works of both writers. It is noted that the matters related to the morality and freedom of personality were predominant in the prose of V.Babanli and S.Azeri. However, this could be solved within the existing topic and problem. In this sense, although this problem is presented in their previous works in a somewhat episodic way, it finds its expression and solution in a new context in the 70s and 80s. Their search in this direction in fiction revealed a new situation; It turned out that even if a writer writes about production, even about the life of a worker, if he can put the moral and ethical problems into the conflict of the work and interest of the reader, then the work will be more long-lived.

Like other novels published during these years, V.Babanli’s novel “When the Conscience is Silent” was long-lived and, in a sense, became a spiritual treasure of the people. It should be noted that in all research papers written on the prose of the 60s, V. Babanli’s novel “When the Conscience is Silent” is always written in the assets of this generation. Dozens of articles by critics B.Nabiyev, A.Hajiyev, H.Orujali, T.Gahramanov, V.Nasiboglu, Y.Seyidov and those written by other specialists about the novel “When the Conscience is Silent”, have perfectly expressed opinions of the literary critique in general, i.e. it has estimated highly the raising of social problems in society by this novel.

¹² Nuhov Sh. Description of reality in the prose of Vidadi Babanli and Sabir Azeri, ANAS: News. Baku: ELM, 2017, pp. 131-135.

V.Babanli constructed the plot line of the novel, which was written for about ten years, on the events of the earlier period of the time; so, the author has enriched the novel's ideological and artistic structure, he has improved the images of the novel by nature, as a result, the author's original creative searches have brought new themes, problems, approaches and events to our prose.

The plot line of the work is not only multifaceted, but also new and dynamic. The diversity of events, the originality of the images and the richness of human destinies allow us to evaluate the novel in the context of a new prose poetics. It is no coincidence that the plot line of the novel is based on the lives of chemists engaged in the science of chemistry to describe the moral problems in society. The writer presents the processes that take place in life, society and nature concurrently. Scientists are trying to achieve results in the production of liquid fuels, especially gasoline, so that the gases from the processing of fuel do not poison the air. At the same time, the restoration of a sense of social responsibility that is forgotten in human relations, also prevents poisoning in society. Even today, this problem raised by the writer is not only absolutely relevant, but we think that it has become even more acute and has reached a new stage.

The idea set up in the novel's plot is one of the social problems facing society; Professor Sohrab Gunashli and young graduate student Vugar Shamsizadeh are making scientific efforts to obtain high-octane motor fuel, which is one of the most important problems in chemistry. In fact, at the time, this problem attracted attention with its globalization. However, bringing such a global problem to the plot line of national prose required great courage from the writer.

The heroes of the novel "When the Conscience is Silent" are people fighting for pure nature, pure water and a pure heart. Their struggle goes in two directions; first, in the economic and ecological sphere of life, and second, in the moral sphere. No matter how difficult it is to put such a problem, the writer was able to combine these components and describe them in synthesis. Although the novel depicts the post-war period, the writer goes back in time to retrospect.

The problem of good and evil in the novel is solved in the process of the clash of forces within the intelligentsia; The real relationship

between Gunashli and Badirbeyli is revealed in the source. Unfortunately, the positive tendency and aesthetic attitude of the author, which is clearly manifested from the beginning to the end, is confirmed in the end by administrative means - by the organization of a new inspection commission and the start of testing at the plant.

V. Babanli's novel "When the Conscience is Silent" attracts attention in many ways (theme, problems, original images, novelty of description, etc.) as one of the works that enriches the prose of the Sixties. First of all, this work and its author expanded the thematic geography of the prose of the 60s, enriched the gallery of images.

V. Babanli's novel "Strange Love" also sounds like a continuation of "When the Conscience is Silent", but it was written about forty years after the author's first love novel. We wonder what are the intersections and differences between the novel he wrote at a young age and the love novel he wrote in old age. What does the writer mean by this novel? In the novel, the writer wrote about the lives of his contemporaries. Writing about modern life has always been a challenge for a writer, because it is difficult to show life with all its contradictions and complexities and present it to contemporaries. Because not every work written about modernity satisfies contemporaries. However, with "When Conscience is Silent", the author was able to meet the requirements of modern taste, in other words, gained the status of the most read author. The life of his contemporaries was also described in the author's work after this well-known novel. However, as in the first novel, the motive of love was the main plot line of the work, which created a risk for the writer. Because it is understandable that the line of love is the leader in the plot of the work at a young age. In the novel "Strange Love", written in old age, the fact that the person in love is not young, but old, complicates the matter. Thus, we see that the novel "When conscience is silent", which expresses the social reality in all its aspects, occupies an important place in the work of V. Babanli. The problem is reflected in the articles "Description of the moral problem in Vidadi Babanli's novel" "When conscience is silent" and "Description of the social environment in

