

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**AGRARIAN LEGISLATION OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE ON
NORTHERN AZERBAIJAN
(19th-EARLY 20th CENTURIES)**

Speciality: 5503.02 – History of the Motherland
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I. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISSERTATION

Relevance of the topic and degree of development. We believe that an objective study of the historical state of agrarian relations, the history of the evolution of these relations, and the agrarian legislative experience that existed in various historical periods in our Azerbaijan, which has been known for many centuries in the region and the world as a country rich in agrarian, agricultural, and natural resources, is an urgent task for our science.

One of the periods of Azerbaijan history that needs more research is the 19th-20th centuries. On January 31, 1997, at a meeting with the leadership of the Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences, full and corresponding members, directors of the institutes of the Academy, and leading scientists, the National Leader Heydar Aliyev set an important task for historians - to review the history of Azerbaijan in the 19th-20th centuries and “to write the history of this period objectively”.¹

The agrarian reforms carried out in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th- early 20th centuries were one of the components and the basis of the colonial policy pursued by the Russian Empire here. Therefore, a comprehensive study of the scientific research topic related to those reforms and the features of the official legislative policy carried out in the agrarian sphere is still very relevant today.

One of the most important aspects that determine the relevance of the dissertation is its basis precisely on historical facts, archival documents, periodical press materials, and statistical indicators.

In the Soviet history of Azerbaijan, as well as in the history of the former USSR, the topic under discussion was generally studied as an integral part of the history of Northern Azerbaijan, and the topic “Agrarian legislation of the Russian Empire in Northern Azerbaijan (in the 19th- early 20th centuries)” has never been a separate, specific object of research.

Although the style of writing of the works written by the tsarist

¹ Əliyev, H.Ə. Müstəqilliyimiz əbədidir: çıxışlar, nitqlər, bəyanatlar, müsahibələr, məktublar: [46 cildə] / H.Ə.Əliyev. – Bakı: Azər nəşr, – c. 8. – 2006, – s. 216.

officials does not essentially differ from the works of the so-called “noble-bourgeois” historians, those works can provide us with very important information. Among them, the works of M.N. Kuchayev,² N.N. Shavrov,³ and N.F. Dubrovin,⁴ who is considered one of the well-known military historians of the 19th century, can be cited. From the studies published in the 19th-early 20th centuries, it is possible to obtain a lot of materials and facts related to the research topic chosen for the current dissertation in the works of I.L.Segal,⁵ S.A.Yegiazarov,⁶ Kh.A.Vermyshev,⁷ V.N.Ivanenko,⁸

² Кучаев, М.Н. Отчет по ревизии административных учреждений в Елисаветпольской губернии / М.Н Кучаев. – Тифлис: – 1885; Кучаев, М.Н. Поземельный вопрос в Каспийской области // – Москва: Русский вестник, – 1893, кн. 6, – с. 155-202; Кучаев, М.Н. Пути земледельчества в Закавказье // Русский вестник, – 1892, кн. 12, – с. 215-228; Кучаев, М.Н. Феодализм и закрепощение в Закавказском крае // Русский вестник, – 1892, кн. 1.

³ Шавров, Н.Н. Новая угроза русскому делу в Закавказье: предстоящая распродажа Мугани инородцам / Н.Н.Шавров. – Баку: Элм, – 1990. – 156 с.

⁴ Дубровин, Н.Ф. Закавказье от 1803-1806 года / Н.Ф.Дубровин. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. департамента уделов, – 1866. – 542 с.

⁵ Сегаль, И.Л. Крестьянское землевладение в Закавказье / И.Л.Сегаль. – Тифлис: – 1912. – 154 с.

⁶ Егиазаров, С.А. Исследование по истории учреждений в Закавказье: [в 2 частях]. Сельская община / С.А.Егиазаров. – Казань: типография Императорского университета, – Ч.1, – 1889. – 352 с. в 2 б.

⁷ Вермишев, Х.А. Земледелие у государственных крестьян Закавказского края / Х.А.Вермишев. – Тифлис: – 1888. – 564 с.

⁸ Иваненко, В.Н. Гражданское управление Закавказьем от присоединения Грузии до наместничества великого князя Михаила Николаевича / В.Н.Иваненко – Тифлис: Типография Лорис-Меликова, – 1901. – 525 с.

