

**REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

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**ABSTRACT**

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**HISTORY OF THE MINGACHEVIR CITY  
(1969-2010)**

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Applicant: **Vusala Alijan gizi Movlayeva**

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The dissertation work was carried out in the department “Soviet period history of Azerbaijan” of A.A. Bakikhanov Institute of History, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Scientific supervisor: Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor  
**Fezail Feyruz oglu Ibrahimli**

Official opponents: Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor  
**Mais İsrail oglu Amrakhov**

Doctor of Philosophy in History,  
Associate Professor  
**Arzu Kamal oglu Abdullayev**

Doctor of Philosophy in History  
**Gunay Panah gizi Huseyn**

Dissertation Council ED 1.30 of Supreme Attestation Commission under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan operating at the Institute of History and Ethnology named after A.A.Bakikhanov of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Chairman of the  
dissertation council: Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor  
**Karim Karam oglu Shukurov**

Scientific secretary of the  
dissertation council: Doctor of Historical Sciences,  
Associate Professor  
**Ilgar Vahid oglu Niftaliyev**

Chairman of the  
scientific seminar: Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor  
**Mehman Siraj oglu Suleymanov**

## **I. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISSERTATION**

**Relevance and degree of development of the topic.** One of the most important tasks facing modern Azerbaijani historiography is the creation of a complete, detailed and at the same time objective scientific picture of the modern history of our country. The history of Azerbaijan, both the late Soviet period and the period of independence, contains various problems and different plot lines, and is waiting for a comprehensive study, free from ideological partiality. Undoubtedly, among these problems, the study of the history of the cities and regions of our homeland, including the city of Mingachevir, which is considered the 4th industrial center of Azerbaijan and is of a strategic significance in the socio-economic structure of the country, occupies an important place.

Mingachevir is one of the relatively new cities of our country. From the 20s of the 20th century until the beginning of the Second World War, various searches and hydrological studies were conducted in the direction of building a power plant hydrotechnical facilities on the Kura River, solving the issue of energy supply of the country, irrigating arid lands, irrigation and land improvement works. The decision No. 1876 dated April 29, 1941 of the Council of People's Commissars of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan K(b)P "On the construction of the Mingachevir Hydrojunction" specified the construction of the Hydroelectric Power Station. The construction of this city, which started mainly after the Second World War, rose to the level of the fourth industrial center of the republic in a short period of time. The construction of the hydrojunction played an important role in solving many problems in the republic. The construction and commissioning of new industrial enterprises, dozens of residential and other social and administrative infrastructures in the city of Mingachevir led to the city becoming an industrial center with a very important place in the national economy of the republic. The emergence of the city of Mingachevir gave a strong impetus to the socio-economic development of the entire region.

The first half of the 1970s -1980s has a special importance in the socio-economic and cultural development of the city. In fact,

Mingachevir represents one of the most obvious manifestations of the new industrialization carried out in the republic under the leadership of the outstanding statesman Heydar Aliyev in the mentioned period. It was in the mentioned years that the face of Mingachevir changed a lot, its industrial and cultural potential increased significantly; The city, which has become not just an energy center, but a multi-profile industrial center, has definitely gained an important weight and importance in the economic potential of Azerbaijan. From this viewpoint, researching the development of Mingachevir city in the context of modernization in the social, economic and cultural spheres in 1970-80s and determining the characteristic aspects of this development are of great scientific importance.

The period of Azerbaijan's independence is extremely complex, complicated, sometimes tragic, but at the same time, rich in events that make up important pages of the history of our nation. As known, although Azerbaijan regained its independence in 1991, it plunged into a deep crisis as a result of the collapse of the previous Soviet political and socio-economic model, moreover, it could not get rid of the circle of continuous disasters for a long time due to the military aggression of Armenia, incompetent leadership and internal strife. Azerbaijan as a country and a state could gain its real liberation after Heydar Aliyev's coming to power in 1993. It was the personality of Heydar Aliyev who founded the state of Azerbaijan in the most grave conditions and deprivations, in a situation where both internal and external factors countered, in a situation where the existence of our country was under question, developed the basic principles of statehood, and determined its strategic development vectors. It is no coincidence that Heydar Aliyev is considered the architect of the Third Republic of Azerbaijan, and in a wider context of our modern statehood. Strengthening of state independence, creation and development of the necessary government institutions and mechanisms, removing the republic from the state of war, stabilizing the economy and transitioning to new economic relations, starting serious reforms covering all areas of socio-economic, cultural and spiritual life, entering the stage of development of our country and the main thing is the proper representation of Azerbaijan in the global political architecture - all these are the fundamental

achievements of Heydar Aliyev's leadership. Heydar Aliyev's strategic course, which envisages the progress of the people and the state of Azerbaijan, is being successfully continued by the successor of his political line, President Ilham Aliyev. As a result of the implementation of the mentioned strategy, today the Republic of Azerbaijan not only shows a successful example of system transit in the post-Soviet space, but also exhibits a model of sustainable progress in a situation where global conflicts and confrontations are widespread, entire states and even regions are collapsing and turning into centers of misery. Proceeding from this viewpoint, we can say that within the framework of a complete and comprehensive study of our history since 1991, the task of investigating the most diverse aspects of the social-political, socio-economic, and cultural life of our individual regions and cities, as well as their achievements, is of important scientific relevance. From this viewpoint, the research work on "The History of Mingachevir city (1969-2010 years)" is of great scientific importance. It can be said without exaggeration that Mingachevir is one of the strategic regions of our country, either because of its economic potential or because of the importance of its geographical location.