Vidadi Babanli's novel "When Conscience is Silent".¹³

The third chapter of the dissertation is called "**Artistic solution of social problems in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli**". The sub-chapter "Description of rural life and its problems" of this chapter examines the descriptive problems of the rural social environment. It is noted in this part that starting from the mid-50s of the last century, rural life in Azerbaijan prose, in general, the rural theme is described in a unique way in the works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli. It is to be mentioned that at that time this process took place not only in Azerbaijani prose, but also in all-Union prose. The rural theme formed a special branch in the works of Russian writers, such as V. Shukshin, V. Rasputin, F. Abramov, V. Belov etc. In many works of S. Azeri and V. Babanli, the events take place both in the village and in the city. However, if such a division is made, it is clear that rural life is a main line in the work of S. Azeri and V. Babanli. Many of their stories and narratives describe the rural environment and its problems, or the fate of people who come from the countryside to the city. In the stories of S. Azeri including to the series of "Memories of a hunter" ("The first day of autumn", "My first boar hunt", "Seagulls are crying" and others) the rural life and its problems are conveyed lyrically and dramatically, and are aimed at expressing the character and secrets of rural life and its people. And in the stories of V. Babanli "The grandma Insaf", "Holy heart" and "Three brothers, one brother's wife and one black cat", "Heartache", "Shame", "Mother is back", "Where are you", "Cousin", "Uncle Amir's harassment", the Azerbaijani village and its care are shown in all its details.

The events in S. Azeri's stories "A man who cannot die" and "The First Push" are about the modern rural life. Nevertheless, the writer retrospectively describes the events of the war years, returning to the past. The war period manifested itself in one way or another in most of the works written during these years. Involuntarily, S. Azeri also takes

¹³ Nuhova Sh. Description of spiritual and moral problems in the novel "When the Conscience is silent" by Vidadi Babanli. ASOIU: Proceedings of the XX Republican Scientific Conference of Doctoral Students and Young Researchers. Volume II. Baku: 2016, pp. 98-100; Nuhova Sh. Description of social environment in Vidadi Babanli's novel "When the conscience is silent". BSU: actual problems of studying the humanities. Baku: 2016, pp. 165-169.

today's events to the war years. This allows the writer to make certain comparisons between the past and present of the village, to show the development of events that took place here. The story "A man who cannot die" depicts the personage Kor Fati, who lived his life in the corner of a tomb in the cemetery.

In the story "A man who cannot die" by S.Azeri, the events take place around the village of Garagoyunlu. The story began with a description of three houses close to each other (tractor driver Soltan, Brigadier Gasim and Hasan Muallim) on the outskirts of Garagoyunlu village. The events showed the contradictions, difficulties and complexities of village life. In the story "The first impulse" there are new plot lines for our prose, as well as a gallery of new images. Along with Qasim, Soltan, and Hasan, the embodiment of indifference described here, there is also "honest", "zealous", "hardworking", "housekeeper" Osman.

Starting from his earliest stories, for example, in the stories "The Bride", "Moonlit Nights" and the novel "Holy Hearth", V. Babanli sought the naturalness of the images and in general in his works depicted rural life in a unique way, which formed new interpretations and stereotypes in the prose. In the story "Bride", published in the 50s, he focused on the processes taking place in the village. The story "Moonlit Nights" depicted the life and work of Azerbaijani sons working in raw lands by natural colors. In these works, the writer's unique natural language and color takes the reader out of the confusing and twisted paths of the imagination and returns him to the real world as much as possible. The dedication of the novel "Holy Hearth" to the social problems of rural life has also attracted the attention of literary critics. When the writer referred to the sacred hearth, he meant a place where everyone was born, grew up, and never left it for the rest of his life, always trying to return there, in a broad sense, the motherland. I.Abilov's following thoughts fully reflect the idea of the work: *"As the generalized socio-aesthetic ideal in the story "Sacred Hearth" is confirmed in a dynamic process due to the events and facts in this text, the artistic truth manifests itself as a whole, resulting in the reader's interest centered on*

a high position of civic concern.”¹⁴

Thus, in the works of both S. Azeri and V. Babanli, we come across different and colorful artistic solutions to social problems. Both writers wanted to show the events they described in this context and take a new, original path. This not only made the works about the village more interesting, but also allowed the writer to interpret the events in the village from a social point of view.¹⁵

