

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

On the rights of manuscript

ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

LITERARY ISSUES IN THE NEWSPAPER “IRSHAD”

Specialty: 5716.01 – Azerbaijani literature

Branch of science: Philology

Applicant: **Zohra Faraj Farajova**

BAKU – 2021

Dissertation was performed at the Department of New Period Azerbaijani Literature of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Scientific adviser: Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor
Alkhan Bayram Mammadov

Official opponents: Doctor of Philological Sciences, Professor
Vugar Mikayil Ahmad

Ph.D. in Philology
Sevinj Ayaz Vafah Haydarova

Ph.D. in Philology
Fatma Ramiz Huseynova

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: Ph.D. in Philosophy, Associate Professor
Ismikhan Mahammad Osmanli

Chairmen of the scientific seminar: Doctor of Philological Sciences, Associate Professor
Alizade Bayram Asgarli



INTRODUCTION

Relevance and studying degree of the research issue. The dissertation entitled “Literary issues in the newspaper “Irshad” deals with the research of the newspaper “Irshad”, having exceptional place and merits in the 20th century Azerbaijani literature, history of media and in public opinion. The comprehensive and profound study of each people’s history, its social and political, as well as social life, literature and culture requires at the same time to involve its media to the extensive research. Because, the articles published in the pages of the press bring to life the chronicles of that period. The fact is that the national-enlightenment thoughts, opinions, goals and aspirations of progressive intellectuals about the past, present and future of their country and people are reflected in newspapers and magazines. From this standpoint, the newspaper “Irshad” is of great importance to study the socio-political, socio-economic and the cultural environment existed in the last century genuinely and its involvement to the extensive research become topical. The samples of poetry and prose, literary and journalistic articles regularly published in this newspaper are important not only for the study of one press organ, but also for the study of Azerbaijani literary thought, which was formed in the early twentieth century.

The articles published in the newspaper “Irshad” are as diverse in terms of literary genre, as well as in a wide range of topics. The common denominator that unites these writings is that each of them replicates anxiety, concern for the future of the nation, as well as feelings of patriotism and intolerance. The analyses made in this direction suggest that this is not inadvertent. Because, most of the authors of the newspaper “Irshad” were great figures of the twentieth century Azerbaijani intelligentsia, literary thought and great patriots. Ahmad bey Agaoglu and other prominent personalities he gathered around this newspaper, talented pen owners, i.e. Uzeyir Hajibeyli, Mohammad Amin Rasulzade, Hashim bey Vazirov, Nariman Narimanov, Omar Faig Nemanzade, Abdulla Sur, Sultan Majid Ganizade, Sultan Majid Efendiyev, Ibrahim Tahir Musayev, Firudin bey Kocharli, Mohammad Hadi, Mirza Alakbar Sabir, Suleyman Sani Akhundov, Huseyn Javid Rasizade, Ahmad Munir Ibrahimov, Hasan bey Agayev, Molla Mahmud Chakar Nakhchivani,

Hasan Sabri Ayvazov, Seyid Huseyn Sadig, Mohammad Sadig Akhundov, Mammad Said Ordubadi, Haji Ibrahim Gasimov, Aligulu Gamkusal, Ali bey Huseynzade, Karbalai Mohammad Haji Agazade Said, Farhad Agazade, Gara bey Garabayov, Akhund Yusif Talibzade and others played an important role in the activities of the newspaper “Irshad” and put their worthy-while autographs to the history of the Azerbaijani press.

By studying in detail the activities of this newspaper and its authors, their impact on our socio-political environment and worldview through the newspaper “Irshad”, their contribution to the development of our culture and literature, it is possible in general to study in more depth the existing historical conditions, political and social climate, literary, cultural, socio-economic situation in the first years of the twentieth century and draw conclusions.

The newspaper “Irshad” has laid the foundation of a great tradition in the history of the Azerbaijani press, a new literary school. The newspaper began to operate in very problematic conditions, was subjected to financial difficulties and attacks at various levels. In such conditions, the authors of the newspaper “Irshad” did not get tired of serving the nation, and managed to set an example for both contemporaries and the next generation of journalists. Their activity in the newspaper is only a part of their unsurpassed services in protecting the rights of the native people and defining their national identity. Many of the articles submitted for publication by each of these intellectuals, both in “Irshad” and in other media bodies, deserve to be studied as serious and courageous examples of our literature, literary criticism, as well as journalism.

The dissertation also takes into account the fact that although some of the owners of these pens were ignored for various reasons, many of them were the subject of scientific research on their lives and work during the Soviet era. However, the activities of most of these writers and poets in “Irshad” have not been studied.

Analyses show that while for many years some media outlets have been repeatedly researched and numerous scientific works have been written about them, some of them have either not been mentioned or “remembered” in terms of criticism, and scientific objectivity has not

been expected in their activities. The dissertation focuses on the newspaper “Irshad”, which is one of them, and the reasons for its neglect are examined in the foreground. It has been determined and substantiated that this newspaper has been out of the scope of scientific research for many years, its activities are mentioned only lightly in some works and scientific articles of individual researchers, and the issue is approached in accordance with the political and ideological requirements of their time. Under the influence of Soviet ideology, the newspaper “Irshad” was called a reactionary bourgeois press, and its editor-in-chief and individual employees were defamed as pan-Turkists and pan-Islamists. The idea that *“Agaoglu was poisoned by the pan-Islamist and pan-Turkist ideology and could not find the strength to get rid of it”*¹ was emphasizes especially in the dissertation.

The signature of the great enlightener Ahmad bey Agaoglu (in all his works until 1909, as well as in the newspaper “Irshad”, was written as Ahmad bey Agayev. In the dissertation he was mentioned as “Agaoglu” and a small number of articles about his life and activity were written during the Soviet period. As an exception, in the book “Caravan of Thought (Prominent Azerbaijani Critics and Literary Scholars)” published in the 80s of the last century, we can indicate the portrait-essay “Ahmad bey Agayev”² by the well-known researcher Aziz Mirahmadov. It should be noted that this essay is rich in interesting facts.

Attitudes towards Agaoglu changed after Azerbaijan regained its independence in the late twentieth century. The idea that “For some reason, we have learned little about this personality “who was Azerbaijani from head to foot”, we have promoted him less, and in many cases we have not approached his works objectively, as a result, we have not been able to tell many truths by taking a one-sided approach”³, was accepted in research not only as the idea of Kamal Talibzade, but also as the confession of many research scholars who lived and worked during the Soviet era.

¹ Zeynalov N.N. Azərbaycan mətbuatı tarixi: [2 cildə] / N.Zeynalov. – Bakı: ADU, – c.2. – 1974. – s. 56.

² Mirəhmədov Ə.M. Əhməd bəy Ağayev. (Fikrin karvanı (Görkəmli Azərbaycan tənqidçiləri və ədəbiyyatşünasları) / Ə.Mirəhmədov, tərt. ed., red. və ön söz. müə: Elçin. – Bakı: Yazıçı, – 1984. – s. 81-95.

³ Talibzadə K.A. Əhməd Ağaoğlu / – Bakı: Azərbaycan jurnalı, – 1989. №1, – s. 24.