It is enough to mention the fact that Mingachevir provides more than 60% of the electricity produced in the country. Moreover, such fields as electrical engineering, chemistry and mechanical engineering have developed in the city. Investigating the economic, socio-political and cultural development of Mingachevir, which made important contributions to the industrial potential of our country, in the intended period of time, studying what stages the city went through and what difficulties it overcame in order to reach the current level, in general, the most newest history of Azerbaijan is actually more detailed and from a theoretical viewpoint. serves to create a more conceptual picture.

The choice of 1969-2010 as the chronological framework of the dissertation is not accidental. So, precisely since 1969, Azerbaijan, which was an allied republic within the USSR at that time, entered the stage of rapid development thanks to the implementation of Heydar Aliyev's strategic course. 2010 is the last year of the first decade of the 21st century, which allows us to conclude a certain stage of the newest

history of our country.

Regarding the level of studying of the subject, we should first of all to note that the problem of socio-political, socio-economic and cultural development of the city of Mingachevir, either in the 1970s-80s or during the period of independence, has not been developed as an independent research object until now. For the first time, for the investigation of this topic, which was chosen by us as a research object, a sufficiently wide base of sources and historical literature was used. Before passing directly to the history of the city of Mingachevir - the works on its construction and development, we would like to note that the history of cities that act as locomotives of political, socio-economic, and cultural progress in our modern world, are the actual visit card of every country, and define its industrial and cultural image. Studying its multiple aspects is one of the serious research tasks. From this viewpoint, the past and present of the country's cities have not escaped the attention of the science of history of Azerbaijan. Various problems of the formation and activity of Azerbaijani cities in various periods of our history have been the subject of studies of our historians to one degree or another. Among the works corresponding to our chronological framework, we can mention the researches of M.İsmayilov,<sup>1</sup> R.İmanov,<sup>2</sup> A.Nadirov,<sup>3</sup> H.Aliyev,<sup>4</sup> N.Məmmədov<sup>5</sup> and others<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> İsmayilov, M. Şəki. Tarixi очерк / M.İsmayilov. – Bakı: Azərbaycan Dövlət nəşriyyatı, – 1982. – 151 s.

<sup>2</sup> Иманов Р.Д. Из истории нового социалистического города Дашкесана (1945-1970 гг.): / автореферат дисс. кандидата исторических наук. / – Баку, 1973. – 30 с.

<sup>3</sup> Nadirov, A.A. Sovet Azərbaycanının şəhərləri və onlarda sənayenin inkişafı / A.A.Nadirov. – Bakı: Elm, – 1973. – 37 s.

<sup>4</sup> Aliyev H.A. Sumqayıt şəhərinin tarixi / H.A.Aliyev. – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2011. – 544 s.

<sup>5</sup> Məmmədov N.R. Azərbaycan SSR Dağlıq Qarabağ bölgəsinin şəhər və rayonlarının tarixi: XX əsrin 20-90-cı illəri / N.R.Məmmədov. Bakı: Təhsil, – 2010. – 197 s.; Məmmədov N.R. Azərbaycanın Xankəndi şəhərinin tarixi / N.R. Məmmədov. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2011. – 221 s.; Məmmədov N.R. Azərbaycan Respublikasının Şuşa şəhərinin tarixi / N.R.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Avropa, – 2016. – 959 s.

<sup>6</sup> Əfəndiyev V., Dəmirqayıyev Ş. Azərbaycan Respublikası şəhərlərinin inkişafının coğrafi məsələləri / V.Əfəndiyev, Ş.Dəmirqayıyev. – Bakı: Nicat, – 1995. – 176 s.; Tapdıqoğlu N. Azərbaycan ərazisinin şəhərləri. Respublika ərazisindəki qədim və müasir şəhərlər. Ensiklopedik bilgiler / N.Tapdıqoğlu. – Bakı: Zərdabi Nəşr, – 2019. – 519 s.

As for the history of Mingachevir, it should be noted that there is literature on the planning and construction of the city, the construction of the hydrojunction and industrial enterprises. However, this literature covers the 1940s-60s, and is less relevant to the direct chronological framework of our research. Among the first works that appeared in this series, we should especially mention the book “The Creators of Tomorrow” by the writer A. Sadig.<sup>7</sup> The book, written in the genre of an essay, was dedicated to the Komsomol members and young people who actively participated in the construction of Mingachevir.

The works of A. A. Efendizadeh<sup>8</sup> and H. Sadigov<sup>9</sup> are directly dedicated to the construction of Mingachevir city. Although it is not written in an academic style, the works in question provide detailed information about the discussions on the construction of the city, related projects in the 1930s - 40s, and the progress of the construction, referring to archival materials. Mingachevir’s well-known intellectual, writer-publicist A.M.Fətəliyev’s work contains interesting information about the enterprises built in the city in the 1950s.<sup>10</sup> Similarly, A.S.Məmmədov’s book published in 1970 contains information about the socio-economic life of the city in the 1960s.<sup>11</sup>

The book<sup>12</sup> by Journalist F. Abdullayev, who was the editor-in-chief of the newspaper “Mingachevir Ishiqlarari (Lights of Mingachevir)” for many years, also speaks about the history of the city, its past and modern life.

The well-known socio-political and statesman K.Hüseynov was one of the leaders of the construction works carried out in Mingachevir in 1949-1952. This fact is widely described and

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<sup>7</sup> Ə. Sadıq. Sabahı yaradanlar / Sadıq Ə. Bakı: Uşaqgəncnəşr, – 1949. – 143 s.

<sup>8</sup> Əfəndizadə A. Mingəçevir su qovşağı və onun xalq təsərrüfatında əhəmiyyəti / A.Əfəndizadə. – Bakı: Qızıl Şərq, – 1956. – 46 s.