S.L.Avalianin,⁹ B.S.Yesadze,¹⁰ G.G.Yevangulov,¹¹ G.M.Tumanov,¹² O. Syomin,¹³ B.M. Gorodetsky¹⁴ and others.

One of the first to take the initiative in studying the history of agrarian relations in Azerbaijan Soviet historiography was M.H.Veliyev (Baharli).¹⁵ Later, this work was continued by Y.A.Pakhomov. In his report, published in one of the “News” of the Azerbaijan Research and Education Society,¹⁶ he states the attitude towards the agrarian laws of tsarism in the South Caucasus. A.S.Gubaydullin was also one of the authors who studied socio-economic relations in Northern Azerbaijan.¹⁷

Y. Alasgarov,¹⁸ who conducted research on the Zagatala region

⁹ Авалиани, С.Л. Крестьянский вопрос в Закавказье: [в 4-х частях] / С.Л.Авалиани. – Одесса: Типография техник, – Ч. 3. – 1914. – 180 с.; Авалиани, С.Л. Крестьянский вопрос в Закавказье: [в 4-х частях] / С.Л.Авалиани. – Тифлис: Издание Тифлисского Государственного Университета, – Часть 4. – 1920. – 232 с.

¹⁰ Историческая записка об управлении Кавказом: [в 2 томах] / – Тифлис: Типография «Гуттенберг», – Том 1. – 1907. – 616 с.; Историческая записка об управлении Кавказом: [в 2 томах] / – Тифлис: Типография «Гуттенберг», – Том 2. – 1907. – 556 с.

¹¹ Евангулов, Г.Г. Местная реформа на Кавказе: [статьи] / Г.Г.Евангулов. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. т-ва А.В.Суворина "Новое Время", – 1914. – 67 с..

¹² Туманов, Г. Земельные вопросы и преступность на Кавказе / Г.Туманов. – Санкт-Петербург: Типография П.П.Сойкина, – 1900. – 109 с.; Туманов, Г. К введению на Кавказе земского самоуправления / Г.Туманов. – Тифлис: Электротипография Типографского товарищества «Гермес», – 1905. – 80 с.

¹³ Сёмин, О. Великая годовщина: Аграрный вопрос и крестьянская реформа на Кавказе / О.Сёмин. – Киев: Издательство «Вся Россия», – 1911. – 166 с.

¹⁴ Городецкий, Б.М. Правовые и поземельные отношения землевладельцев и крестьян в Закавказье // – Екатеринодар: На Кавказе (ежемесячный журнал). Типография Товарищества «Печатник», – 1909, т. 1, №2, – с.150-176.

¹⁵ Vəliyev, M.H. Azərbaycan (fiziki-coğrafi, etnoqrafik və iqtisadi öçerk) / M.H.Vəliyev. – Bakı: Azərənşr, – 1993. – 192 s.

¹⁶ Пахомов, Е.А. О сословно-поземельном вопросе в Азербайджане // – Баку: Известия общества обследования и изучения Азербайджана. – №1, – 1925, – с. 16-23.

¹⁷ Губайдуллин, А.С. Феодалные классы и крестьянства в Азербайджане (XIX век) // – Баку: Известия восточного факультета АГУ, – 1928. №3, – с. 15-36.

¹⁸ Алескеров, Ю. Закатальский округ в первой половине XIX в. и восстание 1863 года: / диссертация доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1950.

in the first half of the 19th century, provided valuable information about the agrarian relations of this region and how these relations differed from the agrarian relations in the nearby regions of Northern Azerbaijan.

Some issues of the agrarian history of Azerbaijan were analyzed in more detail in the voluminous articles of N.G. Bogdanova.¹⁹

The book “The Unification of Azerbaijan with Russia and its Progressive Economic and Cultural Results”²⁰ edited by A.N.Guliyev and V.D.Mochalov, and the voluminous monographs of V.D.Mochalov and A.S.Sumbatzadeh,²¹ published in 1958, can be considered a great scientific event in the Azerbaijani historiography of that time.

Almost all areas of agriculture of Northern Azerbaijan were considered in the monograph of A.S. Sumbatzadeh.²²

One of the most productive authors who studied the agrarian history of Northern Azerbaijan was the late M.A.Ismayilov, a corresponding member of ANAS. All the issues related to agriculture of the period in question were touched upon in his numerous monographs, which eliminated a number of gaps in this field.²³ The

¹⁹ Богданова, Н.Г. Аграрные отношения в Азербайджане в 1870-1917 гг. // Исторические записки, – №12. 1941, – с. 200-227; Богданова, Н.Г. К вопросу о феодальной эксплуатации кочевников в Закавказском крае в первой трети XIX в. // – Москва-Ленинград: Исторический архив, – т. II. 1939, – с. 221-238.

²⁰ Присоединение Азербайджана к России и его прогрессивные последствия в области экономики и культуры (XIX – начале XX вв.). – Баку: Изд. АН Азербайджанской ССР, – 1955. – 295 с.

²¹ Мочалов, В.Д. Крестьянское хозяйство Закавказье к концу XIX в. / В.Д.Мочалов. – Москва: Издательство АН СССР, – 1958. – 492 с.; Сумбатзаде, А.С. Сельское хозяйство Азербайджана в XIX в. / А.С.Сумбатзаде. – Баку: Изд-во АН Азербайджанской ССР, – 1958. – 346 с.

²² Сумбатзаде, А.С. К вопросу об оценке исторического значения законодательного акта от 14 мая 1870 г. о так называемой «аграрной реформе» в Азербайджане, Армении и части Грузии // Вопросы истории сельского хозяйства, крестьянства и революционного движения в России. – Москва: Изд-во АН СССР, – 1961, – с. 231-240.

²³ İsmayilov, M.Ə. XIX əsrin sonu XX əsrin əvvəllərində Azərbaycanca torpaq mülkiyyəti və torpaqdan istifadə formaları haqqında // – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR EA Tarix İnstitutunun əsərləri, – 1958. Cild 13, – s. 177-200; İsmayilov, M.Ə. XIX

monograph of M.A.Ismayilov “Socio-economic structure of Azerbaijan during the period of imperialism”²⁴ is of great importance in the study of the social structure of the Azerbaijani village at the beginning of the 20th century

The large-scale article by H.A.Dadashov in the field of the study of agrarian relations of the 19th century in Azerbaijan Soviet historiography, also draws attention.²⁵

The issue of water ownership and water use has been one of the least studied issues in Azerbaijan Soviet historiography. The monograph by I.A.Talibzadeh²⁶ should be considered the first serious step taken in this direction in Azerbaijan Soviet historiography. His other work mainly deals with the law²⁷ of December 20, 1912.

One of the authors who studied the history of agrarian relations at the beginning of the 20th century was the well-known researcher J.Kh. Huseynov. In his PhD dissertation²⁸ and monograph,²⁹ he gave an objective assessment of the agrarian policy of tsarism.

əsrin sonu XX əsrin əvvəllərində Azərbaycanın üzümçülük və şərabçılıq təsərrüfatlarında kapitalist münasibətlərinin inkişafı məsələlərinə dair // – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR EA-nın Xəbərləri, – 1956. №3, – s. 91-107; İsmayilov, M.Ə. XX əsrin əvvəllərində Azərbaycanın kənd təsərrüfatı / M.Ə.İsmayilov. – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR EA nəşriyyatı, – 1960. – 240 s. və b.

²⁴ Исмаилов, М.А. Социально-экономическая структура Азербайджана в эпоху империализма / М.А.Исмаилов. – Баку: Элм, – 1982. – 165 с.

²⁵ Дадашев, Г.А. О феодально-крепостнических остатках в дореволюционном Азербайджане // – Баку: Труды Азербайджанского филиала ИМЛ при ЦК КПСС, – 1957. Т. XX, – с. 119-151.

²⁶ Talibzadə, İ.A. XIX əsr və XX əsrin əvvəllərində Azərbaycanda suvarma və sudan istifadə / İ.A.Talibzadə. – Bakı: Elm, – 1980. – 150 s.

²⁷ Talibzadə, İ.A. Azərbaycanda 1912-ci il aqrar islahatı / İ.A.Talibzadə. – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR Elmlər Akademiyası nəşriyyatı, – 1965. – 111 s.

²⁸ Гусейнов, Д.Х. Положение и классовая борьба крестьян Азербайджана в период первой мировой войны (июль 1914 – февраль 1917 гг.): / автореферат диссертации доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1967. – 30 с.

²⁹ Гусейнов, Д.Х. Национально-освободительное движение в Азербайджане в начале XX в. (1900-1907 гг.) / Д.Х.Гусейнов. – Баку: (б.и.), – 2001. – 256 с.

Besides, the research of A.A.Umayev,³⁰ K.K.Shukurov,³¹ Z.A.Shahverdiyev,³² M.M.Gulmaliyev³³ and others also had great scientific value.

The issues of agrarian legislation of Tsarist Russia in the South Caucasus, including Northern Azerbaijan, have been touched upon in the works of a number of Soviet, Georgian,³⁴ and Armenian³⁵ historians.

After the Republic of Azerbaijan gained independence, serious progress began to be noticed in the study of the agrarian history of our

³⁰ Умаев, А.А. Проникновение капитала в сельское хозяйство Азербайджана (1883-1914 гг.): / автореферат диссертации доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1965. – 34 с.; Умаев, А.А. Процессы капиталистического развития в сельском хозяйстве Азербайджана в конце XIX – начале XX в. (1870-1914 гг.): / автореферат диссертации доктора исторических наук) / – Баку, 1987. – 45 с.; Умаев, А. Процессы капиталистического развития в сельском хозяйстве Азербайджана в конце XIX – начале XX века / А.Умаев. – Баку: Элм, – 2002. – 530 с.

³¹ Шукюров, К.К. Отходничество в Закавказье из Южного Азербайджана (вторая треть XIX в. – 1905 г.): / автореферат диссертации доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1984. – 26 с.

³² Шахвердиев, З.А. Аграрное отношение и положение крестьян Азербайджана 70-90-х годов XIX в.: / автореферат диссертации доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1984. – 26 с.

³³ Gülmaliyev, M.M. XVIII əsrin son rübü – XIX əsrin birinci yarısında Azərbaycan kəndinin sosial-siyasi strukturu / M.M.Gülmaliyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 1989. – 280 s.; Гюлмалиев, М.М. Крестьянское движение в Азербайджане в последней четверти XIX в.: / автореферат диссертации доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1984. – 26 с.

³⁴ Антелава, И.Г. Государственные крестьяне Грузии в XIX веке. До крестьянской реформы 1864 г. / И.Г.Антелава. – Тбилиси: Сабчота Сакартвело, – Т.1. – 1969. – 483 с.; Жордания, С. К. История крестьянской реформы в Грузии. Тбилиси: – 1982. Т. 1. – Подготовка крестьянской реформы в Восточной Грузии; Мирцхулава, И.И. Аграрно-крестьянский вопрос в Грузии в 1900-1921 гг. / И.И.Мирцхулава. – Тбилиси: Изд-во Мецниереба, – 1978. – 362 с.вэ s.

³⁵ Рштуни, В. Крестьянская реформа в Армении // – Ереван: Известия АН Арм. ССР, – 1944, №5, – с. 45-66; Еганян, М.Н. Аграрные отношения в Армении до и после ее присоединения к России: / автореферат диссертации доктора философии экономических наук. – Ереван, 1967. – 44 с. вэ s.

country. Thus, until now, the research of A.G. Iskenderov³⁶ in this field, the monographs of M.K.Abdullayev³⁷ and H.N.Hasanov,³⁸ and the numerous monumental articles of F.E.Bakhshaliyev³⁹ give confidence in the fact that certain progress has been made in the study of agrarian history.

In Azerbaijani historiography, the second volume of the three-volume "History of Azerbaijan",⁴⁰ the fourth⁴¹ and fifth⁴² volumes of the seven-volume "History of Azerbaijan", various books of "History of Azerbaijan",⁴³ and other books published in the 90s of the last century⁴⁴ played a certain role in the generalization of the history of agrarian relations in the 19th - early 20th centuries.

The source base of the study is primarily the complete collection of laws of the Russian Empire. Almost all of the first, second and third editions of this collection were used in writing the dissertation. Up to 86 different laws from these editions were used in the study.

³⁶ Искендаров, А.Г. Социально-экономическое положение Северного Азербайджана в период Российских завоеваний (первая треть XIX в): / автореферат диссертации доктора философии по истории) / – Баку, 1992. – 34 с.

³⁷ Abdullayev, M. Xanlıqlar və rus müstəmləkəçiliyi dövründə Şimali Azərbaycanda aqrar münasibətlər (XIX əsrin 40-cı illərinə qədər) / M.Abdullayev. – Bakı: Adiloğlu, – 2005. – 234 s.

³⁸ Гасанов, Г.Н. Из истории Североазербайджанской деревни в конце XIX – начале XX вв. / Г.Н.Гасанов. – Баку: Тахсил, – 2007. – 224 с.

³⁹ Baxşəliyev, F.E. Şimali Azərbaycanda 1870-ci il kəndli islahatından sonra torpaq sahibliyi və torpağın icarə edilməsi haqqında // – Bakı: Bakı Universitetinin Xəbərləri, humanitar elmlər seriyası. – 2010, №2, – s. 108-113; Бахшалиев, Ф.Э. Аграрная политика Российской империи в Закавказье в конце XIX – начале XX века // – Баку: Кавказ и глобализация, – 2013. Том 7. Выпуск 3-4, – с. 183-192 və b.

⁴⁰ Azərbaycan tarixi: [3 cildə]. – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR EA nəşriyyatı, – II cild, – 1964. – 956 s.

⁴¹ Azərbaycan tarixi: [7 cildə]. – Bakı: Elm, – IV cild (XIX əsr), – 2000. – 508 s.

⁴² Yenə orada, – V cild (1900-1920-ci illər), – 2001. – 672 s.

⁴³ Azərbaycan tarixi (ən qədim dövrlərdən XX əsrin əvvəllərinə qədər). – Bakı: Elm, – 1993. – 284 s.; Azərbaycan tarixi (ən qədim zamanlardan XX əsrədək). – Bakı: Azərbaycan Dövlət Nəşriyyatı, – I cild, – 1994. – 688 s.; Azərbaycan tarixi (Uzaq keçmişdən 1970-ci illərə qədər). – Bakı: Azərbaycan, – 1996. – 872 s.

⁴⁴ Azərbaycan tarixi. Ali məktəblər üçün mühazirələr kursu: [2 hissədə]. – Bakı: Bakı Universiteti nəşriyyatı, – II hissə (XIX-XXI əsrin əvvəli). – 2010. – 545 s.

A significant part of the sources used on the topic consists of documents and materials discovered from the funds of the State Historical Archive of the Republic of Azerbaijan (SHARA): No. 13 “Commissioner of the Ministry of Agriculture in the Caucasus”, No. 21 “Water Department of the Caucasus”, No. 22 “Agriculture and State Property Department of Baku Governorate and Dagestan Province”, No. 24 “Treasury Expedition of the Supreme Georgian Government”, No. 51 “Peasant Affairs Department of Baku Governorate”, No. 54 “Specially appointed official of the Agriculture and State Property Department of Baku Governorate and Dagestan Province, supervising the lands and land tenure issues of the population”, No. 55 “Baku Bey Commission”, No. 64 “Peasant Affairs Department of Yelisavetpol Governorate”, No. 75 “Guba Commandant’s Office”, No. 130 “Office of the Military District Chief of the Muslim Provinces of the South Caucasus”, No. 429 “Hydraulic engineer of the 3rd water area in the Caucasus”.

The second largest group of sources includes published sources. The famous “Acts collected by the Caucasian Archaeological Commission” occupies a special place in this regard.

Books prepared on the basis of archival materials can also be considered as sources.⁴⁵ A lot of information related to the dissertation was collected from the books “The Colonial Policy of

⁴⁵ Антелава, И.Г. Реформа поземельного устройства государственных крестьян Закавказья в конце XIX в. (Сб. документов) / И.Г.Антелава. – Сухуми: Госиздат Абхазской ССР, – 1952. – 296 с.; О русской политике в Закавказье. – Баку: Правительственная типография газеты «Азербайджан», – 1920. – 235 с.; