

**REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

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**ABSTRACT**

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**OMAR FAIG NEMANZADEH'S PEDAGOGICAL VIEWS**

Specialty: 5804.01 - General pedagogy, pedagogy and  
history of education

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## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESEARCH

**Relevance of the topic and degree of study.** The formation and development of the educational culture and pedagogical thought of the Azerbaijani people is closely linked to the Enlightenment. The history of our people in the 19th century and the early 20th century is adorned and made famous by the names and life paths of many prominent scholars, educators, and cultural figures, filled with struggles. Among them are great personalities such as Mirza Kazim bay, Abbasgulu agha Bakikhanov, Mirza Fatali Akhundov, Hasan bay Malikov, Seyid Azim Shirvani, Rashid bay Efendiyev, Firudin bay Kocherli, Mustafa bay Topchubashov, Ali bay Huseynzadeh, Ahmad bay Agayev, Nariman Narimanov, Mirza Alakbar Sabir, Jalil Mammadguluzadeh, Uzeyir Hajibayov and Huseyn Javid. *"Their cultural experiences, struggles against ignorance, and ideas are reflected in their literary, artistic, and philosophical works."*<sup>1</sup>

O.F.Nemanzadeh, a prominent educator of his time, propagator of democratic and humanist ideas, and a figure known for his philosophical, social, journalistic activities, as well as his contributions to educational culture, was one of the representatives of this intellectual elite. His creativity and practical activity are valuable pages in the history of public and cultural thought, embodying national awakening, contemporary thinking, and calls for self-preservation as a nation. Like other intellectuals, O.F. Nemanzadeh was able to determine the ways for the development of the nation's spiritual vitality, demonstrating true dedication and patience in this endeavor. He correctly identified the direction of the nation's progress and development, as well as the intersection with the cultural achievements of other nations. The great educator repeatedly emphasized that the correct way to implement these ideas,

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<sup>1</sup> Behbudov, S. The Religious Values and Modernity of Azerbaijani Enlightenment // Sumgayit: Metaphysics Journal of Sumgayit State University, – 2021. №4, – pp. 163-171.

and the only means for doing so, was through the establishment of national schools and the development of pedagogical thought.

O.F. Nemanzadeh was recognized as one of the prominent representatives of the intellectual elite of his time for his courage and skill in advancing the development of the national press, revitalizing public life, renewing the cultural and pedagogical environment, and promoting the idea of conducting teaching and education in the mother tongue in schools, among other issues. In his decree on the 150th anniversary of the birth of the distinguished educator, publicist, and public figure O.F. Nemanzadeh, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Supreme Commander-in-Chief Ilham Aliyev praises his work, noting that it serves as an example of dedication to the ideology of Azerbaijanism:

*"Omar Faig Nemanzadeh was one of the enlightened intellectuals who played a crucial role in the history of Azerbaijani journalism in the early 20th century, writing bright pages and directing its development in extremely complex circumstances, elevating it to a qualitatively new stage. The establishment of the 'Qeyrat' printing house, which became a significant event in literary and cultural life, and the creation of the famous 'Molla Nasreddin' journal, which had a powerful influence on the strengthening of democratic tendencies in the literature of the Near East countries, are inseparable components of the writer's intense and productive activity. A highly erudite and dedicated writer who considered love for the mother tongue as the most important condition for love of the homeland, O.F. Nemanzadeh fought tirelessly, without sparing his knowledge and abilities, for the cultural revival, independence, and bright future of his native people. Addressing all critical issues of national importance against the backdrop of progressive ideas of the time, the ideology of Azerbaijanism was always at the forefront in his works. This has become the main leitmotif of Omar Faig*

*Nemanzadeh's journalistic heritage, which is rich in national ideas and has a profound political and social content."*<sup>2</sup>

The educators of the 19th and 20th centuries always strived to highlight the advantages of speaking in their native language, aiming to guide the people towards enlightenment and a life free from ignorance. The democratic forces of the time called the people to national self-awareness and awakening.

National self-awareness, in general, refers to a nation's recognition of its historical roots, culture, and unique values, its ability to affirm itself based on national and universal ideals, its awareness of its place and position among the nations in the modern era, the ability to define its future development paths, and the pride of speaking and fighting for its homeland and native land. This was considered the main indicator. As a result, educators like O.F. Nemanzadeh based their activities on the slogan of national self-awareness. The views of the prominent intellectuals of the time, with such a rich content, gained new dimensions in later periods and became an integral part of the independence era and the idea of Azerbaijanism.

The views and reflections of O.F. Nemanzadeh on education and schools, as well as his perspectives on the social and pedagogical environment of his time, are almost unexplored. His approach to education and schools, based on the religious-ethnic characteristics and psychology of the people, would provide a foundation for researchers' observations, ensuring the validity of their analyses, correctness of their interpretations, and scientific results in addressing this issue in the current period. Among the work done on the study of this problem, research related to social-philosophical, literary, linguistic, and press history is of particular importance, as it sheds light on how literary and scientific thought has placed significant emphasis on O.F. Nemanzadeh's work.

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<sup>2</sup> Aliyev, I. On the Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh: Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan // Azerbaijan. – 2022, October 4. – p.2

Azerbaijan's national poet, literary scholar, Doctor of Philology, and professor Bakhtiyar Vahabzadeh, along with professors Abbas Zamanov, Shamil Gurbanov, Firudin Huseynov, and research scholars such as Galiba Hajiyeva, Irada Musayeva, and others, have studied various aspects of the creative work of the distinguished educator<sup>3</sup>. The literary and journalistic work of O.F. Nemanzadeh has been the subject of several dissertation studies. S.M. Rzayev's "The Worldview of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh" and Jafar Mustafayev's "The Life and Activities of Omar Faig Numanzadeh, a Caucasian Turk (1872–1937)" are examples of such research<sup>4</sup>. However, O.F. Nemanzadeh's views on education and schools, as well as his perspectives on the social-pedagogical environment of his time, remain largely unexplored.