<sup>9</sup> Sadıqov H. Mingəçevir, Nevinnomisk, Voljski / H.Sadıqov. – Bakı: Gənclik, – 1975. – 59 s.

<sup>10</sup> Fətəliyev Ə.M. Mingəçevir / Ə.M.Fətəliyev. – Bakı: Uşaqgəncnəşr, – 1960. – 52 s.

<sup>11</sup> Məmmədov Ə.S. Mingəçevir / Ə.S.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Azərnəşr, – 1970. – 71 s.

<sup>12</sup> Abdullayev F. Nur şəhəri: [səyahət cizgiləri] / F.Abdullayev. – Bakı: İşıq, – 1995. – 200 s.

interpreted in his autobiographical work.<sup>13</sup>

P.Gurbanzadeh's book,<sup>14</sup> which was published in 1995, stands out from the similar books of the previous authors for its wider panoramic approach to events and its scientific direction. The author, who is a tireless researcher of Mingachevir, wrote about work and life of the people who had unparalleled services in the construction of the city - the famous construction and mechanization engineer Jumshud Rashid oglu Bakhtiyarov and the world-famous engineer, Islam Mammad oglu Islamzadeh,<sup>15</sup> who led the construction of the Mingachevir Hydroelectric Station and the city in general, and laid the foundation of the modern Mingachevir city.

N.Bayramoglu's more journalistic-style work<sup>16</sup> deals with Mingachevir and its people of Mingachevir. The author expressed his opinion on the activities of those who in different years held high positions in the city, and evaluated these and other aspects of their services.

B.Yeganov's dissertation<sup>17</sup> presents an academic study of the history of the city of Mingachevir from 1945 to 1965. Unlike most of the books we mentioned above, this work is not publicistic or artistic-memoir, but purely scientific research. Referring to a wide source base, the dissertation clarifies a number of aspects of the city's formation.

M.Dashdamirov's book dedicated to the 35th anniversary of the Mingachevir Textile Plant (Industrial complex)<sup>18</sup> was important

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<sup>13</sup> Hüseynov K. Bir ömrün salnaməsi: [Avtobiografik memuar] / K.Hüseynov. – Bakı: Günəş, – 1998. – 312 s.

<sup>14</sup> Qurbanzadə (Qurbanov) P. Mingəçevir: hidroqovşaq və şəhər necə yarandı / P.Qurbanzadə. – Bakı: Səda, – 1995. – 220 s.

<sup>15</sup> Qurbanzadə P. İslam İslamzadə: sənədli povest / P.Qurbanzadə. – Bakı: Borçalı, – 2007. – 192 s.

<sup>16</sup> Bayramoğlu N. Mingəçevirdə qalan ömür / N.Bayramoğlu. – Bakı: Çinar-Çap, – 2006. – 223 s.

<sup>17</sup> Еганов Б.З. История возникновения и развития нового социалистического города в Азербайджане - Мингечаура (1945-1965 гг.): Дис. на соискание ученой степени кандидата исторических наук. / – Баку, 1971. – 237 с.

<sup>18</sup> Daşdəmirov M. 35 il və ilmələnən ömürlər / M.Daşdəmirov. – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1995. – 40 s.



for our research topic. Since the author himself has been the editor of the newspaper published by the plant for a long time, he is well aware of various details of its life. The work contains valuable information about the reconstruction of the Textile Plant in the 1970s, as well as Heydar Aliyev's visit to the plant in 1981.

The construction of chemical enterprises in Mingachevir in the 1970s is also mentioned in F.Sadigov's work dedicated to the services of National leader Heydar Aliyev in the development of the chemical industry of Azerbaijan.<sup>19</sup>

It also appears from the cited literature that although the planning and foundation of Mingachevir, the construction works that intensified in the second half of the 1940s, the socio-economic life of the city in the 1940s -1960s have been sufficiently studied, the 1970 - the second half of the 80s, which can be considered the peak of the history of the Soviet era of Azerbaijan, - was practically left out of research. It is true that some books deal with the development of this or that field of urban industry or industrial enterprise in the mentioned period, but they do not aim at serious scientific research; and secondly, while highlighting individual issues, the authors do not strive to create a whole picture of socio-economic and cultural progress in Mingachevir.

We can say similar considerations about the crisis in the late 1980s - early 1990s, the national liberation movement that was expanding in the conditions of the collapse of the USSR, as well as the study of the situation that arose after the restoration of Azerbaijan's independence. It is possible to get certain information about the social situation of the city at that time only in the book of M.Zulfugarli.<sup>20</sup> This book, which describes the mostly the history of the National Independence Party, to which the author belong, provides information about the national movement in the city in the late 1980s - early 1990s, as well as the political parties that emerged in the later period.

There are also gaps in the investigation of the history of the

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<sup>19</sup> Sadıqov F. Heydər Əliyev və Azərbaycanın kimya sənayesi / F.Sadıqov. – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 2003. – 144 s.

<sup>20</sup> Zülfüqarlı M. Azadlıq və demokratiya mübarizləri: 1988-2003 / M.Zülfüqarlı. – Bakı: Qanun, – 2004. – 112 s.

independence period of the city of Mingachevir. We see that only certain aspects related to our research topic are worked out in one or other works.

To the point, we would like to mention that a number of works investigating the processes taking place in our regions in connection with the implementation of state programs for the socio-economic development of the regions have been published.<sup>21</sup> In these works, which study the different aspects of the development of our regions in general, the information not of a specific region, but about the Aran economic region, including Mingachevir, is partially included. As a rule, the mentioned monographs are limited to the economic problems of development.

For the first time in the monograph of A.Kh. Nuriyev,<sup>22</sup> the theoretical and methodological issues of sustainable and balanced regional development were comprehensively analyzed and summarized by applying them to the conditions of Azerbaijan. Some theoretical propositions put forward in the work shed light on the local features of the socio-economic development programs of the regions implemented since 2004.

The book “Socio-economic development program of the city of Mingachevir: (2005-2010 and 2015 years)”<sup>23</sup> published in 2005,

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<sup>21</sup> Hüseynova X.M. Azərbaycanca regional inkişafın idarə olunması problemləri: / iqtisad elmləri üzrə elmlər doktoru dis. / – Bakı, – 2010. – 376 s.; Rzayev İ. M. Azərbaycan Respublikasında regionların davamlı sosial-iqtisadi inkişafı: mövcud vəziyyət və gələcək perspektivlər / İ.M.Rzayev. – Bakı: Elm, – 2010. – 468 s.; Abutalıbov R.R. İstehsalın ərazi təmərküzləşməsi və regionların sosial-iqtisadi inkişafı: iqtisad elmləri üzrə fəlsəfə doktoru dis. / – Bakı, – 2010. – 160 s.; Azərbaycan regionlarında tarazlı və rəqəbatqabiliyyətli iqtisadiyyatın inkişaf istiqamətləri / Elmi red. A.A.Nadirov – Bakı: Elm, – 2013, – 302 s.; Aliyev İ., Əsədov A. Azərbaycan Respublikasının regionlarının sosial-iqtisadi inkişafı (2004-2008-ci illər) üzrə Dövlət Proqramı’nın nəticələrinin ölkə iqtisadiyyatının inkişafına təsiri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyasının Xəbərləri, İqtisadiyyat elmləri seriyası, – 2009. № 3, s. 3-7.

<sup>22</sup> Nuriyev Ə. X. Davamlı və tarazlı regional inkişaf / Ə.X.Nuriyev. – Bakı: Avropa, – 2017. – 242 s.

<sup>23</sup> Mingəçevir şəhərinin sosial-iqtisadi inkişafı proqramı: (2005-2010-cu və 2015-ci illər) / Elmi məsləhətçi: T.N. Əliyev; Red.: L.B. Babayev – Bakı: Çinar-Çap, – 2005. – 158 s.

was written based on provisions of the “Socio-economic development program of the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan” adopted in February 2004. The book contains information about the historical and economic-geographical characteristics of Mingachevir city, socio-economic situation, social passport, industrial potential and its development prospects, substantial construction in the city, and other fields, and predictions were made about the current trends.

In the photo album called “Mingachevir, 2003-2013: goals, development, results”, the illustrative material about the city’s economic development, infrastructure, entrepreneurial environment, employment and health care, culture, investment here is confirmed by relevant statistics.<sup>24</sup>

In order to determine the conceptual direction of the researched problem during the writing of the dissertation, was used the VII volume of the seven-volume “History of Azerbaijan”. The economic life of Azerbaijan is given in the afore-mentioned volume, which is consistent with the chronological framework of our study.

During the research of the dissertation subject, the Public-Political Documents Archive of the Office of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the problem (8039), the State Archive of the Republic of Azerbaijan (411), the Mingachevir branch of the State Archive of the Republic of Azerbaijan (95, 72, 218, etc.), periodical press, statistical magazines and other source collections were widely used. The comparative analysis of the data extracted from the sources we used allowed us to investigate various aspects and problems of the socio-economic and cultural life of the city of Mingachevir, both during the Soviet and the years of independence.

Thus, a brief overview of the existing literature on the problem suggests that the topic chosen for the dissertation has never been a special research subject. Whether in the 1970s-80s or in the period of independence, certain aspects and episodes of cultural development of Mingachevir were covered in a number of works, but they did not comprehensively investigate the problem in connection with the

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<sup>24</sup> Mingachevir, 2003-2013: hədəflər, inkişaf, nəticələr: [fotoalbom] / Bakı: [n. y.], – 2013. – 95 s.

objectives of the research they set before them. Social and cultural fields were either completely ignored or only fragmentarily worked out. In this regard, the presented dissertation aims to eliminate these gaps.

**The object and subject of the research.** The multifaceted development history of the city of Mingachevir in 1969-2010 is the object of this research topic. The subject of the research is the study of the socio-economic, socio-political and cultural dynamics of the city of Mingachevir in both the Soviet and independence years, the examination of its quality indicators, and the comparative analysis of the mentioned areas at different stages within the mentioned chronological framework.

**Goals and objectives of the research.** The main purpose of the research is to investigate the socio-political, socio-economic and cultural development of the city of Mingachevir in 1969-2010 with reference to the available sources and historical literature. In order to achieve this goal, the following specific tasks were set in the research work and an attempt was made to solve them:

- Providing a general picture of the socio-economic and cultural development of the city of Mingachevir in 1950-1960;
- Characterization of the positive changes initiated in all spheres of the republic's life after Heydar Aliyev's coming to the leadership of the Azerbaijan SSR in 1969;
- Analyzing the social, economic and cultural progress of Mingachevir in the 1970s - 1980s, commenting on the essence of the qualitative changes that occurred;
- Showing the impact of the total crisis of the early 1990s on the economic and cultural life of the city of Mingachevir;
- Investigating the progress made after Heydar Aliyev came to power;
- Analyzing the positive results of the State Programs for the socio-economic development of the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which have been implemented in the economy of Mingachevir on the direct initiative of President Ilham Aliyev since 2004;
- Characterizing the cultural development of Mingachevir

during the years of independence.

**Research methods.** The historical comparative and historical analysis chosen during the research of the dissertation, the system method was taken as the basis for achieving the set goal. At this time, the principle of historicity, which examines the occurrence and development of historical events in concrete-historical conditions, was referred to, and was attempted to make objective analysis of the obtained facts, generalizations, and opinions.

**Main provisions of the defence.**

- In the 1969- first half of 1980, under the leadership of prominent statesman Heydar Aliyev, Azerbaijan experienced the third stage of industrialization, accompanied by a comprehensive modernization process. This led to radical changes in Mingachevir as well, as in other cities and regions of the republic;

- The industrial features of the mentioned period in Mingachevir were the significant diversification of the city's economy, the creation of new enterprises and production areas as a whole;

- In the 1970s -1980s, Mingachevir was one of the most impetuously developing cities in the field of culture in Azerbaijan, its cultural image was rapidly enriched, and it acquired characteristics of modern cities;

- In the 1990s, due to the general crisis, Mingachevir experienced a deep economic recession, and the social situation of the population worsened. Only the return of Heydar Aliyev to the leadership of the country created conditions for the stabilization of the general situation in Mingachevir as well as in the country as a whole;

- In the early 1990s-2000s, the restructuring of the Mingachevir economy, the change of the ownership subject, and the gradual settlement of new production relations were the main system features of the transitional period;

- In connection with the implementation of the I and II "Regional Socio-Economic Development State Programs" dated February 11, 2004 and April 14, 2009, as a result of the reconstruction and modernization of industrial enterprises, as well as

the creation of new enterprises economic growth is observed in Mingachevir;

- Starting from 2004, Mingachevir is experiencing a kind of new socio-political development of its own. The city has not only managed to overcome the severe consequences of the devastating crisis of the 1990s, but is also being reconstructed in a manner worthy of independent Azerbaijan statehood, in accordance with modern city planning standards;

- The socio-cultural areas of Mingachevir city have entered a period of dynamic growth in recent years, not only in terms of quantity, but also more important qualitative changes.

### **Scientific novelty of the research.**

The dissertation is the first research work that studies the issues of socio-economic and cultural development of the city of Mingachevir in a specified chronological framework. The analysis of archival documents obtained during the research, literature, press and various source materials on the problem gives grounds to consider the following as the scientific innovation of the dissertation.

- on the basis of the collection, systematization and analysis of facts from various sources, for the first time in our historiography, the path of progress of the city of Mingachevir in the 1970s - 80s was deeply investigated, the processes taking place in the socio-economic and cultural fields, the modernization carried out by Heydar Aliyev in those years on a general republican scale and its composition considered in the context of industrialization, which is part of;

- in the dissertation, with reference to primary sources, the quantitative and qualitative changes that occurred in the Mingachevir industry in the 1970s - 80s were characterized, and the consequences of these changes in the economic structure of the city were analyzed;

- during the period in question, a fairly broad picture of the rise in the education and health care system of Mingachevir was created;

- in the dissertation, as in other regions of Azerbaijan, in the first half of the 1990s, the local characteristics of the crisis covering all areas of life in Mingachevir were shown on the basis of archival documents and periodical press materials;

- After Heydar Aliyev's return to power, the successes achieved in the socio-economic and cultural life of Mingachevir city in the direction of overcoming the crisis were analyzed;

- the quality changes of the Mingachevir industry in the mentioned period were studied in the context of the transition from a socio-economic model based on administrative-directive methods and more connected to the All-Union production chain to another model that assumes the leading role of the state and operates on the basis of regulated market mechanisms;

- within the framework of the socio-economic development program of the regions, the quality parameters of the development observed in Mingachevir economy in 2004-2010 were characterized, the process of technical reconstruction of urban industrial enterprises was illuminated;

- in the years mentioned in the dissertation, the state of demography, education, health and cultural work in Mingachevir was analyzed based on statistical information, and the obtained conclusions were reflected in the relevant tables.

### **The theoretical and practical significance of the research.**

The theoretical importance of the research consists primarily in examining the local characteristics and essences of the strategy implemented by Heydar Aliyev for the comprehensive progress of our republic, either within the Soviet system or in the years of independence, in the example of a fairly large industrial center like Mingachevir. This allows us to reveal and classify certain regularities of the history of industrialization in Azerbaijan.

As for the practical importance of the research, the extensive factual materials, generalizations and scientific results obtained here can be used in the preparation of general works on the history of Mingachevir, textbooks on the history of Azerbaijan, as well as in defining the concept of socio-economic and cultural development of our republic.

At the same time, the scientific results obtained during the research can be used for the purposes of lectures and special courses in the history faculties of the higher schools of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

**Approbation and application.** The provisions covering the main content of the dissertation were reflected by the author in the materials of scientific conferences in Ukraine, the Russian Federation, as well as international and republican level.

**The name of the institution where the dissertation work was performed.** The dissertation work was carried out in the department “History of the Soviet period of Azerbaijan” of A.A. Bakikhanov Institute of History of the ANAS.

**The total volume of the dissertation with a sign indicating the volume of the structural sections of the dissertation separately.** The total volume of the dissertation, including the introduction, 3 chapters, 8 sub-chapters, and the conclusion, consists of 259346 characters (except the bibliography). Introduction: number of characters – 21657; Chapter I -86073, Chapter II-34872, Chapter III-101591, Conclusion number of characters -13939.

## **II. THE MAIN CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION**

In the introduction, the relevance of the topic, the goals and objectives of the dissertation, the research object, the level of studying of the problem, research methods, approbation, practical significance and structure of the research are explained.

Chapter I of the dissertation is “**Socio-economic development and socio-political life of Mingachevir city (1969-1991)**” and consists of three sub-chapters.