The second sub-chapter of the third chapter is entitled “**The urban environment in the context of the contradictions of socio-political life.**” It is shown here that in the stories and novels of S. Azeri and V. Babanli the moral problems of the time and environment were presented in the context of social contradictions. In the novels and short stories of S. Azeri and Vidadi Babanli (for example, “In Blind Alley” and “The Bored City” by S.Azeri and “Mother's Revenge”, “Life Punishment” and “When Conscience is Silent” by V.Babanli) the social contradictions find a successful artistic solution in terms of moral problems.

In S.Azeri's novel “In blind alley”, namely such events and moral problems are described. The writer, who remained faithful to the truth of life in all his works, continued his artistic and aesthetic credo here as well. It should be noted that the title of this work of the writer has both direct and symbolic meaning. It is interested that the broad social capacity of the novel is reflected in the scope and accuracy of the events that find an artistic interpretation in this area. In this context, the whole society is described in the true sense of the word. The general picture of the field where the heroes live, the activities of the heroes are not isolated from society at all: where we meet with all peoples from ordinary people up to academicians, builders, tailors, yogurt sellers, young people, teenagers, i.e. all strata of society as a whole.

The artistic and aesthetic goal of the work is that if a person goes the wrong way, one day he must find the strength to turn back from that path, to get out of that environment. This is the main idea of the novel

¹⁴ Abilov I. The charm of the hearth. “Edebiyyat ve Injesenet”, 1983, September 16.

¹⁵ Nukhova Sh. Rural life and reflection of its problems in the prose of S.Azeri and V. Babanly. Mova and culture. Kiev, 2017, pp.64-71.

“In the Blind Alley”, and all the events are very accurately connected with this idea. The events in the novel take place in one of the old alleys in the Old City. The events that take place here, in fact, sound like an echo of the events that we encounter in our lives and spirituality everywhere and every day. But this space is conditional, the author does not limit his heroes, their feelings and thoughts to the events that took place in the old alley, but enters a wider space. From time to time, the author goes beyond this space. In other words, the small size of the space does not diminish the idea contemplated in the work, on the contrary, the events that take place in a small space are connected with the global world and are expanding in scale. B.Ahmadov, drawing attention to the fact that in the novel “In Blind Alley”, the spiritual and moral, as well as the psychological problems, characteristic for that time (perhaps for all periods and times!) are found their correct solution due to the power of S.Azeri's epic strength, writes: “*Considering that the “blind alley”, the place described by the author is used in a figurative and metaphorical sense, it is impossible not to see traces of the writer's new artistic approach to the problems of society and man, society and freedom. Gafar, the protagonist of the novel leaves the alley and goes back to the place where he was born means that he has joined the freedom.*”¹⁶

Like all the characters in the novel, S. Azeri describes Farida as very natural, contradictory and complex. Farida is perhaps the most complex of these characters. Her dream is understandable: she wants to have a lot of money, to live well, to dress his children, as the children of Murshudovs, store managers, prosecutors, to go to resorts and so on.

S.Azeri's novel “In Blind Alley” describes the life and environment of the city, which is often referred to in the works of the Sixties, and the moral problems that occur here. The writer approaches moral freedom and moral issues from several contexts. The image of Gafar and the moral burden he carried mean that those who were pure spiritually are not able to hold a certain position in society. The moral issues raised in the novel are reflected in the attitude to individual events

¹⁶ Ahmadov B. A word-bound life. The newspaper “525”, 2013, March 30.