As regards this outstanding personality, this dissertation refers to the researches of the well-known literary scholars A.Mirahmadov, K.Talibzade, Sh.Huseynov, V.Guliyev, Sh.Gurbanov, U.Huseynova, L.Hajiyeva, M.Suleymanli and others. The mentioned research works were evaluated as an important step in the study of Agaoglu's rich heritage.

As for the object of research of the dissertation, literary scholars A.Zeynalzade, Sh.Valiyev, A.Bayramoglu and others in their scientific articles covered the activities of the newspaper "Irshad" and its authors in one way or another.

Basically, since the end of the last century, i.e. from the end of the 1980s, the attitude to the newspaper was changed, a number of scientific articles have been dedicated to it. However, the role and services of "Irshad" and its authors in the development of our literature have not become the object of extensive research. Due to the fact that the newspaper was kept out of research and analysis for many years, the original works of art and literary translations submitted to this newspaper were not thoroughly researched. In general, prior to this research, samples of literature published in the newspaper "Irshad" were not analyzed as an object of independent research.

Object and subject of research. The object of research includes the newspaper "Irshad", literary-artistic texts of various genres and literary-critical materials published in its pages. The subject of the research consists of articles, dissertations, monographs, etc. written about A.Agaoglu, the founder of the newspaper "Irshad" and Azerbaijani intellectuals gathered around the newspaper.

Purpose and objectives of the research: the extensive research of the materials published in the newspaper "Irshad" from the viewpoints of the problems related to the subject, artistic structure, style, idea and genre in the background of the period of publication hereof, the aforementioned materials were researched firstly in this dissertation in the history of literary study. The multilayered activity of the newspaper was researched in the dissertation, as well as its place in the history of our press was determined. Taking all this into account, the following main tasks were set in the research work entitled "Literary issues in the newspaper "Irshad":

- To determine the place of “Irshad” in our history, literature and press in the early twentieth century;
- To study the historical, socio-political and literary environment of the newspaper “Irshad”;
- To reveal the importance of researching the activities of the newspaper in terms of studying the history of our press and literature;
- To clarify the role of the newspaper “Irshad” in the development of art journalism;
- To determine the main directions of the literary struggle of “Irshad”;
- To analyze and study the services rendered by the main authors of the newspaper not only in the socio-political life of Azerbaijan, but also in the literary and cultural environment and the articles published about it in “Irshad”;
- To determine the topics and problems of artistic publicist articles, columns, scenes, prose and poetry samples given in the pages of “Irshad”;
- To study the genres, idea-artistic, literary-aesthetic features of literary-artistic works published in the newspaper;
- To comment on examples of translated literature presented in the newspaper “Irshad” and articles dedicated to them;
- To investigate the work done by the newspaper to protect the purity of the mother tongue.

Methods of research. The historical principle is taken as a basis while using the literary and theoretical criterion in the research paper. Based on the historical-conceptual policy, the problems posed in the literary materials were evaluated, and the method of comparison was used.

In the dissertation, it was concluded that by studying the activities of the newspaper “Irshad”, published in the early twentieth century, it is possible to fully follow the literary process in general.

The full set of the newspaper and archival materials were widely used to study the activity of the newspaper against the background of the period, to study and analyze the literary and artistic samples, to determine its place and services in the history of the Azerbaijani press.

The main provisions set for defense. In order to study the issues of literature in the newspaper “Irshad” and to copiously cover the topic,

it is planned to defend the following provisions:

- Historical, socio-cultural factors that led to the establishment of the newspaper “Irshad”;
- The role of the author’s contingent in the richness of topics and ideas of the newspaper, the definition of the sphere of influence of the literary-cultural, social environment on the creativity of the authors;
- Clarification of literary issues in the context of history and modernity in the newspaper “Irshad”;
- Issues of research and analysis of classical literature in the newspaper;
- The role of the newspaper “Irshad” in the development of literature;
- Analysis of literary criticism in the newspaper;
- Determining the level of attitude to world literature and translated works in the newspaper “Irshad”;
- Substantiation of the attitude to the issue of common Turkish language in the newspaper “Irshad”;
- The study of the attitude to the problem of the mother tongue and artistic style in the newspaper “Irshad”, the idea of the need to protect the purity of the mother tongue;

Scientific novelty of the dissertation. As a result of the research, the following scientific innovations were obtained:

- The research work on “Literary issues in the newspaper “Irshad” is the first extensive research on the newspaper “Irshad” in Azerbaijan literary criticism;
- Providing information about the history of the newspaper's publication, its socio-political, historical environment, literary conditions, the work of the most active authors is one of the main factors determining the scientific novelty of the research;
- Although prominent socio-political figures, publicists, writers, poets of Azerbaijan, who took an active part in the newspaper's activity, and their artistic features are mentioned in separate researches, their works in “Irshad” are mainly studied in this dissertation for the first time;
- The works of some publicists, poets and writers who appear in the newspaper are generally studied in this dissertation for the first time;
- Identification of sources of topics and ideas of the newspaper

“Irshad”, influence on Azerbaijani literature, press, creativity of writers, poets and publicists, etc. manifests itself in revelation;

- For the first time, the definition of the subject and problems of the literary and artistic samples placed in the pages of the newspaper is widely studied and analyzed;

- The dissertation deals with the activities of other media outlets published in the native language at that time, their attitude to “Irshad”:

- The publishing language of “Irshad” is studied for the first time in the research work. At the same time, the attitude to the native language during the years of the newspaper's activity, as well as the study of literary language problems are among the innovations revealed in the dissertation;

These scientific innovations are the main features that distinguish the dissertation work from other researches.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research: The results of the research can be used in the researches on the history of Azerbaijani literature and press in the early twentieth century, as well as articles, dissertations and monographs on the life and work of a number of prominent publicists, writers and poets who lived and worked in that period. The dissertation can also be a useful resource for applicants, bachelors and masters of higher education.

Approbation and application of research. Different chapters of the dissertation were discussed at different times in the Department of New Period Azerbaijani Literature of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

The main results of the research are reflected in the articles published in journals recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission, as well as her speeches and reports at national and international scientific conferences, as well as in the published materials of those conferences.

Name of the organization where the dissertation work is carried out: Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Department of New Period Azerbaijan Literature.

The structure and total volume of the dissertation. The “Introduction” of the dissertation work consists of 15314, main content

(Chapter I - 76676 – the first paragraph 39215, the second paragraph 37461,) the Chapter II - 135843 – the first paragraph 32148, the second paragraph 81500, the third paragraph 22195), the Chapter III - 58486 – the first paragraph – 22817, the second paragraph - 35669) and the “Conclusion”- 5922.

The total volume of the dissertation is 292241 characters.

MAIN CONTENT OF THE WORK

The relevance and degree of development of the topic, its scientific novelty, research methods, object and subject, goals and objectives, theoretical and practical significance, approbation and structure of the dissertation were identified in the “Introduction” in line with the requirements of the Supreme Attestation Commission.

The first chapter, entitled “**Historical socio-cultural factors that led to the establishment of the newspaper “Irshad”**”, consists of two paragraphs. In the first paragraph (“**From the history of the publication of the newspaper**”), the activities of the newspaper are studied against the background of important socio-political and cultural events of the period. It was noted that the revolutionary events that took place in Tsarist Russia in the first years of the twentieth century had a noteworthy impression on the history of the peoples of its colony. The current situation has led to the appearance of certain ideological currents and political parties. In such a difficult period of history, as in social, political and economic life, there was a revival in the cultural environment, and new ways were sought in most areas of literature and art. At that time, on October 17, 1905, the tsar signed a manifesto to protect his power. Freedom of speech, press, and conscience were also reflected in the October 17 manifesto, which promised a number of concessions.

A.Agaoglu regretted that the situation of the native people at the time of these historical events was very deplorable: “*Our situation is miserable, we have no schools and madrassas, no science and no literature and printing house. We, the Muslim tribe, who are ignorant of the whole world, who do not know about the state, trade, art, agriculture, works and inventions, are humiliated by others in terms of rights and*

authority.”⁴

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Azerbaijani Turks were testing by the history in order to get rid of the ignorance and misery they were dragged through, to protect their national identity. At the same time, the people, who condemned themselves to laziness and silence, were building a wall in front of their bright future. M.A.Rasulzadeh expressed this fact in his article “*Terrible tomb*” as follows: *As you know, this is not an easy task. This path requires self-sacrifice. We need courage, courage and zeal.*”⁵

At a time when the socio-political climate in the countries occupied by Tsarist Russia, which became the “cradle of revolutions”, was changing, and there was a greater need for devotees to guide the people, Agaoglu has named his newspaper as “Irshad”, i.e. “the one who guides to the right path” and first of all, clarified his purpose and goal.

The newspaper “Irshad” was published under the slogan “Freedom, Equality, Justice” following the slogan “Freedom, Equality, Justice” of the great French revolution. This paragraph identifies the themes and sources of ideas of the newspaper “Irshad”. It was noted that the purpose, goal, work to be done by the newspaper “Irshad”, as well as the requirements of the period of its emergence were announced in the first issue of December 17, 1905 in the program-article “The profession (Way) of our newspaper” as follows: *“Thanks to his fists, he fell asleep and now woke up, saw the caravan and his comrades gone, found ourselves alone in the desert, and said to each other in amazement, “Why did we sleep so much?” ... At work, the motto of our newspaper describes the same situation. We will invite you to go as fast as you can to follow the caravan.*”⁶

The newspaper “Irshad” had regular columns such as “Baku News”, “Karabakh News”, “Caucasus News”, “Domestic News”, “Foreign News”, “Telegraph News”, “From Our Special Correspondents” and others. The column “From our special correspondent” contains information about the social, political, social, economic and cultural situation in different regions of Azerbaijan. The

⁴ Ağayev Ə.H. Bizə nə lazımdır // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 12 yanvar. – s. 1.

⁵ Əmin M. Dəhşətli məbər // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 21 iyul. – s. 2.

⁶ “İrşad”. Qəzetəmizin məsləki (Yolu) // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1905, 17 dekabr. – s. 2.

newspaper has a daily circulation of 3,000-6,000. As literary scholar A.Zeynalzade wrote: *“In the first years, the number of subscribers from different cities and villages of Azerbaijan, central and provincial cities of Russia, Vladikavkaz, Siberia, Georgia, Dagestan, Central Asia, Iran, Turkey, Egypt and other places was about a thousand.”*⁷

It was noted in the dissertation that one of the issues that surprised the researchers was how many issues of the newspaper “İrşad” were published in general. Most historians of the press who wrote about this newspaper noted that 536 issues of “İrşad” were published - 11 in 1905, 296 in 1906, 134 in 1907, and 95 in 1908. In our research, this idea does not justify itself. It is true that 11 issues of “İrşad” were published in the first year of its publication. However, the following year, on January 1, 1906, the new issue of the newspaper was written as the 12th issue, not the first, and continued in this order. The last issue of that year, dated December 31, was the 296th. It is also clear that in 1906, not 296, but 285 issues of the newspaper were published. As a result of the analysis, taking into account that 134 issues were presented in 1907 and 95 issues in 1908, it was determined that a total of 525 issues of “İrşad” were published.

This paragraph clarifies the reasons for the suspension of “İrşad”’s publication. The influence of U.Hajibeyli’s topical satire “Tale”⁸ with the pseudonym “Filankes” (so-and-so) published in the 95th issue dated June 25, 1908 on the closure of the newspaper was studied and it was concluded that the root of the issue was deeper and more diverse.

The facts suggest that each of the very bold and even harshly critical articles of various genres, which were regularly published in its pages, could have led the Tsarist Censorship Office to ban the activities of “İrşad”. The order of the Baku mayor to suspend the publication of the newspaper: *“Considering the harmful direction of the newspaper “İrşad” published in Baku by Ahmad bey Agaoglu in the Tatar language on June 24, 1908, the Baku mayor decided: In particular, the publication of the above-mentioned “İrşad” newspaper should be*

⁷ Zeynalzadə A.Ə. “İrşad” qəzetinin nəşri tarixinə dair. // - Bakı: Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyasının Xəbərləri. Ədəbiyyat, dil və incəsənət seriyası, – 2001, № 3-4, – s. 63.

⁸ Filankəs. Ordan-burdan. Nağıl // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1908, 17 iyun. – s. 4.

maintained during the entire period of emergency protection.”⁹ During its existence, the newspaper faced constant obstacles, financial hardships, threats and pressures, slander of the denunciators, and pressure from the Tsarist Censorship Office. However, despite all the difficulties, the newspaper “Irshad” did not back down from its persuasion declared in the first issue and did not hesitate to publish bold articles.

At the end of the paragraph, taking into account the great work done by the authors of the newspaper for the homeland and the people, and the unparalleled contribution to the spread of the idea of freedom and independence, which later led to the establishment of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, it was stated that the newspaper “Irshad” not only played the role of a media outlet for the native nation, but also delivered its message to the right addresses. The pages of this newspaper, by the way, have become a platform for political, social, as well as the development of culture, literature, the struggle for the protection of the mother tongue. For these reasons, “Irshad” is of great importance today as a newspaper that was an invaluable source of history of the native nation.

The second paragraph is entitled “**The author's contingent of the newspaper as one of the factors determining the richness of its topics and ideas.**” This paragraph defines the role of national intellectuals, socio-political thinkers, and progressive writers who gathered around the newspaper “Irshad” within 1905–1908 and fought for the freedom of the people. It has been put forward and substantiated that many of their articles published in the pages of “Irshad” deserve to be studied and studied as serious examples of our literature, literary criticism, as well as journalism. One of the important reasons is that most of the authors of the newspaper are great figures of the twentieth century Azerbaijani intelligentsia, literary thought, great nationalists.

It was noted in the dissertation that A. Agaoglu was not only the editor-in-chief of this newspaper, but also that the name of “Irshad” was closely connected with his signature. A. Mirahmedov wrote: “Ahmad bey Agaoglu demonstrated in "Irshad" all his journalistic skills, knowledge of

⁹ Zeynalzadə A.Ə. “İrşad” qəzetinin nəşri tarixinə dair. // – Bakı: Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyasının Xəbərləri. Ədəbiyyat, dil və incəsənət seriyası, - 2001. № 3-4, - s. 72.

oriental studies, the image of a political thinker”¹⁰. In our opinion, Agaoglu also demonstrated his patriotism and selflessness with his activity in this newspaper. The newspaper “Irshad” was a wide confirmation and embodiment of his public activity, nationalism and diligence.

Analyses show that the strength of a newspaper depends on the number of signatures of its authors and its prestige in society. Remembering the identities of those who contributed to the publication, the essence, value and importance of the work done by “Irshad” becomes clear once again. In connection with this issue, the article “A brief review of the Azerbaijani periodicals” written by a prominent publicist Firudin bey Kocharli in 1906 was quoted as follows: *“This newspaper is openly following the development of public life, and in its pages, issues that are more or less important in the lives of Russian Muslims are discussed carefully and comprehensively. Published under the guidance of a good staff and an experienced publicist such as Agaoglu, Irshad is the most lively, informative and beautiful media outlet. This newspaper is openly following the development of public life, and in its pages, issues that are more or less important in the lives of Russian Muslims are discussed carefully and comprehensively.”*¹¹

In the research work, the activity of A.Agaoglu and other prominent personalities, talented pen owners in this newspaper was assessed as a part of their unparalleled services in protecting the rights of the native people and defining their national identity.

It was noted in the paragraph that the main goal of many adherents of the newspaper was to spread such light of enlightenment and culture to the most remote villages of Azerbaijan, to save the people from the whirlpool of illiteracy, ignorance and ignorance. It was concluded that by studying in detail the activities of this newspaper and its authors, their impact on our socio-political environment, worldview through “Irshad”, their contribution to the development of our culture and literature, the

¹⁰ Mirəhmədov Ə.M. Əhməd bəy Ağaoğlu / Ə.Mirəhmədov, nəşrə haz. və red.: Dilarə Əziz qızı Mirəhmədova-Əlizadə. – Bakı: Örgünəş, – 2014. – s. 86.

¹¹ Köçərli F.Ə. Seçilmiş əsərləri. / Köçərli F., red. K.Talıbzadə, tərt və qeyd. müəl: Kamal Talıbzadə və Nadir Məmmədov. – Bakı: Azər.SSR Elmlər Akademiyası nəşr. – 1963, – s. 341.

historical conditions of the first years of the twentieth century, political, social, literary. It is possible to study the cultural, socio-economic situation in more depth.

Finally, it was concluded that in the first decade of the twentieth century, as a result of the perseverance and self-sacrifice of intellectuals in Azerbaijan, a change in socio-political thought instigated, attitudes to social life began to change, work on the development of culture, literature and enlightenment expanded. Among them, the services of the newspaper “İrşad” and patriotic authors deserve special mention and appreciation.

The main provisions of the first chapter are highlighted in articles published in scientific journals.¹²

The second chapter of the research, entitled “**Literary issues in the context of history and modernity in the newspaper “İrşad”**” consists of three paragraphs. The first paragraph (“**Issues of research and analysis of classical literature in the newspaper”**”), first of all, examines and analyzes the attitude of the newspaper “İrşad” to the classical literature, the views of the “İrşad” adherents on the classics of Eastern and Western literature, the study of classical heritage. It has been pointed out that adherents of the newspaper were very sensitive to important issues such as attitudes and references. The analysis showed that the owners of these outstanding pens were distinguished not only by their own attitude to the works of Azerbaijani classics, but also to world culture, ancient sciences, the art of speech, philosophy. In general, they united the achievements of world civilization, classical Eastern and Western culture and literature, which they consider a universal spiritual treasure. Most of the adherents of the newspaper also approached national

¹² “İrşad” qəzetinin tədqiqat tarixi // Bakı Dövlət Universiteti, “İrşad” – 100” (“İrşad” qəzetinin 100 illik yubileyinə həsr olunmuş elmi-praktik konfransın materialları), – Bakı: – 16 dekabr, – 2006, – s. 43-47; “İrşad” qəzetində türkçülük məsələləri // VIII Uluslararası Türk Kültürü, Sanatı və Kültürel Mirası Koruma sempozyumu/sanat etkinlikleri, – Konya, Türkiyə: – 15-16-17 mayıs, – 2014, Materiallar kitabı, – Konya: – 2016, – s. 417-426; 1905-1906-ci illərdə azərbaycanlılara qarşı törədilmiş qırğınlar (“İrşad” qəzetinin materialları əsasında) // XX əsrdə türk-müsəlman xalqlarına qarşı soyqırımları, IV Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları, – Lənkəran: – 22-27 aprel, – 2017, – s. 331-336; Ahmet bey Ağaoğlu yaradıcılığında türkçülük konuları (“İrşad” gazetesinin verilerine dayanılarak hazırlanmışdır), Uluslararası Ankara Bilimsel Araştırmalar kongresi, – Türkiyə, Ankara: – 4-6 ekim – 2019, Tam metn kitabı, – Ankara: – 2019, – s. 462-466.

and cultural progress from this point of view. In the literary and social thought of Azerbaijan, the pro-Western tendency has passed a certain historical path before the publication of “İrşad”. Professor Vilayat Guliyev wrote: *“Starting from the first decades of the XIX century, the relations of Azerbaijani literature with the world literary process began to acquire new content and character. This was due not only to the emergence of national literature on a global scale, but also to its significant renewal in terms of form-content, genre-style, ideological-worldview.”*¹³ In the dissertation, the idea that the tendency towards the West was expanding in the beginning of the XX century in the literary and social thought of Azerbaijan was put forward. The adherents of the newspaper commented on the progress of Europe at that time by giving examples from the works and opinions of Western thinkers, as well as clarified the concept of freedom, state and society in the Christian world and the Islamic world. Analyzes have shown that in each of these issues, A.Agaoglu, who was conscious of the characteristics, history, culture, religion, philosophical views, socio-political assessments of many countries and nations, as well as his homeland, was ahead of his colleagues. Considering the revolutionary ideas established in France and the determination shown in this direction as an example for his people, Agaoglu analyzed the works of Jean-Jacques Russo, Voltaire, Diderot and other French classics, as well as the newly formed free-spirited literary figures. He considered the whole literature, which embodied real-life events, social problems and spiritual feelings, to be the wealth of mankind as a whole, and presented writers who opposed oppression, slavery and subjugation as real heroes. A. Agaoglu wrote that Montesquieu in his book “Ruhalgava” *“... spreads the idea that there are three types of government in the world; the first is tyranny, in such a government all power is in the hands of one person; the second is constitutionalism, in which judges, even though they are tyrants, make laws and abide by them; the third is the republican government, in which power is in the hands of the people.”*¹⁴

¹³ Quliyev V.M. Azərbaycan filoloji fikri və rus ədəbi-ictimai mühiti (XIX əsrin birinci yarısı) / V.Quliyev, elmi red.: Bəkir Nəbiyev. Bakı: Ozan, – 2000, – s. 15.

¹⁴ Ağayev, Ə.H. Qosudarstvenni Duma (ya padşahlıq şura) // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 26 mart. – s. 2.

Agaoglu was interesting not only in French life and its rich history of revolutions, but also in Western and European literature and culture in general, which began at an early age, continued throughout his career. In the newspaper “Irshad”, he also systematically analyzed the socio-political life of these countries in his journalistic articles. At the same time, a number of reviews and correspondence with his friends are remarkable in this regard.

The scholar notes that for most devotees of the newspaper, Western progress was striking and looked-for due to the enlightenment and freedom of thought in that society. In their writings, the appraisal of the West and the criticism of the East are vividly mirrored. However, these feelings do not reflect the anti-Eastern position, the disposition of surrender, as well as attempts to romanticize the West. The devotees of the newspaper, speaking from their time, considered it necessary to follow the example of the West's development and benefit from its scientific and technical accomplishments. Their efforts to direct the socio-political thought, literary and cultural movement of Azerbaijan to the West, as well as the common unity of Eastern and Western culture, were commented in the dissertation, which emphasized the importance of integration.

In general, the study is based on the principle of historicity. Another important point was noted that in general, the newspaper “Irshad” highly appreciated the antiquity of Eastern moral and spiritual values, scientific and philosophical views of Islam, humanism and human freedom. It was also highlighted in this paragraph that in the years when “Irshad” was published, there was no hesitation that the West was ahead of the East in science, education, culture, press, health and other fields. This certainty has been uttered in many different styles in the texts of many writers. However, the followers of idea of the newspaper “Irshad” were not only in favor of speaking from the perception of their time. They looked at the path of world civilization as a whole and expansively, arguing with historical facts that progress did not begin in the West. The dissertation concludes that the authors of “Irshad” in the early twentieth century, when questioning the reasons why the East lags behind the West in terms of the development of science and technology, put forward very deep points.

The “İrşad” devotees considered it expected for classical scientific-cultural and literary-artistic values to be grasped and enhanced by different peoples. This issue was brought to the attention of readers by A.Sur in his literary-historical researches as follows: *“As far as is known, nations have developed mainly by learning education and culture from each other ... - It is already known that Western Christians received today's culture from the Arabs. There was a time when the Nasra pashas were educated in Andalusia. The Turks and Persians in the East also tried to promote Arab culture. Didn't the Russian people get their primary education from Western Europe? Didn't the modern Turks use the enlightenment and culture of the France?”*¹⁵

The authors of the newspaper “İrşad” mentioned on the high progress of Europe in the early twentieth century, citing examples from the works and opinions of Western thinkers, as well as clarified the concept of freedom, state and society in the Christian and the Islamic world. The life and environment of Europe and Europeans attracted the attention of the devotees of the newspaper in a positive way because science and education were developing there, and people were able to fight for their rights more actively and decisively.

As a result of the research, it was noted that in general, the antiquity of Eastern moral and spiritual values, scientific and philosophical views of Islam, humanism, human freedom are highly valued in A. Agaoglu's newspaper “İrşad”.

The devotees of the newspaper “İrşad” generally valued each work and its author, which have educational price and moral values for mankind, and meet the high necessities of literature. Consequently, the classical poets of Azerbaijan, as well as prominent figures of world literature, without discrimination between Firdovsi, Nasreddin Tusi, Voltaire, Jean-Jacques Russo and others, regarded them as human beings.

The second paragraph of the second chapter of the dissertation is entitled **“The newspaper “İrşad” and the directions of development of literature.”** In this paragraph, literary and artistic examples published in the newspaper “İrşad” are comprehensively studied. It was noted that the socio-political events and revolutionary fluctuations that took place in Russia and its colonies in the early twentieth century and played an

¹⁵ Sur, A. Əski İstanbul xanımları // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 2 noyabr. – s. 4.

important role in the destiny of the peoples had a great power on literature, gave it a new spirit and revived it. As it was noted in the newspaper, “the peoples living in Russia” tried to take advantage of the decree issued by the emperor on October 17. It is observed in the previous issues of “İrşad” that Azerbaijani intellectuals hoped to get their rights from tsarism. M.A. Rasulzade expressed these feelings in his poem “Freedom” (October 17). The author rejoiced that The author rejoiced that “*the Russian tsar has acted with limited rights.*”¹⁶

*In order not to be spoiled by various sorrows,
Let there be mutual equality on all sides.”*¹⁷

The newspaper “İrşad” published small-scale literary and artistic samples - stories, poems, feuilletons, scenes, miniatures and other genre works, starting from A.Agaoglu's large-scale work such as “Hijra of Kubra”. Among these works, which differ in terms of subject matter, there are those that speak of both historical and modern events. Regardless of the period or topic it covers, most of the poems, prose and fiction published in “İrşad” have an educational value and are instructive.

It was noted in the dissertation that the variety of styles and genres, the richness of the subject make the literary and artistic samples of the newspaper more decipherable. It is clinched that the common point that hitches these works is that each of them reflects the feelings of concern, apprehension for the future of the nation, as well as devotion and bigotry. In the study, each of these ideas was analyzed and construed based on examples.

The dissertation concludes that it cannot be said that each of the literary and artistic samples published in this publication is professionally written, meets the high requirements of literature, and is a perfect example of art. However, taking into account the personality of many authors, their brilliant talent and their exceptional services in our literature and literary criticism, it was noted that for these reasons, real works of art prevailed among the literary and artistic materials of “İrşad”.

Acquaintance with the literary and artistic samples of “İrşad” led to the conclusion that the newspaper remained true to its purpose, the

¹⁶ R-zadə, M.Ə. Hürriyyət // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1905, 28 dekabr. – s. 2.

¹⁷ Ibid, – p. 2.

general problems, the importance of the national consciousness and national awakening of the people were brought to the fore in the prose, poetry and literary works presented in its pages. For this purpose, all methods of literature were used, and most genres were addressed. Our conclusion is that although not all the works published in the newspaper can be considered artistically perfect, each of them has a high socio-political position in terms of subject and content.

The third paragraph of the second chapter is entitled “**Issues of literary criticism in the newspaper.**” One of the most real means to stimulate the progress of a nation, perhaps the first, is how to use the power of the word. Based on the research, it was stated that, according to the newspaper’s authors, literature has a special place and services among them. It was noted that although opinions were sometimes forked, most of the authors of “Irshad” considered innovations in literature as the main condition. For this reason, an issue raised by the poet and critic Abbas Sahhat, which occupied the minds of all literary critics, was in line with their views. Thus, in the first decade of the twentieth century, when the problems of “old poetry” were discussed more sharply in literary criticism, and new ways and rules of poetry were considered and ways were sought - in 1905, the article “What should a new poem look like?” by Abbas Sahhat was published in the newspaper “Hayat”. The author wrote: “*It is known that the poems and verses of our poet are not in harmony with the natural state, so the reader is prone to hatred and does not come to fruition. For example, likening a woman to a cypress tree, or likening a lover's face to a moon, and likening his eyebrows and eyelashes to an arrow.*”¹⁸ This article has caused a great deal of controversy.

In this paragraph, it is generally concluded that this newspaper, in addition to valuing the classics of Azerbaijani and world literature, published new literary and artistic samples, as well as closely followed the literary processes of the period.

This paragraph scrutinizes the development of Azerbaijani literature as a whole and the attitude to many new works in the newspaper “Irshad”. It was noted that, in general, in the twentieth century, more progress has been observed in the development of Azerbaijani literature

¹⁸ Səhhət A. Seçilmiş əsərləri / A.Səhhət, tərt. ed., ön söz və qeyd. müəll. fil. e.d., prof. Kamal Talıbzadə. – Bakı: Lider, – 2005, – s. 243.

in a number of areas. This was primarily due to the mood of the time and the challenge to revolutionary change. At that time, the development of satirical style was especially noticeable in our literature. The spirit of struggle, which has been clearly felt in Azerbaijani satirical poetry since the 19th century, has entered a new stage in the 20th century.

The strengthening of critical-realist, satirical-enlightenment tendencies in Azerbaijani literature in the early twentieth century should be sought, first of all, in one of the most beautiful features of literature - its ability to be as modern as it is based on ancient traditions. In those years, the newspaper "Irshad", which had a great reputation and unique style among the media outlets published in Azerbaijan, respected the achievements of Azerbaijani literature, which had come a long way. It was noted in the paper that among the literary and artistic examples of various genres published in the pages of the newspaper, there are those in the classical style, but the main place is occupied by works of modern times in terms of content, language and style. It was also noted that "Irshad" was one of the newspapers in the early twentieth century, which steadily placed examples of poetry in its pages. Researcher Vali Osmanov rightly writes: The poem "Hürriyet" (Freedom) came to the literature of the time in the wings of hopes and dreams nurtured in the new century - the twentieth century. Maybe that's why he is always dreaming. This romantic synonym of the word freedom in the form of a dream has entered the language of poetry."¹⁹

It can be said that poetic works played an important role in the socio-political struggle of this newspaper. Most of them are works that meet the requirements of "new poetry". It is said that the revolution and the spirit of struggle of the new century undoubtedly played a great role here. The same should be said about "Irshad"'s literary-publicist and prose examples.

In the early twentieth century, the influence of Mirza Fatali Akhundzade's work on Azerbaijani prose continued. However, a different century had come with its political, social, and cultural scenery, and, as in all spheres, new thinkers had appeared in Azerbaijani prose. Thanks to them, Azerbaijani literature was enhanced with new works. In our

¹⁹ Osmanlı V.M. Azərbaycan romantizmi [2 cilddə] / V.Osmanlı, red: Rafael Hüseyinov. - Bakı: Elm. – c. 1. – 2010, – s. 128.

literature, which has remained faithful to the centuries-old tradition of succession, new literary tendencies were also growing during the years of Irshad's activity. In addition to enlightenment-satirical prose, critical-realist prose also emerged as a leading line in our literature, which was also the work of writers who came to literature after MFAkhundzade.

Literary critics of the time criticized the authors of such works in the press, especially in newspapers and magazines such as “Hayat”, “Irshad”, “Molla Nasreddin”, “Füyuzat”, and identified the tasks ahead. Professor Shamil Valiyev writes about the problems of poetry in the literary criticism of Azerbaijan in the twentieth century: *“The emergence of newspapers and magazines such as “Hayat”, “Irshad”, “Molla Nasreddin”, “Füyuzat”, on the one hand, led to the emergence of new trends in the development of national critical and poetic thought; on the other hand, this event had a strong effect on the withdrawal of the old stereotypes from fiction.”*²⁰

The study notes that in addition to benefiting from the involvement and achievements of Azerbaijani literature up to the time they lived, most of the devotees had their own style and uniqueness.

It was also emphasized in the dissertation that the ideas about the genres, ideological-artistic, literary-aesthetic features examples of poetry published in the newspaper “Irshad” about its authors were published first of all in this newspaper.

Hence, as a result of the research, it is clear that the newspaper “Irshad” paid great attention and importance to the development of literature, its appropriate performance of its duties. It is true that some authors have reflected in their writings the errors they consider to be true. However, in general, the work of this newspaper in the field of literary criticism was extensive and rich.

The main provisions of this chapter are covered in articles published in scientific journals and international conference proceedings²¹.

²⁰ Vəliyev Ş.Q. (Körpülü). “Füyuzat” ədəbi məktəbi / Ş.Vəliyev, elmi red. və ön söz. müəl: Kamal Talıbzadə. – Bakı: Elm. – 1999, – s. 30.

²¹ “İrşad” qəzetinin ədəbi-bədii əsərlərində “Molla Nəsrəddin” ənənələri // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2007. № 4, – s. 484-492; “İrşad” qəzetinin şairlərindən - İbrahim Tahir Musayev // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2007. №

The third chapter of the dissertation, entitled “**The problem of literary translation and mother tongue in the newspaper “İrşad”**” consists of two paragraphs. The first paragraph is entitled “**Translations from world literature and attitude towards them**”. One of the important issues to be addressed in the newspaper “İrşad” is the expansion of Azerbaijani readers’ acquaintance with the world and its integration into the world in the early twentieth century, both in the political, social and cultural spheres. The dissertation mentions one of the main reasons for this as the inclusion of translation activities in the multifaceted work of writers who wrote various texts in the pages of the newspaper “İrşad”. The authors of the newspaper “İrşad” have always paid attention to the life and work of famous writers and poets who lived in different centuries, in different countries, left their mark on the history of literature, as well as their contemporaries. This gave the readers of “İrşad” the opportunity to get acquainted with the processes taking place in the world, the life, culture and literature of different peoples.

Materials translated from other languages and published in the

8, – s. 353-360; “İrşad” qəzetində poeziya məsələləri // “Çağımızdan görünən orta əsrlər”, II Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları – Bakı: – 15-16 dekabr, – 2014, – s. 583-593; “İrşad”da dərc olunmuş ədəbi-bədii əsərlərdə erməni vandalizminin təsviri məsələləri // I Beynəlxalq tarixdə soyqırımlar: faklar, reallıqlar, uydurmalar simpozyumu. Tezislər kitabı. – Bakı: – 2-3 aprel, – 2015, – s. 51-52. “Əhməd bəy Ağaoğlunun publisistikasında dövrün aktual məsələləri (“İrşad” qəzetinin materialları əsasında) // IV Uluslararası Türk Sanatları, Tarihi və Folkloru Kongresi Sanat Etkinlikləri, – Konya-Türkiyə: – 14-15 mayıs, – 2015. Materiallar kitabı, – Konya: – 2016, – s. 669-677; Европа в художественной публицистике Ахмед бека Агаоглу (по материалам газеты “Иршад”) // - Київ: “Мова і культура” наукове видання. – 2016, том IV (181), выпуск 21, – с. 234-241; Əhməd bəy Ağaoğlu və onun “Hicrəti-Kübra” əsəri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan jurnalı, – 2017. № 6, – s. 184-187; İrşad” gazetesindəki şiir və öykülərdə milli birlik sorunu, II Uluslararası Develi – Aşık Seyranı və türk kultürü kongresi, Türkiyə, Develi: – 10-12 ekim – Tam mətn kitabı, – Develi: – 2019, – s. 506-511; Mətbu mənbələrdə ədəbiyyat: “İrşad” qəzetinin nəsr nümunələrində həyat həqiqətləri və bədii gerçəklik // – Bakı: AMEA Mərkəzi Elmi əsərlər jurnalı, Kitabxana və informasiya araşdırmaları. – 2019, – c. 1. № 1, – s. 84-88; “İrşad” qəzetində ədəbi tənqid məsələləri // – Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitetin Xəbərləri, Humanitar, ictimai və pedaqoji-psixoloji seriyası, – 2020. № 4, – s. 52-62; “İrşad” qəzetində klassik ədəbiyyatın tədqiqi və təhlili məsələləri // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2020. № 4, – s. 260-269.

newspaper “İrşad” are divided into two parts in the presented scientific work:

1. Articles of various genres on social, political, social, economic and cultural topics;
2. Literary translations.

It was noted in the dissertation that the first ones were given more space in the pages of this newspaper, and the reasons for this were researched. It was concluded that, first of all, “İrşad” was not a purely literary newspaper. Second, the newspaper was published at a time rich in social, political, social, economic and cultural events. The authors, who work for the progress, independence and prospects of Azerbaijan as real intellectuals and citizens consider it important to be aware of important events in the colonial countries of Tsarist Russia and the empire, as well as in the world and to inform readers through the newspaper “İrşad”. For this purpose, the newspaper showed serious interest in Europe, America, the Middle East and the Far East, and provided information on international life with reference to the Russian, French, English, Turkish and Persian press. However, this newspaper was also a publishing house that published literary works. This was confirmed by the fact that the pages of the newspaper often featured original works of art and periodically translated works of art from different languages. Through these articles, the readers of the newspaper were able to get information about the life and work of many famous foreign writers and poets.