The esteemed intellectual's cherished memory has been immortalized and is always kept in the spotlight. A comprehensive database has been created for the educator's life and work, including his articles and feuillets. The database is currently active, and under headings such as "Biography," "Works," "Bibliography," and

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<sup>3</sup> See: Vahabzadeh, B. On Omar Faig Nemanzadeh // B. Vahabzadeh. Baku: Yazıçı, – 1986, – p. 50. Vahabzadeh, B. The Burning Heart // Literature and Art. – 1983, November 11. – p. 3. Zamanov, A. Omar Faig Nemanzadeh // Friends of Work. – 1979, – pp. 193-202. Qurbanov, Ş. Selected Works of O.F. Nemanzadeh / Ş. Qurbanov. – Baku: Azerbaijan SSR "Bilik" Society, – 1992, – 48 p. Qurbanov, Ş. Selected Works of O.F. Nemanzadeh / Ş. Qurbanov. – Baku: Gənclik, – 1992, – 208 p. Hüseynov, F. Molla Nasreddin and Molla Nasreddinists / F. Hüseynov. – Baku: Yazıçı, – 1986, – 278 p. Hacıyeva, Q. Language and Linguistic Issues in the Works of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh / Q. Hacıyeva. – Baku: Nurlan, – 2007, – 32 p. Musayeva, İ. Every Nation Lives with Knowledge, Perishes with Ignorance: [Electronic Resource] / 525th Newspaper. – January 18, 2023. URL: <https://525.az/news/211242-her-millet-merifet-ile-yasar-cehalet-ile-yox-olar--irade-musayeva-ii-meqale>.

<sup>4</sup> See: Rzayev, S.M. The Worldview of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh: / PhD Dissertation in Pedagogy. / – Baku, 1971. – 282 p. Mustafayev, C. Life and Activities of Omar Faik Nemanzadeh from the Caucasian Turks (1872-1937): / Master's Thesis. / – Istanbul, 2019. – 152 p.

"Academic Research and Articles," detailed and extensive information about the educator can be found <sup>5</sup>.

O.F. Nemanzadeh worked for the bright and promising future of the people, nation, and youth. His original ideas, based on the latest achievements in education, schools, and pedagogical theory, affirm that his thoughts were significant not only for his time but also for future generations.

In this regard, studying the pedagogical aspects of O.F. Nemanzadeh's legacy, conducting a systematic and comprehensive investigation, acquiring new information related to the issue, and revealing the benefits of this vast treasure has become a relevant matter for today. Based on these points, we consider it important to explore O.F. Nemanzadeh's pedagogical views at the level of a dissertation research.

**Object of the research.** The object of the research is the history of school and pedagogical thought in Azerbaijan at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century.

**Object of the research.** The object of the research is the pedagogical views and activities of O.F. Nemanzadeh.

**The Purpose and Objectives of the Research.** The purpose of the study is to determine the contribution of O.F. Nemanzadeh to the development of science, education and pedagogical thought in Azerbaijan and to identify the possibilities of using it in modern conditions.

In accordance with the aim, object, and subject of the research, the following tasks have been set:

- To determine the economic-political and socio-cultural factors in the formation of the educational-pedagogical views of Azerbaijani intellectuals, and to identify the trends in the development of schools and pedagogical thought during the relevant period;

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<sup>5</sup> Nemanzadeh, O.F: [Electronic Resource] / URL: <https://omarfaig.info>

- To identify O.F. Nemanzadeh's pedagogical ideas reflecting the advanced ideologies of his time, his views on education, and provide a scientific analysis of them;

- To highlight O.F. Nemanzadeh's efforts and services in the fight for the teaching of the mother tongue, its purity, and its widespread use, as well as in the development of national press.

- To uncover O.F. Nemanzadeh's views on the significance of family relationships in the work on women's freedom, education, and upbringing;

- To analyze his ideas regarding the renewal of the content of education and the use of new methods and tools in teaching and upbringing, identify aspects that resonate with contemporary conditions, and make comparisons.

**Research Methods.** In the dissertation, in the process of studying O.F. Nemanzadeh's pedagogical views, methods such as historical-comparative, problem-chronological, analytical, structural, and document analysis have been used in accordance with the aim and objectives of the research.

### **Key Propositions Submitted for Defense**

- The formation and development of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh's progressive-democratic worldview and his adoption of progressive pedagogical ideas were conditioned by the political, social-economic, and cultural development characteristics of Azerbaijan in the early 20th century.

- The democratic development of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh's pedagogical views and ideas on education is influenced by his interaction and collaboration with the leading thinkers of Azerbaijan who defended universal and national values.

- According to Omar Faig Nemanzadeh, by mastering the forms of humanity's moral and practical experience in science and education, it is possible to achieve self-improvement, which encompasses the creative development of the individual.

- Omar Faig Nemanzadeh's progressive pedagogical and didactic views, their alignment with the spiritual aspirations of the people, and his belief in the future of the Azerbaijani people



significantly influenced the formation and implementation of new pedagogical ideas.

- According to Omar Faig Nemanzadeh, the establishment of mother tongue schools, the teaching of the Azerbaijani language, the preparation of textbooks and materials in this language, the humanitarian character of the goals and objectives of education, and its construction based on universal and national values, are essential for ensuring the comprehensive development and formation of students as individuals through their mastery of the mother tongue.