and images.¹⁷

In the third paragraph of the third chapter, called “**Descriptive problems of Soviet reality in documentary-fiction**”, the descriptive issues of Soviet realities in the prose of S. Azeri and V. Babanli occupy a prominent place. Both writers' appeals to the descriptive problems of Soviet reality arose, above all, from the need to write truths that creative intellectuals could not tell during the Soviet era. There were issues that were very difficult to write about in the Soviet era. If it was possible to express subtext in works of art, censorship did not allow the expression of these ideas in a documentary and journalistic way. Therefore, many realities of Soviet society (repression, national relations, historical realities, etc.) were written and published after the collapse of the system. The difficulties and deprivations faced by S. Azeri and V. Babanli during the Soviet period have been described in detail correspondingly in their novels “Confessions of a Student Prisoner” and “Secrets”. The novel of V. Babanli also shed light on the events he heard and observed. The events taken place in these novels reflect the rather contradictory and complex period of the Soviet epoch, showing the nature hereof, the overall environment and its structure. Interestingly, both works were written after the collapse of the Soviet Union. This also allowed them to reflect the difficulties and tragedies happened to them in detail. Thus, S. Azeri called “Confessions of a Student Prisoner” the “documentary-bibliographic” in terms of genre, and V. Babanli called “Secrets” the “real novel”. All this indicates the closeness of the subject and the problem between the two works. S. Azeri wrote the novel in 1992-2000; At that time, the Soviet government had already entered the archives of history, but there were still different, contradictory views on the regime. While many of these ideas were revealed by life itself, the vast majority remained in the minds of individuals, in the events that took place, and which can be passed on to present and future generations in an artistic and documentary way.

The novel of S. Azeri “Confessions of a Student Prisoner” reflects the socio-political processes taking place in the former Soviet Union and

¹⁷ Nuhova Ş. Reflection of social processes in Sabir Azeri's stories. Scientific news of BSU. Volume 2, №2, 2017, pp.254-260.

Azerbaijan in the second half of the last century. The author manages to reflect the character, events, personalities and social processes of a period of at least forty years. In this way, the writer opens a new world for the modern reader, as well as reflects the realities of the time in a documentary-artistic way. The writer skillfully presents the secrets of his life in his own way. The process of rescuing the writer from the chaos of the turbulent period, which went through the hardships and sufferings of Soviet society, is shown in the novel in a realistic style. No matter what the author is talking about, he relies on his innocence and describes everything honestly, without fear of the end of such a tragedy.

S. Azeri vividly reflects the historical events of the period he witnessed, especially the world of literature, culture and art. Thanks to this novel, we know patriots who sacrificed their lives for their homeland, our language and literature. He conveys the secrets and beauties of journalism as his field. As an experienced person, he does not forget to give important educational advice. At the same time, the writer expresses his attitude to such features as jealousy and envy in the literary environment. It turns out that although the main heroes of the literary environment are creative people - poets and writers, such features are not absent.

The novel "Secrets" by V. Babanli, which he called a "real novel", was written on the basis of events, stories and facts that he observed from the mid-40s to the 70s. It is interesting that the closeness of both the period and the idea-content between this work and S. Azeri's novel is clearly felt. During the Soviet era, the difficulties, deprivations, complexities, contradictions, the nature of the literary and social environment, etc., faced by creative intellectuals in order to speak the truth, to write the truth, constitutes the essence of these works. In Babanli's novel "Secrets", along with the various stages of the existing literary environment, various problems of Soviet society are highlighted. In this work, the contemporary reader clearly sees the attitude to the repression of 1937 and the literary environment of 40-50s.

The fact that various events occurred within the soviet period were described from the realist perspective in the novel of V.Babanli "Secrets" is also important in terms of assessing the events of the period. Thus, many events took place at that time, and today these events are viewed

from different angles. Literature and politics, the direction of ideology in literature, the issue of partisanship and nationalism; all these are the main features of that period. As the novel has expressed its complex attitude toward these events, the period's social relations are revealed with all its aspects. The issues raised in this sub-chapter are analyzed in the article "Descriptive problems of Soviet reality in the documentary-fictional works of Sabir Azeri and Vidadi Babanlı."¹⁸

The "Conclusion" of the dissertation summarizes the assumptions arising from the general content of the research work. It is noted that:

- The theme, idea, descriptive nature of the works of these writers, the skills of image creation, the originality of the narration in their works and other components completely correspond to and complement the prose of the Sixties.