In the first sub-chapter “**Emergence of new industries and socio-cultural development in Mingachevir in the 1950s-60s**”, are noted the factors that make the construction of Mingachevir HPP important. The five years after the war entered the history of Azerbaijan SSR as the second period of industrialization. The energy sector in Azerbaijan before the war was based on Thermal Power Stations, the number of which was not sufficient. The growing industry of the republic naturally required a strong energy base. On July 6, 1945, the Soviet of People’s Commissars of the USSR adopted a decision on “Restarting the irrigation construction of the



Mingachevir hydrojunction and the Kur-Araz plain”.<sup>25</sup> The construction of the Mingachevir hydrojunction and hydroelectric station was planned to be completed in 1952. The first sub-chapter also provides information about a number of large industrial enterprises and social infrastructures built one after the other in Mingachevir. Also, it was brought to attention that in the mentioned years, the “Azercable” plant, which was the first in the country to produce cables, the cotton-cloth factory, one of the largest enterprises of the city, the large-panel house-building plant, “Azerelecroisolation”, sand-gravel, and glass-raw cotton plants were built and put into use. Information about the social, economic, cultural and educational life of the city is also reflected in the mentioned sub-chapter.

In the second sub-chapter **“The 1970-1980s as a qualitatively new stage of the development of Mingachevir industry”**, the coming of Heydar Aliyev to power in the Azerbaijan SSR, the modernization works started in the republic, the Mingachevir industry, activities of enterprises and factories here were extensively studied. In the second sub-chapter, information is provided about the implementation measures of the Azerbaijan State District Power Station construction project, which was among the largest constructions in the USSR in terms of its volume and the scale of the works carried out. Although the Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan SSR adopted a decision on the construction of SDPS on February 3, 1958, this project remained on paper for more than 10 years.<sup>26</sup> This huge construction was carried out under the direct personal control and care of Heydar Aliyev, who repeatedly emphasized in various meetings the extremely important role of SDPS for our economy. On the eve of the launch of Azerbaijan SDPS, Heydar Aliyev visited Mingachevir on October 20, 1981, and praised the construction and completion of the first block of the station ahead of time as great

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<sup>25</sup> Qurbanzadə, (Qurbanov) P. Mingəçevir: hidroqovşaq və şəhər necə yarandı / P. Qurbanzadə. – Bakı: Səda, – 1995. – 218 s.

<sup>26</sup> Mövlayeva V. Azərbaycan Dövlət Rayon Elektrik Stansiyasının tarixi haqqında // Gənc tədqiqatçıların IV Beynəlxalq elmi konfransının materialları, – Bakı: – 29– 30 aprel, – 2016, – s.1679-1681.

courage, sacrifice and patriotism.<sup>27</sup> The construction of SDPS became a great practice school for the local energy, engineering and construction staff in this field in the republic. At the same time, he played an important role in creating a reserve fund of national specialists in this field. The construction of SDPS laid the foundation for the construction of a new residential settlement in Mingachevir. Wide industry networks, construction, healthcare, education, culture, communication, trade and public catering have been launched in this settlement called “Energetikler (power engineering specialists)”.

In the mentioned sub-chapter, information is given about housing construction in Mingachevir, and positive indicators in this field are noted in the city. More than 35.000-40.000 sq/m of housing were built and put into use in Mingachevir every year.<sup>28</sup> Heydar Aliyev, who visited Mingachevir in connection with the opening of SDPS, noted at the meeting of party activists of Mingachevir that the state of construction in the city is better than in other regions and cities.

Thus, a significant diversification in the city economy, the emergence of new enterprises and production areas as a whole characterize the 1970s - 80s.

The third sub-chapter **“Social and political life of Mingachevir city”** studies the social and political life of the city. One of the main directions of the Soviet ideological work was the unification of various ethnic groups and nationalities with different socio-cultural features, mental-psychological orientations, which are radically different from each other due to their historical path and current level of development, and which received the name “Soviet people”. International marriages also served to bring these nations closer together, and thus to the realization of the “Soviet nation”. Naturally, the promotion of internationalism was sometimes accompanied by tendencies such as ignoring the uniqueness of the

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<sup>27</sup> Morozkov V. Yeni əmək nailiyyətlərinə doğru // Kommunist. – 1981, 23 oktyabr. – s. 2.

<sup>28</sup> Mövlayeva V. 1970-1980-ci illərdə Mingəçevir şəhərinin sosial-iqtisadi və mədəni inkişaf tarixindən // – Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitet Xəbərləri, 2014. № 1, – s. 109 -115.

people, which has been preserved for centuries, and instilling foreign elements into the national consciousness under the name of the new “socialist” tradition.

In chapter II of the dissertation **“Social and cultural life of Mingachevir city”** and consisting of two sub-chapters, the activities in education, school construction, sports life, theater and cultural institutions in Mingachevir were studied.

In the first sub-chapter **“School construction: quantitative and qualitative indicators”**, the activity of educational institutions in the city, construction of new educational buildings, provision of educational institutions with teaching staff, the activities of the Polytechnic Technical School, Medical School, technical vocational schools, music and accounting schools are highlighted.

In the second sub-chapter **“Activity of social and cultural institutions. “City improvement”**, the activities of the Mingachevir State Drama Theater, History Museum, libraries and cultural centers were investigated. This area has also been taken care of in the city. Thus, under the direction of the Ministry of Culture, the buildings of the Mingachevir State Drama Theater and History Museum were thoroughly renovated in 1974. It is also mentioned in the sub-chapter that a number of measures aimed at improving the hospital service were taken in the city, inpatient hospitals were equipped with soft and hard inventory, a repair shop was established to serve the city’s healthcare network, and a laboratory was organized in the city for biochemical and endocrine analyses. In Mingachevir, which is an industrial city, the City Health Department had taken continuous measures to prevent the illness of workers working in various factories and enterprises operating here.

Chapter III - **“Mingachevir city during the years of independence (1991-2010)”** consists of three sub-chapters. In the first sub-chapter **“Socio-political processes in the city of Mingachevir: from political upheavals to stability and sustainable development”**, the changes taken place in the social and political life of Mingachevir and how this process affected the city were studied, just like everywhere else in the republic after the collapse of the USSR. During its short history, Mingachevir did not

experience so many upheavals and crises as it did in the first half of the 1990s. 1992-1993 was a period of complete decline in city life, as in the whole republic. The rapid erosion of the power mechanisms, the fact that local bodies resembled institutions serving individual and group interests more than precise and planned working institutions, were the characteristics of the socio-political life of Mingachevir, as in other regions of the country.

As known, after our republic regained its independence, some foreign countries did not stop pressuring our country. They created conflict and chaos in the country in various ways by connecting with the destructive forces inside. Surat Huseynov's insurgent movement created fear, panic and confusion among the population in the regions around Ganja, including Mingachevir.

As in all parts of the republic, the people of Mingachevir supported the political platform of National leader Heydar Aliyev, closely united around the head of state, and contributed to the establishment of socio-political stability not only in their hometown, but in the country as a whole.

In the sub-chapter, the information about the restructuring of the economy of Mingachevir, the change of the subject of ownership, and the gradual settlement of new production relations in the early 1990s - 2000s have been highlighted.

In the second sub-chapter **“Socio-economic situation of the city during the years of independence: from crisis to progress”**, have shown the analysis of the positive results of the State Programs for the socio-economic development of the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which have been implemented since 2004 by the direct initiative of President Ilham Aliyev in the economy of Mingachevir, the indicators of development observed in the economy of Mingachevir in 2004-2010 within the socio-economic development program of the regions. The measures taken in connection with the socio-economic development of the regions have created an opportunity for positive changes in Mingachevir year after year. This is proved by the facts of both economic and social indicators of the city.

The impact of changes in the socio-economic state of

Mingachevir city on the demographic situation is reflected in the tables given in the sub-chapter. Another important demographic feature of the period we are talking about was the relatively high growth rate of the absolute and relative number of the Azerbaijani population. The results of the 2009 year's census indicated a significant homogenization in the city's ethnic composition: out of 96.304 of the city's population only 604 or 0.63% were representatives of other nationalities.

In the third sub-chapter **“Dynamics of socio-cultural development in the city of Mingachevir in 1990-2010”**, the difficulties that arose in the republic after the restoration of independence, the ongoing processes, the conflict and the effect of all this on the field of education, the settlement of refugees and IDP's (internally displaced persons) in all general education schools, completely disrupting the education system of the city, only at the turn of the century, information was given about the return to normal regime of educational institutions in the city. Despite the mentioned difficulties, educational indicators of Mingachevir have always stood out in a positive sense. In 2010, 798 applicants submitted documents for admission to higher schools. 289 of them were admitted to higher schools. A.Kazimov, a graduate of city school No. 8, was one of the 7 people who scored the highest 700 points in the country and was awarded the “Presidential Scholarship”.

In the dissertation, based on archival documents, press materials, statistical data and other important sources, the main plot lines of the socio-political, socio-economic and cultural development of the city of Mingachevir in 1969-2010 were investigated, the path taken during this period was assessed, and current development trends were analyzed. As a result of the dissertation, the research was concluded, generalizations were made and the following total **scientific results** were obtained:

- The analysis of the socio-economic and cultural processes of the city of Mingachevir in the 1950s and 1960s gave reason to say that Mingachevir experienced the next qualitative stage of its development in those years. If in the late 1940s - early 1950s, Mingachevir emerged as a more hydrotechnically oriented city and

was built with corresponding industrial enterprises and infrastructure, it already turned into a city with a complex profile in the second half of the 1950s - 1960s.

- Heydar Aliyev's coming to the leadership of the republic that gave a great impetus to the comprehensive modernization process in Azerbaijan. Like other regions of the republic, Mingachevir has entered a new stage of development, where socio-economically and culturally, quantitative growth changes to qualitative ones. In the 1970s - 80s, the city was already known for its industrial products at the Union level. In 1980, 17.5% of the city's industrial products were produced with the State grade mark. In terms of quality product production, Mingachevir exceeded the indicators of the average union level.

- In October 1981, the commissioning of the first unit of the State District Power Station, built with the initiative and leadership of Heydar Aliyev, was an important event in the formation of independent energy system of Azerbaijan. As a result, in the mid-1980s, 41.5% of the electricity produced in the South Caucasus fell to Azerbaijan's share.

- In the 1970s - 1980s, 8 secondary schools with 8.130 seats and 8 preschools with 2.240 seats were built in Mingachevir. In the 1970s - 1980s, the development of education in Mingachevir was manifested not only in the increase in the number of schools, but also in the improvement of their material and technical base, and in the improvement of the teaching process.

- In the mentioned years, Mingachevir became one of the developed cultural centers of Azerbaijan; the cultural image of the city was significantly enriched.

- The social life of the city during the USSR was also studied in the dissertation. It was noted that the Communist Party, the pillar of the Soviet political system, acted as a multifunctional mechanism, the leading institution of power that included the main administrative powers, and the institution that inculcated the ideological principles and directions of the state into the society, and formed its public consciousness, the socialization of citizens, and was the main form of participation in socio-political life. In this regard, of course,

Mingachevir was not an exception.

- In the dissertation, the severe consequences of the systemic crisis in the first half of the 1990s for Mingachevir were also considered, and was noted the titanic work done by Heydar Aliyev in the direction firstly for saving Azerbaijan, and then putting it on the path of sustainable development. The investigation of political processes has given reason to come to the conclusion that the Mingachevir community, both in October 1994 and during the events of March 1995, firmly and unequivocally stood up for Azerbaijani statehood and resolutely repelled the forces that pushed the country to anarchy.

- In the 1990s, naturally, both the general socio-economic crisis and the arrival of about 20.000 IDPs to the city due to the war significantly worsened the social situation of Mingachevir. In the dissertation, the impact of the crisis on the economy of Mingachevir in the mentioned years was also investigated. The analysis of the materials of the fund of Mingachevir city Executive Power allows us to conclude that at that time the city government was tasked with restoring the Soviet-era production indicators of industrial enterprises. This type of task was typical for the mid- and second half of the 1990s as a whole. However, the new economic realities made it impossible for industrial enterprises based on the chain of industrial relations in the territory of the USSR and counting on the single market of the Union to operate in the previous volume and scale. After some time, the process of transition from the previously planned economic model to a new one based on market relations made this task significantly less relevant. The independent Republic of Azerbaijan was integrated into the new system of global economic relations operating on the basis of different principles and rules, which required the restructuring of the industry, the radical change of the profile of many enterprises in accordance with the new realities, and adaptation to the competitive and organized economic requirements. In general, in the early 1990s - early 2000s, the economy of Mingachevir was restructured according to the general laws of the transition period.

- Starting from 2004, Mingachevir is experiencing a new

period of its development, Mingachevir has not only managed to overcome the severe consequences of the devastating crisis of the 1990s, but is also being reconstructed in a manner worthy of independent Azerbaijan statehood, in accordance with modern city planning standards. These construction and improvement works were made possible thanks to the priority given to the development of regions, including Mingachevir, by President Ilham Aliyev, a follower of the National leader Heydar Aliyev's course. President Ilham Aliyev's visits to Mingachevir in 2004, 2009 and 2010 were extensively illuminated in the thesis.

- The dissertation emphasizes the conclusion that the rise of Mingachevir industry was made possible thanks to the implementation of the I and II "Regional Socio-Economic Development State Programs" dated February 11, 2004 and April 14, 2009. In modern age, the essence of the processes taking place in Mingachevir industry has been the adaptation of existing enterprises to new economic realities by restructuring and changing the subject of ownership, as well as the commissioning of completely new enterprises in accordance with the modern tasks of modernization facing the country.

- In the dissertation, the situation in the socio-cultural field was also studied in the mentioned years. Innovations in the field of education, the "Electronic school" project, raising the qualification level of educational workers, improving the social status of teachers and students, improving the management of education, renewal and modernization in this field have become one of the most important directions and indicators of the sustainable development strategy of education in the republic.

- On the whole, during the years of independence, the cultural life in Mingachevir, like in other areas, went through the stages of crisis and decline (the first half of the 1990s), stagnation (the second half of the 1990s - 2003) and development (since 2004).

In the Conclusion of the dissertation, certain recommendations were put forward based on the scientific nature of the research topic.



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

1. Mingəçevir hidroqovşağının və Azərbaycanın yeni sənaye mərkəzinin yaranma tarixindən // – Bakı: Tarix və onun problemləri, – 2014. №1, – s.103-111.
2. 1970-1980-ci illərdə Mingəçevir şəhərinin sosial-iqtisadi və mədəni inkişaf tarixindən // – Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitet Xəbərləri, – 2014. №1, – s.109-115.
3. Azərbaycan Respublikasının Regionların Sosial-İqtisadi İnkişafı Dövlət Proqramının Mingəçevir şəhərində həyata keçirilməsi (2004-2008) // – Bakı: Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyası Tarix İnstitutu, Elmi Əsərlər, – 2018. c. 69, – s.192-200.
4. Müstəqillik illərində Mingəçevirdə təhsil (1991-2010) // – Naxçıvan: Naxçıvan Universiteti Elmi əsərlər, – 2019. №4, – s.152-158.
5. Мингячевир в годы независимости (1991-2010) // – Ужгород: Науковий Вісник Ужгородського Національного Університету, Серія Міжнародні Відносини, – 2019. №5, – с.131-136.
6. Особенности социально-экономического развития города Мингячевира в 1993-2010 // – Москва: Современная научная мысль, – 2019. №5, – с.163-167.
7. Mingəçevir şəhərinin ictimai-siyasi həyatı // – Gəncə: Elmi Xəbərlər jurnalı, – 2024. №1, – s.73-78.
8. Mingəçevir şəhərinin davamlı sosial-iqtisadi inkişafına tarixi baxış // Davamlı İnkişafın milli modeli və strategiyası mövzusunda Respublika Elmi Konfransının materialları, – Mingəçevir: – 27– 28 noyabr, – 2015, – s. 320-322.
9. Azərbaycan Dövlət Rayon Elektrik Stansiyasının tarixi haqqında // Gənc tədqiqatçıların IV Beynəlxalq elmi konfransının materialları, Qafqaz Universiteti. – Bakı: – 29-30 aprel, – 2016, – s. 1679-1681.
10. Туристический Потенциал Мингячевира" Наука и Образование: Сохраняя Прошлое, Создаём Будущее:

- сборник статей XXXI Международной научно-практической конференции, – Пенза: Наука и Просвещение, – 10 декабря, – 2020, В 2 ч. ч. 1. с.101-105.
11. Mingəçevirin arxeoloji irsi haqqında // Regional inkişafın təmin olunmasında innovativ tendensiyalar: reallıqlar və müasir çağırışlar” mövzusunda Respublika Elmi Konfransının materialları, – Mingəçevir: –11–12 dekabr, – 2020, – s. 462-464.

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Address: AZ1143, Baku, H.Javid Ave., 115.

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