**Scientific Novelty of the Research.** The scientific novelty of the research lies in the fact that in all of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh's works from the early 20th century, the development of education and pedagogical thought is studied in a complex and systematic manner. The views of the prominent educator on education and pedagogical thought are analyzed, and the educational and pedagogical events discussed in his works are generalized and systematized. His views on the teaching of the mother tongue, new schools, the development of women's education, and his contributions to the advancement of pedagogical science are explained. The educational and pedagogical ideas of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh in his works are analyzed as part of the educational landscape of his time, previous scientific studies are examined, positive traditions are observed, and the chronological sequence of the analyses is maintained. The educational and pedagogical values in his works are fully and thoroughly researched.

**Theoretical and Practical Significance of the Research.** The theoretical significance of the research lies in the fact that the views of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh on secular education and the dissemination and development of new pedagogical ideas have been studied, and the stages of his scientific-pedagogical biography have been investigated and systematized. The prominent educator's pedagogical views have been analyzed, revealing his ideas on democratic and humanist-oriented schools and societal issues, and his attitude toward the pedagogical ideas of his time has been examined. As one of the prominent figures in the social-pedagogical thought of his time, his contributions to the development of the

Azerbaijani people's school and pedagogical thought have been confirmed based on factual materials.

The theoretical principles and conclusions presented in the dissertation can be used in writing textbooks and teaching materials on the history of pedagogy. The factual materials collected by the author can be applied in the teaching process of modern national schools and in the process of training pedagogical staff. The results of the research will expand scientific ideas about the development of Azerbaijani pedagogical thought and education and will be useful in teaching the "History of Azerbaijani School and Pedagogical Thought" course at universities' pedagogical faculties. The creative ideas and scientific concepts emerging from the research will serve as a stimulus for young researchers and will help increase the growth of theoretical as well as practical creative and professional activities.

**Approbation and application of research.** The main content and results of the presented dissertation have been discussed at several national and international conferences and symposiums, and have been published as scientific articles in several reputable local and foreign journals recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission.

**Organization Where the Dissertation Was Conducted.** The dissertation was carried out at the Department of "Pedagogy and Psychology" of the Pedagogical Faculty of Nakhchivan State University

**The volume of each structural section of the dissertation and the total volume in terms of character count.** The introduction section consists of 11658 characters and 6 pages, Chapter I contains 91200 characters and 45 pages, Chapter II includes 121360 characters and 62 pages, the conclusion has 5664 characters and 4 pages. The list of references consists of 13648 characters, equivalent to 9 pages. The total volume of the dissertation is 128 pages, comprising 245367 characters.

## MAIN CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION

In the "**Introduction**" section of the dissertation, the relevance of the topic and the degree of its study are justified, the object and subject of the research, the goals and tasks are determined, the theoretical and practical significance is demonstrated, the approval of the work is discussed, and information about the volume of the dissertation is provided.

In the first paragraph of the first chapter of the dissertation titled "**Enlightenment Views and Educational Ideas in the Creative Work of Omar Faig Nemanzadeh,**" the critique of the lifestyle of the people and the outdated customs and traditions in O.F. Nemanzadeh's works is explored.

It is justified that the prominent figures who lived in the 19th and 20th centuries, worked for their people and homeland, and left a mark with their creative activities, played an irreplaceable role in the opening of national schools, the rapid development of all branches of pedagogical science, the awakening of the public and national consciousness, and the formation of the national press. Among these prominent figures, it is particularly necessary to emphasize the names of individuals such as the Akhundovs, Jalils, Taghizadehs, Sabirs, Nazmis, Omers, and others. Their biographies and the writings they produced play an important role in studying their ideas. Among these distinguished figures and heroes, Omar Faig Nemanzadeh stands out as one of the intellectuals. The enlightened intellectual addressed the problems of his time in all his creative work. It can be noted that the creative activities of this enlightener involved issues such as calling the people to freedom, spreading the ideas of national awakening, making innovations in the content of national schools and education, assisting the functioning of press organs in the native language, sharply criticizing superstition, calling the people to liberation from ignorance, prioritizing the education of women, and so on.

Superstition, outdated customs and traditions, and ignorance formed the core of the prominent intellectual's creative work. He

tried to distance the people from outdated customs, superstitions, and ignorance, making sharp speeches against the bey rulers, khans, and religious figures, and fought for morality and spirituality. He saw the way out in turning towards enlightenment and distancing oneself from the negative impacts of ignorance.<sup>6</sup>

It is clear that, during that period, many issues were confined to religious dogmas. For this reason, O.F.Nemanzadeh saw the reason for the people's backwardness in superstitious thinking, associating it with outdated customs and traditions, and he searched for various ways to eliminate such cases. In both his creative work and the period during which he studied and taught, O.F. Nemanzadeh consistently expressed his sharp opposition to religion and superstition. The writer's works often focused on religious thought and beliefs, outdated customs and traditions, regression, and the inability to see a bright, enlightened future. The enlightener wrote that he had devoted his entire life to the development of the people, tirelessly continuing this work without fear, but he also noted, *“This path full of struggle, no matter how noble and enlightened, had a negative and bitter effect on the personal life of the intellectual”*.<sup>7</sup>

Learning science, understanding the true purpose of the time, and grasping the spiritual power of enlightenment were not easy tasks during that period. The enlightener visited many cities and villages of Azerbaijan and, despite various difficulties, tried to spread the light of knowledge. Especially during his time in Shaki, he repeatedly expressed his opposition to the superstitions and outdated customs and traditions held by the local population. He opposed the people's reliance on the shrines and religious leaders as

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<sup>6</sup> Guliyeva, K.R. On the Criticism of Superstition by O.F. Nemanzadeh / K.R.