- Their prose creativity gives grounds to say that, like other representatives of the Sixties, V.Babanli and S.Azeri did the same work as the main representatives of the new Azerbaijani prose, fulfilled their mission, had their own style.

- In the works of V.Babanli and S.Azeri, the social problems of the time and society become the object of artistic research. Factors that are not ideologically compatible with the existing system in the prose of both writers also show that they have a great contribution to the transformation of the reality of life into an artistic reality.

The following scientific articles of the researcher on the subject have been published:

1. Nuhova, Ş.B. Sabir Azərinin "Tələbə məhbusun etirafları" romanında sovet gerçəkliyinin təsviri // Ulu öndər Heydər Əliyev irsində multikultural və tolerant dəyərlər. Beynəlxalq elmi konfrans. – Bakı: BSU, – 3-5 may – 2016, – s.287-289.
2. Nuhova, Ş.B. Sabir Azəri və Vidadi Babanlı "Altmışıncılar"

¹⁸ Descriptive problems of Soviet reality in the documentary-fictional works of Sabir Azeri and Vidadi Babanlı. ANAS: Philological issues. Baku, 2017, pp.328-334; Description of Soviet reality in Sabir Azeri's novel "The Confession of a Student Prisoner". BSU: "Multicultural and tolerant values in the legacy of the great leader Heydar Aliyev" Part II. Baku, 2016, p.287-289.

- nəsrinin görkəmli nümayəndəsi kimi // –Bakı: BDU, Dil və ədəbiyyat, – 2016. – s.245-247.
3. Nuhova, Ş.B. Sabir Azərinin povestlərində ictimai proseslərin inikasası // – Bakı: ADU-nun Elmi xəbərləri, – 2017. II cild, №2, – s.254-260.
 4. Nuhova, Ş.B. Vidadi Babanlıın “Vidən susanda” romanında mənəvi-əxlaqi problemin təsviri // Doktorantların və gənc tədqiqatçıların XX Respublika elmi konfransı. – Bakı: ADNSU, – 2016, 24-25 may, – s.98-100.
 5. Nuhova, Ş.B. Vidadi Babanlıın “Vidən susanda” romanında sosial mühitin təsviri // – Bakı: BSU, Humanitar elmlərin öyrənilməsinin aktual problemləri, – 2016. №4 – s.165-169.
 6. Nuhova, Ş.B. Sabir Azərinin “Dalanda” romanında mənəvi-əxlaqi problemlər // – Bakı: Ədəbiyyat məcmuəsi, Nizamı adına Ədəbiyyat institutunun əsərləri. – 2017. XXIX cild. – s.141-148.
 7. Nuhova, Ş.B. Sabir Azəri və Vidadi Babanlı sənədlı-bədii nəsrində sovet gerçəkliyinin təsviri problemləri // – Bakı: AMEA, Filologiya məsələləri. – 2017. №6, – s.328-334.
 8. Nuhova, Ş.B. Vidadi Babanlı və Sabir Azərinin nəsrində gerçəkliyın təsviri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyasının xəbərləri XXIX, – 2017. – s.131-135.
 9. Нухова, Ş.В. Сельская жизнь и отражение ее проблем в прозе С.Азери и В.Бабанлы // – Киев: Мова и культура, – 2017. – s.64-71.
 10. The problem of the social environment and the hero in the prose of Vidadi Babanly. Asian Journal of Science and Technology Vol,09, 11, pp. 9042-9045, November, 2018
 11. Nuhova Sh. Problems of the Social Environment in the Creativity of V. Babanlı and S. Azari // Неперервна освіта для сталого розвитку: філософсько-теоретичні контексти та педагогічна практика. Матеріали II Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції, – Дніпро: – 12 грудня, – 2019, – s.202-205.

The defense of the dissertation will be held on "30" June 2021 at 13³⁰ at the meeting of ED 1.05 – Dissertation Council operating under the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

Address: AZ 1143. Baku, 115 Huseyn Javid Avenue, Academy Campus, Main building, IV floor, Electronic assembly hall of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi.

The dissertation is available in the library of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

Electronic versions of the dissertation and abstract are posted on the official website of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

The abstract was sent to the necessary addresses on "25" May 2021.

Signed for publication: 27.05.2021

Paper format: A5

Volume: 45160

Circulation: 20