When we look at the works selected for translation in the newspaper “İrşad” and their authors in general, we first of all notice the variety. Thus, the newspaper gives examples from both Eastern and Western literature created at different times. The theme and idea of the translated works were taken very seriously in “İrşad”. This direction has been taken from the beginning of the newspaper’s activity. Thus, one of the first authors to be addressed is the poet Hafiz Shirazi, whom the East gave to world literature. Moral values were promoted in the work translated by M.A. Rasulzade from Persian into our language and published in the newspaper under the title “Translation from Hafiz”²²:

*“Mothers and daughters are at war,
I see all boys offended by their fathers.*

²² R-zadə, M.Ə. Hafizdən tərcümə // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1905, 23 dekabr. – s. 2-3.

*Brother has no mercy on his brother,
No compassion for the son, I see from his father
Hear the advice of [Hafiz], (Razi), go and do good,
This is advice, it is beautiful and I see it from the heart.*”²³

The research notes that in the early twentieth century, taking into account the importance of literary translations, Azerbaijani intellectuals also paid more attention to this area, and considered the translation and publication of works inculcating spiritual values into our native language. O.F. Nemanzadə, who spoke about the problems in the press and book publishing, wrote: “*If it is not possible to replace the works we need now, I think we need to pay more attention to translation. There are thousands of books that need to be translated from Russian into Turkish.*

... From today, our people hope for many translations and works from our Russian-speaking intellectuals, especially our teachers.”²⁴

The subject of most of the literary translations in “İrşad” is not only instructive, but also important in terms of its harmony with the social, political and social landscape of the time. The study concludes that “İrşad” also remained true to its principles in matters of translation, preferring to publish works that meet the interests of readers in terms of ideas, content and mastery.

The authors of the newspaper “İrşad”, which is based on national and universal values, aimed at shaping the worldview of society, enlightening its contemporaries, understanding the ideals of freedom and joining the struggle in this way, approached the translation issues from this point of view. In this sense, the dissertation appreciates the importance of translation materials published in the newspaper.

In the first decade of the twentieth century, one of the most important issues in Azerbaijan was the problem of literary language, which is considered one of the indicators of the nation's existence and national identity. These issues are researched in the paragraph of the third chapter of the dissertation entitled “**Issues of mother tongue and artistic style in the newspaper “İrşad”**”. It is noted that at the beginning of the twentieth century, the language problem in Azerbaijan attracted attention in various spheres of social, political and cultural life. The issue has

²³ R-zadə, M.Ə. Hafizdən tərcümə // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1905, 23 dekabr. – p. 2-3.

²⁴ Nemanzadə. Müsəvvər Rüstəm və Söhrab // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1908, 3 iyun. – s. 2.

become so relevant that, as Kamal Talibzade wrote, since the beginning of the century, the language issue has become a factor that unites many different areas of socio-political and cultural life in Azerbaijan: “*Neither those who talk about politics, nor those who talk about economics, nor those who write about culture, could not ignore this issue.*”²⁵

The problem of language has existed in Azerbaijan for a long time, to be more precise, it arose in different periods of our turbulent history, grew for certain reasons, and became one of the most discussed and debated topics in the first decade of the twentieth century. Thus, at the beginning of the twentieth century, the process of self-awareness in the public life of Azerbaijan had a strong impact on the literary language. At the same time, the language policy pursued by the tsarist regime for its own interests put pressure on the national languages.

At such a time, most of our intellectuals were not indifferent to the fate of their mother tongue. U.Hajibeyli, M.A.Sabir, J.Mammadguluzade, M.A.Rasulzade, N.Narimanov, O.F.Nemanzade and other prominent writers selflessly fought for the purity of the Azerbaijani language and its protection from foreign elements. The media gave them ample opportunity to express their views at this point as well. The dissertation examines the unique place and services of the newspaper “Irshad” as one of the most influential newspapers of Azerbaijan at that time. It is not correct to evaluate the newspaper “Irshad”’s activity in this field only as conforming to the requirements of the time of its publication. The reason is that the object of research is an authoritative newspaper that appeared to shed light on the path of the Turkish nation. In this sense, “Irshad”’s great attention to language issues, such as the creation of a mother tongue, a literary language, a common Turkish language, that is, an all-Turkic language, and other important issues, speaks of deeper issues.

One of the main reasons for the general confusion in the language of Azerbaijan in the first decade of the twentieth century and the urgency of the issue of the mother tongue was the strong influence of foreign culture and foreign languages in the thoughts and works of some of our intellectuals who studied in other countries. Academician Tofiq Hajiyev

²⁵ Talibzadə, K.A. XX əsr Azərbaycan ədəbi tənqidi (1905-1917-ci illər) / K.Talibzadə. – Bakı: Azərb. SSR EA, – 1966. – s. 300.

also explained the disadvantages of having three tendencies in literary language in the early twentieth century: “Those who spoil the purity of the literary language do not stand on a single source, they are divided into three parts, one group tends to the Arabic-Persian source, the second group to the Ottoman-Turkish language, and the third group to the Russian-European language.”²⁶

In the pages of the newspaper “İrşad”, those who tended to speak a foreign language in exchange for contempt for their mother tongue were sharply criticized. In 1906, S.M. Efendizade thought that the following situation arose due to the language policy of tsarism: “It's not the fault of these people that they despise their mother tongue, it's the fault of those who forced us to look at our mother tongue with hatred from an early age.”²⁷

However, the answers of Azerbaijani intellectuals to those who despise their mother tongue were so harsh: “... a Turkish child will never agree to betray his mother tongue.

Betrayal? Yes, betrayal. Not once, not a hundred times, a thousand times!”²⁸ .

The authors of the newspaper “İrşad”, like most nationalist intellectuals of the time, saw the main cause of the problems faced by Turks all over the world, the search for solutions, and their solution in achieving unity. The idea that one of the most important steps to be undertaken for this great goal is to create a common language was welcomed in “İrşad”. However, those who welcomed the idea of a single Turkish language also had difficulty reaching a consensus, as Mirza Abdullah described in an article entitled “The Language Question”: “No cure was found. Everyone is trying to keep their heads down, to promote their thoughts, their sect, to complete and publish the dialect they like.”²⁹

We come to the conclusion that every issue that stimulates the protection and promotion of national identity has been important for this

²⁶ Hacıyev, T.İ. XX əsrin əvvəllərində Azərbaycan ədəbi dili / T.Hacıyev, elmi red. Ə.Bağırov. – Bakı: – Maarif, – 2011. – s. 17-18.

²⁷ Əfəndizadə, S.M. Ana dili barəsində // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 12 yanvar. – s. 2.

²⁸ Nəz. Cümə söhbəti // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 28 iyul. – s. 2-3.

²⁹ Mirzə Abdullah. Dil məsələsi // “İrşad” qəzeti, – 1906, 13 mart. – s. 3.

newspaper. Consequently, “İrşad” has always kept the problems of language and national language features among the most important topics.

Taking into account all the above-mentioned points at the end of the paragraph, it is concluded that “İrşad” is a very interesting source not only for those who study the state of the Azerbaijani literary language in the first years of the XX century, but also for researchers of those periods of our language history. The articles left in the pages of the newspaper about the language background and style of Azerbaijan in those years allow us to get a comprehensive picture.

The problems of the third chapter have been studied in articles published in various scientific journals.³⁰

The concluding part of the dissertation shows the scientific and theoretical conclusions obtained from the study conducted during the research, that the examples of “İrşad”, whether literary, poetic or prose, are mainly works of socio-political content, enlightenment. This is due to the fact that the newspaper resonates with the period of its publication. Restrictions on individual freedom, social inequality, unjust rules and other problems have become the target of criticism in the literary and artistic samples published in the newspaper “İrşad”. Freedom, equality, brotherhood, peace and progress are glorified in these works as universal feelings.

The authors of the newspaper “İrşad” came to the conclusion that the way to national salvation is through the development of the culture and education of the society. They have not overlooked this factor in their literary writings. The propaganda of enlightenment ideas, the desire for the rise of science and culture are widely expressed in the artistic samples of the newspaper.

The diversity of styles, variety of genres, richness of topics made the literary and artistic samples of the newspaper even more understandable.

Bearing in mind that the newspaper is distributed not only in

³⁰ “İrşad” qəzetində bədii tərcümə məsələləri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan jurnalı. – 2019. №7-8. – s. 180-184; “İrşad” qəzetində ana dili və bədii üslub məsələləri // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2019. № 6, – s. 266-278.

Azerbaijan and the territories of Tsarist Russia, but also in neighboring countries, it is clear that the newspaper “İrşad” played an imperative role in the promotion of our literature.

Taking a bold step into the Azerbaijani press as a beacon of guidance to the people, “İrşad” has never backed down from its mission. Throughout its activity, the newspaper faced great problems, but did not change the way it came out, the issue, the position of the people, the national interest has always been the main ideal.

The main content of the study is reflected in the following publications:

1. “İrşad” qəzetinin tədqiqat tarixi // Bakı Dövlət Universiteti, “İrşad” – 100” (“İrşad” qəzetinin 100 illik yubileyinə həsr olunmuş elmi-praktik konfransın materialları), – Bakı: – 16 dekabr, – 2006, – s. 43-47.
2. “İrşad” qəzetinin ədəbi-bədii əsərlərində “Molla Nəsrəddin” ənənələri // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2007. № 4, – s. 484-492.
3. “İrşad” qəzetinin şairlərindən - İbrahim Tahir Musayev // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2007. № 8, – s. 353-360.
4. “İrşad” qəzetində türkçülük məsələləri // VIII Uluslararası Türk Kültürü, Sanatı və Kültürel Mirası Koruma sempozyumu/sanat etkinlikleri, – Konya, Türkiyə: - 15-16-17 mayıs, – 2014, Materiallar kitabı, – Konya: – 2016, – s. 417-426.
5. “İrşad” qəzetində poeziya məsələləri // “Çağımızdan görünən orta əsrlər”, II Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları – Bakı: – 15-16 dekabr, – 2014, – s. 583-593
6. “İrşad”da dərc olunmuş ədəbi-bədii əsərlərdə erməni vandalizminin təsviri məsələləri // I Beynəlxalq tarixdə soyqırımlar: faklar, reallıqlar, uydurmalar simpozyumu. Tezislər kitabı. – Bakı: – 2-3 aprel, – 2015, – s. 51-52.
7. “Əhməd bəy Ağaoğlunun publisistikasında dövrün aktual məsələləri (“İrşad” qəzetinin materialları əsasında) // IV Uluslararası Türk Sanatları, Tarihi və Folkloru Kongresi Sanat Etkinlikleri, – Konya-Türkiyə: – 14-15 mayıs, – 2015. Materiallar

- kitabı, – Konya, – 2016, – s. 669-677.
8. Европа в художественной публицистике Ахмед бека Агаоглу (по материалам газеты “Иршад”) // - Київ: “Мова і культура” наукове видання. – 2016, том IV (181), выпуск 21, – с. 234-241.
 9. 1905-1906-ci illərdə azərbaycanlılara qarşı törədilmiş qırğınlar (“İrşad” qəzetinin materialları əsasında) // XX əsrdə türk-müsəlman xalqlarına qarşı soyqırımları, IV Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları, – Lənkəran: – 22-27 aprel, – 2017, – s. 331-336.
 10. Əhməd bəy Ağaoğlu və onun “Hicrəti-Kübra” əsəri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan jurnalı. – 2017. № 6, – s. 184-187.
 11. “İrşad” qəzetində ana dili və bədii üslub məsələləri // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2019. № 6, – s. 266-278.
 12. “İrşad” qəzetində bədii tərcümə məsələləri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan jurnalı. – 2019. №7-8. – s. 180-184.
 13. Ahmet bey Ağaoğlu yaratıcılığında türkcülük konuları (“İrşad” gazetesinin verilerine dayanılarak hazırlanmıştır), Uluslararası Ankara Bilimsel Araştırmalar kongresi, – Türkiyə, Ankara: – 4-6 ekim – 2019, Tam metn kitabı, – Ankara: – 2019, – s. 462-466.
 14. “İrşad” gazetesindəki şiir və öykülərdə milli birlik sorunu, II Uluslararası Develi – Aşık Seyranî ve türk kültürü kongresi, Türkiyə, Develi: – 10-12 ekim – Tam metn kitabı, – Develi:, – 2019, – s. 506-511.
 15. Mətbu mənbələrdə ədəbiyyat: “İrşad” qəzetinin nəsr nümunələrində həyat həqiqətləri və bədii gerçəklik // – Bakı: AMEA Mərkəzi Elmi əsərlər jurnalı. Kitabxana və informasiya araşdırmaları. – 2019, – cild. 1. № 1, – s. 84-88.
 16. “İrşad” qəzetində ədəbi tənqid məsələləri // – Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitetin Xəbərləri, Humanitar, ictimai və pedaqoji-psixoloji seriyası, – 2020. № 4, - s. 52-62.
 17. “İrşad” qəzetində klassik ədəbiyyatın tədqiqi və təhlili məsələləri // – Bakı: AMEA M.Füzuli adına Əlyazmalar İnstitutu, Filologiya məsələləri jurnalı, – 2020. № 4, – s. 260-269.

The defense of the dissertation will be held on "20" December 2021 at 15³⁰ 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 "19" November 2021.

Signed for publication: 15.11. 2021

Paper format: A5

Volume: 52713

Circulation: 20