Guliyeva, E.G. Ismayilova // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan State University, Scientific Works: Series of Humanities, – 2022. Vol. 114, №1, – pp. 93-96

<sup>7</sup> Safarov, R. "The First Secular Doctrine is the Nationalism Doctrine" / R. Safarov – Baku: "Kaspi" – The Field of Enlightenment, – 2016. – 652 p.

a source of hope and guidance. He also stood against outdated customs and traditions that led the people into ignorance.

In our country, there are many traditions that have existed since ancient times and continue to be practiced today. These traditions can be categorized into two groups: the first group consists of traditions that enrich the people and their spirituality, fostering a sense of unity and equality among individuals; the second group includes traditions that provide no benefit to people and are harmful. O.F.Nemanzadeh wrote about the importance of studying traditions that would be beneficial to people and the significant role they play in the system of moral values. The dedicated enlightener believed that the continuation of our ancient national holiday, "Novruz Bayram," over the years was essential.

The prominent writer fulfilled his creative mission with a true patriotic sense of responsibility. He delicately incorporated the value system of the Azerbaijani people into his works. His main goal was to awaken people from their deep slumber and guide them toward enlightenment. His works sharply criticized religious fanaticism, superstition, and outdated traditions. In his works such as *"The Man Who Rose from the Grave," "The Tree is Eaten from Within by Worms," "Atiga," "Who Am I," "Vinegar,"* and *"Fabricated Hadiths,"* the author condemned ignorance, lack of education, the people's state of heedlessness, and obsolete customs and traditions.

Many of the issues and ideas expressed by Omar Faig Nemanzadeh regarding the development and comprehensive formation of the people are still relevant today. A life filled with ignorance leads to the greatest hardships. To overcome this, it is necessary to use reason and engage more with science. It is essential to closely follow innovations in this field, progress, and further develop them. The environment that the enlightener desired was one that was scholarly and moving towards development. With his knowledge, he was able to illuminate dark thoughts.

In the second paragraph of the chapter, **"O.F.Nemanzadeh as one of the ideologists of the national awakening movement"** is explored.

It is noted that national awakening, self-awareness, and the steps taken by the people to recognize their own identity and essence, are closely associated with the contributions of prominent figures in the enlightenment movement, among whom O.F.Nemanzadeh's name must be particularly emphasized. The enlightener was deeply concerned with protecting the people's perception and thoughts from harmful ideas, and he worked tirelessly towards this goal.

Omar Faig Nemanzadeh saw the national awakening of the people and the rapid development of the country as being rooted in the establishment of well-developed printing presses and the publication of countless books.<sup>8</sup> He was actively involved in various press organizations, working in the fields of printing and editing. The enlightener published articles and feuilletons in the media outlets he collaborated with. Among the press organizations with which he worked, we can mention the "Geyrat" (Qeyrət) printing house, as well as newspapers and journals such as "Molla Nasraddin," "Irshad," "Taraggi," "Achig Söz," "Shargi Rus," "Azerbaycan," and others. The main focus of his work in these newspapers and journals was to address the sufferings, ignorance, and injustices faced by the people. He regarded publishing his articles with a spirit of struggle in newspapers and journals as the primary means of conveying his message to the people. Many other enlighteners also used stories and parables as key tools to awaken the people's consciousness and call for unity against oppression.

The journal *Molla Nasraddin* became an irreplaceable publication in calling the people to national awakening and encouraging them to walk the path of enlightenment. O.F. Nemanzadeh was both a contributor and one of the creators of the journal. He expressed his ideas in the journal sometimes openly, sometimes covertly, through the caricatures it published. Since

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<sup>8</sup> Guliyeva, K.R. The Role of Prominent Enlightener O.F. Nemanzadeh in the Development of the National Awakening Idea of the People // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan Teachers' Institute, Scientific Works Series, – 2022. №1, – pp. 67-70

openly expressing opinions was a challenging process at the time, the master of the pen often wrote under pseudonyms such as "Lağlağ," "Ümidvar," "Cəhrəçi Xala," "Dərdbənd," and others. His motto, "*Lift your head a little higher, let the sun and air of God touch your body, and understand the value of your existence and yourself,*" remains relevant across all eras. Nemanzadeh firmly believed that if there was anything capable of saving society from heedlessness, it was undoubtedly the abundance of schools, madrasas, and the press.

J.Mammadguluzadeh described O.F.Nemanzadeh, whom he referred to as his friend, confidant, and talented fellow writer, as a great thinker that the press deeply needed. Together with the enlightener, Mammadguluzadeh became an active member of several publishing organizations, printing houses, and journals.<sup>9</sup> O.F.Nemanzadeh closely collaborated in the establishment of the "Qeyrət" printing house, which played an exceptional role in the awakening of national consciousness among the people. The prominent intellectual provided detailed information about the printing house's program, intentions, and organizational goals in his article "*Dəvət və Təvəqqe*" ("Invitation and Request"). In this article, Nemanzadeh lamented the lack of knowledge, ignorance, and the people's helplessness in the hands of a few individuals. He attributed this helplessness to ignorance and the inability to distinguish between benefit and harm. According to Nemanzadeh, the people endured all forms of humiliation and, instead of seeking a way to free themselves from the yoke of oppression, chose what they perceived as a "comfortable" life.

His articles, feuilletons, and continuous literary works, along with his relentless struggle for the publication of newspapers and

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<sup>9</sup> Safarov, R. On the Journalistic Activity of Prominent Public-Political Figure, Writer, Publicist, and Enlightener Omar Faig Nemanzadeh: [Electronic Resource] / National Archives Department of the Republic of Azerbaijan. – March 10, 2023. URL:<http://www.milliarxiv.gov.az/en/gorkemli-ictimai-siyasi-xadim-edib-publisist-maarifperver-ziyali-omer-faiq-nemanzadenin-metbu-fealiyyeti-haqqinda>

journals, were among the primary calls to national awakening. Omar Faig Nemanzadeh worked on his memoirs in his later years to reveal the truths of his time. However, he was unable to complete his publications and memoirs. Despite fulfilling his mission with honor, determination, and conviction, his vision of a free people and a society illuminated by education remained incomplete. His life, full of struggles, ended in Akhiska, his ancestral homeland, where he had gone for rest. He was arrested on the order of the district prosecutor, and three months later, he was executed by a firing squad. Like many other prominent intellectuals of Azerbaijan, the distinguished writer became one of the innocent victims of repression. However, the path laid by this enlightened intellectual and many other great figures of his time was successfully continued. Today, our country stands independent, our youth enjoys freedom, and our achievements in education and science grow day by day.

The second chapter of the dissertation, titled "**Omar Faig Nemanzadeh on Secular Education and the Content of School Instruction,**" begins with a subsection named "**Teaching the Mother Tongue and Preserving Its Purity as the Foundation of O.F. Nemanzadeh's Pedagogical Journalism.**"

Here, it is substantiated that one of the critical issues that deeply concerned Omar Faig Nemanzadeh and many of the educators of his time was the organization of lessons in the mother tongue, the preservation of its purity, and the increase in publications in the native language. Considering the period, it is noted that several stylistic forms of the language were in use. The prominent literary figures of that era crafted their works while taking these stylistic nuances into account. These styles primarily included literary, journalistic, scientific, and official-epistolary styles. In terms of further developing and enriching the language, Nemanzadeh placed particular emphasis on literary and, more importantly, scientific-journalistic styles. The appropriate selection of these stylistic forms served the purpose of ensuring the essence of writing, particularly in the mother tongue.



The selfless enlightener fought against those who spoiled his native language, moved away from it and used foreign words during his collaboration in magazines and newspapers, half secretly, half openly exposed them, laughed at them in the form of sarcastic, satirical images. It also refers to those who do not like their native language and are indifferent to the language (local administrators, clerics, who, when they study abroad and return to the country, try to work half in another language, half in their native language - K.G.), has always fought relentless struggles against individuals who belittle its price. He was tormented by the fact that he saw such an indifferent attitude from our beautiful, talented educators, and he was sorry for the use of foreign, foreign words that spoiled our language. Most of the people were foreign to Turkish and Azerbaijani to Turkish. The main foundation of the birth of the language came from our national schools.<sup>10</sup>

The intellectual promoted the mother tongue by extolling all its beauty and magnificence. He took great pride in writing in his native language, skillfully using its styles and forms. He also spoke about the influence of foreign languages on the country. *“To consider writings in Arabic and Persian words as literary language demonstrates a lack of true understanding of what literature is and its essence,”*<sup>11</sup> he remarked. The educator emphasized that even after centuries, the influence of Arabic and Persian languages had not waned. He also drew comparisons with how other nations treated their own languages. Despite several Turkish governments coming to power over time, a complete return to the native Turkish language was not achieved. However, he noted with satisfaction that the Anatolian Seljuks had begun to write somewhat in Turkish. He also highlighted that the Anatolian Seljuks had declared the Turkish

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<sup>10</sup> Guliyeva, K.R. The Issue of Mother Language in the Works of O.F. Nemanzadeh // Azerbaijan Science Center: Ancient Land/ International Online Scientific Journal, – 2023. Vol. 5, №4, – pp. 54-58.

<sup>11</sup> Nemanzadeh, O. Nationalization // Azerbaijan. – 1919, November 21

language as the official language, a significant and commendable step forward.

The intellectual placed particular emphasis on the issue of orthography. He deeply regretted the lack of a culture of proper spelling, which formed the core of the mother tongue. At the time, orthographic rules were standardized using certain methods, but not only Muslim Turks but also the broader Muslim world were largely unaware of written orthography. In this regard, the author advocated for the reform and renewal of the alphabet. He believed that changing the alphabet and adapting it to the native Turkish language would simplify and make words more comprehensible. It was time to move away from outdated practices, abandon the past, and focus on nurturing individuals with bright ideas and clear communication skills, who could think about the future. The great writer lamented the strong foreign influences on the language. He pointed out the difficulty of the Arabic language and how it caused misunderstandings among the people. The educator stressed the importance of recognizing the obstacles we face and swiftly distancing ourselves from them to achieve progress.

O.F.Nemanzadeh was not entirely opposed to incorporating foreign words into the language. The educator believed that a language could enrich itself not merely on its own but also through the thoughtful inclusion of external words. However, he emphasized that the integration of foreign terms should be deliberate and conscious, not haphazard. In several of his articles, Nemanzadeh addressed the complex words commonly used at the time. He also discussed the importance of simplifying these terms and providing equivalents in native Turkish that were more straightforward and comprehensible.

A closer look at Nemanzadeh's legacy reveals that the core of his articles and satirical writings revolved around the issue of the mother tongue. The pillars of his work included advocating for speaking and writing in simple, comprehensible native Turkish, steering clear of cumbersome words that hindered communication, and fostering a language accessible to all. His articles, such as “K

and G Letters,” “Our Language and Spelling,” “An Invitation,” and “Our Writing, Our Language, Our Second Year,” exemplify his dedication to this cause. In particular, his article titled “Our Language and Spelling” delves into the significance and influence of language on human life and its essential role in society. Nemanzadeh encouraged young writers and educated individuals of his era to write in their native Turkish, emphasizing the need for clarity, accessibility, and linguistic purity in their work.

Among these, language stood out as a particularly sensitive and pressing concern for the author. Healing this wound, simplifying the complexities, clarifying ambiguities, and resolving linguistic challenges became a collective responsibility for Nemanzadeh and many other intellectuals and thinkers of the time. Prominent educators took on this duty with determination, dedicating themselves—sometimes at great personal sacrifice—to enriching the language and preserving its integrity. Their struggle was marked by resilience and pride, as they recognized the essential role of language in cultural and national identity.

At the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the foundation for the enlightenment of the people and the awakening of new ideas was laid through the modernization of school education and the process of implementing reforms. These issues are reflected in the second paragraph of the chapter titled **"The Problem of Modernizing the Content of Secular Schools and Education in Omar Faig Nemanzadeh's Work."**

O.F.Nemanzadeh’s pedagogical views on schools, their content, modernization, and the creation of new textbooks are highly significant. Whether through his articles on various topics or his felyetons, the renowned writer dedicated his work to the cultural development of the people and the struggle for cultural progress. He believed that the only force capable of awakening the people from backwardness, ignorance, and slumber was enlightenment.

The prominent intellectual was a strong advocate for the national school and national education system. He worked to advance the schools he founded based on these principles. He was

aware that no system could exist in isolation. He believed it was crucial to draw on the experiences of other nations, introduce innovations, and thereby implement changes in the content of the education system. As an educator, he began taking steps toward creating a national school system and educational model based on the experiences of the world's peoples.

Ö.F. Nemanzadeh became one of the active members who first took steps in the modernization of education content and the training of teaching staff. One of the key issues in educational activities is the honorable fulfillment of the responsibility of training and educating future generations by teachers, who are the central figures in pedagogy.<sup>12</sup> He was a strong proponent of fully implementing several measures to improve the education sector. These included the professional development of teaching staff in school education, creating motivation within the classroom and among the staff, ensuring the functionality and proper use of established schools, improving the material and technical base, prioritizing teaching materials in the mother tongue, increasing the knowledge and learning capabilities of students, improving the quality of lessons, and fostering values such as charity, patriotism, and leadership potential in graduates, among others. If his envisioned school and education system had been implemented on these principles, incorporating content innovations, rapid development would have been inevitable. This issue is not only a crucial demand of O.F. Nemanzadeh's time but also remains an important aspect of the modern era.

The educator paid attention not only to changes in the education system but also to teacher training. He worked as a teacher in Shaki, Shamakhi, and Ganja, where he emphasized the teaching of secular subjects over religious ones during his time at the schools.

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<sup>12</sup> Guliyeva, K.R. O.F. Nemanzadeh's Thoughts on the Renewal of the Content of Education // Karabakh III. International Congress of Modern Studies in Social Sciences and Humanities. Year of Shusha-2022, – Baku: IKSAD Global, – June 7-8, 2022, – pp. 57-60

The main part of the author's teaching career began after his activities in Istanbul. Upon returning to his homeland, the intellectual sought to open a small school. However, due to obstacles posed by local authorities, he was unable to establish the school. To continue the enlightenment movement and spread the light of knowledge, he had to travel to other cities. There, he obtained permission from the government to open a school, and the first Turkish school in the Caucasus was established. The opening of this school played an indispensable role in the enlightenment movement across the country.

O.F. Nemanzadeh dedicated approximately 10 years of his life to the work of education, science, and teacher training. He was a distinguished educator, intellectual, and true teacher who loved his people and worked tirelessly for the promotion of the mother tongue. Despite holding many other positions, he never abandoned his sacred teaching profession and devoted his entire life to working in schools. He wrote that the task of educating the nation required working not only during the day but also at night. The intellectual's thoughts on education align perfectly with modern times and resonate strongly. He called for the recognition of the fact that a strong educational system, a nation with education, is an invincible force. He emphasized the importance of forming the ability to realize and apply this truth in children from an early age and throughout their later years.

In conclusion, we can state that O.F. Nemanzadeh considered the unity of the people as a fundamental condition for the successful implementation of such processes. He emphasized the importance of supporting initiatives like providing free education to a few children each year. The educator rightly argued that we must guide and encourage the people on this path, motivating them to engage in the education process and steer schools in the right direction.

The prominent educator, O.F. Nemanzadeh, dedicated his life to defending the interests of his people and the Turkish population of the Caucasus, putting his life at risk for the sake of their

enlightenment and prosperity.<sup>13</sup> It is gratifying to note that his thoughts, words, and ideas did not remain confined to paper. In the 21st century, our country has made significant strides in the fields of science and education, and continues to assert its voice. The achievements in education and science have propelled our country to a higher level.

The great leader Haydar Aliyev, who emphasized that education is one of the leading indicators of the country, laid the foundation for significant progress in this field. His successor, President Ilham Aliyev, continues to successfully advance this path. Our country now stands among many leading nations in the fields of science and education. New opportunities are being created, and conditions are being provided for young researchers and educators.

The final paragraph of the chapter, titled "**O.F. Nemanzadeh's Role in Promoting and Developing Women's Education and Women's Liberation Movement**," focuses on the involvement of women in education and their social integration. The works and speeches of many prominent figures of the time reflected the struggles for women's freedom, inclusion in education, and the preservation of their rights. The attention that the distinguished writer paid to women's liberation and education issues in his works is of particular significance. In his writings, the publicist viewed women's freedom as an integral part of the nation's economic and political liberation, as well as an essential aspect of family and social relations.<sup>14</sup> The educator often raised the issue of girls' education, sometimes subtly and sometimes openly, publishing articles in several issues of the *Molla Nasreddin* journal. Cartoons addressing this topic, created with humor, were also featured in the journal to reach the public. Rather than focusing on negative customs in other

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<sup>13</sup> Aliyev, I. In Azerbaijan, the 150th Anniversary of Omar Faik Nemanzadeh will be Celebrated: [Electronic Resource] / Baku, – October 3, 2022. URL: <https://report.az/ru/vnutrennyaya-politika/v-azerbajdzhane-otmetyat-150-letnij-yubilej-omara-faika-nemanzade/>

<sup>14</sup> Omarov, V. O.F. Nemanzadeh on Women's Rights // Sas – 2018, October 12. – p.

countries, he emphasized the importance of reassessing attitudes toward women, asserting that it was time for a shift in thinking.

O.F.Nemanzadeh, alongside advocating for women's education, also delved into numerous issues concerning their societal roles. The educator was consistently disturbed by the way girls, from a young age, were made to wear veils, directed by their families towards marriage, and kept away from knowledge and learning. In his "*Qız Məktəbi*" (Girls' School) feuilleton, Nemanzadə specifically addressed the issue of women's education.<sup>15</sup> His views on women drew sharp opposition from religious leaders. Nemanzadə argued that those who covered themselves with veils should not be blindly labeled as virtuous, and he considered it wrong to cast aspersions on others. He viewed the veil not as a symbol of virtue but as a prison for women. . The intelligentsia harshly criticized those who called themselves Prime men and openly addressed them with the words: "*what is their fault that we have added to prisons, and we have made ourselves slaves, maids, cooks, workers.*"

The prominent educator envisioned women as individuals who would progress in the fields of science and education, benefit their nation, understand their rights and freedoms, and constantly fight for their liberties. The devoted intellectual tirelessly advocated for this cause and called on all members of society to engage in education and enlightenment.

The researches allowed us to reach the following **conclusions**:

1. As one of Azerbaijan's leading democratic intellectuals, the distinguished publicist and public figure concluded that the main reason for the difficult situation of the people at that time was their entanglement in superstitious thinking and being enslaved by outdated customs and traditions.

O.F.Nemanzadeh sharply and severely criticizes and exposes superstition, ignorance-driven actions, and customs that

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<sup>15</sup> Guliyeva, K.R. O.F. Nemanzadeh and the Views of 19th-20th Century Enlighteners on Women's Education // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan University, Scientific Works Series, – 2023. №2, – pp. 226-229.

harm people's desire to live according to modern lifestyles. As a publicist who did not accept the ideologies and beliefs of his time, he considered it essential for young people to deeply and thoroughly study Islam and recommended staying away from excessive criticism of our religion.

2. It has been demonstrated that the prevention of superstition, fanatic thinking, and irrational beliefs can only be achieved through the acquisition of knowledge and education, which encompasses the creative development of the individual and self-improvement.

Democratic intellectuals and progressive educators must guide the younger generation towards development and self-improvement, instilling love for their homeland, loyalty to their national culture, literature, language, traditions, and respect for these values, while also helping them demonstrate a correct attitude toward humanity and humaneness.

3. It has been substantiated that the national awakening movement of the Azerbaijani Turks is a very important link in Ö.F. Nemanzade's journalism.

National awakening is only possible through science and education. The role of the press increases as an effective means of freeing the people from social troubles, playing a key role in the formation of national consciousness. National awakening is the opportunity for the people's freedom, revival, and the assurance of their own happiness. Ömər Faiq Nemanzadə's articles and feuilletons were filled with a spirit of urging the people towards national awakening.

4. After the rare gems of our national press, "Akinchi" and "Shargi-Rus", the "Molla Nasraddin" journal became one of the leading examples of Azerbaijani socio-political thought in the early 20th century, confirming its role as a mirror of the life and spirituality of the people.

Due to its wide distribution area and a larger readership compared to other journals, it remains a symbol of moral vitality and a product of good thinking that still holds significance today. The journal's main issue was awakening the people and preparing them to



live in accordance with the times. In achieving this goal, the primary tool was the implementation of new pedagogical ideas and modern education.

5. The journal emerged thanks to the efforts and determination of the great intellectuals—Ö.F.Nemanzadeh, Celil Mammadquluzada, and other progressive democratic intellectuals, who struggled against difficulties and worked tirelessly. It significantly influenced the formation and application of new pedagogical ideas.

During this period, the significant rise of new pedagogical ideas in Azerbaijan and the restructuring of education on a new basis was the responsibility of enlightened thinkers and theoretical-practical educators. One of the leading figures in this social demand was Ö.F. Nemanzadə, who could be considered the embodiment of the unity of the Turkish people.

6. There was hardly any significant issue in the educational and pedagogical thought of his time that O.F. Nemanzadeh did not address by expressing his views and approaches. The great intellectual paid special attention to engaging students in the study of the Azerbaijani language, fostering a conscious approach to learning materials, and rejecting rote memorization and scholasticism. He was also deeply concerned with the establishment of schools in the native language, where secular knowledge was taught using new methods and techniques. Interestingly, Omar Faig Nemanzadeh sought to study the Azerbaijani language based on the achievements of contemporary linguistic science and, to a certain extent, succeeded in doing so

7. It is substantiated that O.F. Nemanzadeh's ideas on the establishment of secular schools and the modernization of educational content form the foundation of his pedagogical views in his journalistic writings. He saw the renewal of schools, the dissemination of the press among the population, and the incorporation of modern scientific knowledge into the national school and education system as the only means to save the people from backwardness and ignorance. The national school, while

reflecting the country's national character, social, and economic structure, also had to align with the essence and content features of global education systems. The national education system needed to focus on updating the school curriculum, preparing new textbooks and teachers with modern perspectives, fostering good customs and moral education, and promoting the development of primary, secondary, and vocational education. Ultimately, this would lay the groundwork for the expansion of the entire school network.

8. The prominent educator and pedagogue persistently emphasized that teachers are obligated to fulfill the honorable duty of educating and nurturing the younger generation. Teachers should see the expansion of the school network, the implementation of modern education based on universal values, the training of educated youth in their native language, and the preservation and development of the purity of their mother tongue as the primary goals of their pedagogical work.

9. It has been determined that in O.F. Nemanzadeh's works and progressive-democratic worldview, he paid great attention to the issue of women and their role in society and family. The renowned educator upheld the slogan "The progress of every nation should be measured by its women." He considered the education and intellectual advancement of women, just like men, to be essential. He advocated for the establishment of specialized schools for women and emphasized the importance of instilling qualities such as modesty, virtue, and moral purity in them. Additionally, he highlighted the necessity of cultivating a high level of cultural refinement among women.

10. At the beginning of the 20th century, O.F. Nemanzadeh's views on the education and pedagogical theories of his time served as a model for the organization of schools in Azerbaijan. His pedagogical work played a crucial role in the development of the Azerbaijani people's national self-awareness. Based on the above findings, the following proposals are put forward:

- The preparation of textbooks and teaching materials for the study of O.F. Nemanzadeh's pedagogical heritage;

- The inclusion of O.F. Nemanzadeh's pedagogical activities in the curricula of higher education institutions;
- The immortalization of O.F. Nemanzadeh's name in educational institutions in the regions where he carried out his pedagogical work;
- The erection of a memorial monument to O.F. Nemanzadeh in the regions where he was active in the field of education;
- The addition of comprehensive information about O.F. Nemanzadeh's life and work to the Literature textbooks of general education schools.

**The main content of the dissertation is reflected in the following published works of the author:**

1. Guliyeva, K.R. Omer Faig Nemanzadeh's Views on National Schools // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan State University, Scientific Works, Humanities Series, – 2021, №1(110), – pp. 147-150.
2. Guliyeva, K.R. The Public and Pedagogical Activities of the Enlightened Intellectual Omer Faig Nemanzadeh in the *Molla Nasreddin* Journal // 3rd International Scientific Research Symposium – Ankara, Türkiye: – October 29, – 2021, – pp. 329-333.
3. Guliyeva, K.R. The Role of the Prominent Educator O.F. Nemanzadeh in the Development of the National Awakening Idea of the People // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan Teachers' Institute, Scientific Works Series, – 2022. №1, – pp. 67-70.
4. Guliyeva, K.R., Ismayilova, E.G. O.F.Nemanzadeh on the Critique of Superstition // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan State University, Scientific Works: Humanities Series, – 2022. Vol. 114, №1, – pp. 93-96.
5. Guliyeva, K.R. O.F.Nemanzadeh's Views on the Renewal of Educational Content // *Karabakh III. International Congress of Modern Studies in Social Sciences and Humanities. Year of Shusha-2022*, – Baku: IKSAD Global, – June 7-8, – 2022, – pp. 57-60.
6. Guliyeva, K.R. Omar Faik Nemanzadeh: Education Problem and Professional Competency of a Teacher // *Croatia:*

*Journal of Corporate Governance, Insurance, and Risk Management*, – 2022, Vol. 9, – pp. 374-380.

7. Guliyeva, K.R. O.F.Nemanzadeh and the Views of 19th-20th Century Educators on Women's Education // Nakhchivan: Nakhchivan University, Scientific Works Series, – 2023, №2, – pp. 226-229.

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10. Guliyeva, K.R. The Role of Prominent Pedagogue Omer Faig Nemanzadeh in the Development of Science and Education in Azerbaijan in the 19th-20th Century // *“Restoration of State Independence in Azerbaijan and the Country's Political, Socio-Economic, and Cultural Development”* International Scientific Conference, Sumgait State University: – April 13-14, – 2023, – pp. 426-427.

11. Guliyeva, K.R. Omer Faig Nemanzadeh as One of the Prominent Representatives of the Azerbaijani Enlightenment Movement // *“Unity of Education, Research, and Innovation”* Vth Republican Scientific Conference for Doctoral Students and Masters, Nakhchivan Teachers' Institute: – April 28, – 2023, – pp. 241-243.

12. Guliyeva, K.R. The Role of Omer Faig Nemanzadeh in the Development of School and Pedagogical Thought in Azerbaijan // *“Stages of Development in Education: Digitization and Future Perspectives”* I Republic Scientific Conference Dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of National Leader Heydar Aliyev, Nakhchivan State University: – May 4-5, – 2023, – pp. 105-108.

13. Guliyeva, K.R. Omer Faig Nemanzadeh's Scientific and Journalistic Activities During the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic Period // Khudafarin International Scientific Research Conference, Baku: – February 24, – 2024, – pp. 29-34.

14. Guliyeva, K.R. Azerbaijan's National Spirit Intellectual:  
Omer Faig Nemanzadeh // *Hagia Sophia 7th International  
Conference on Multidisciplinary Scientific Studies*, Istanbul, Turkey:  
– February 3-5, – 2024, – pp. 469-471.

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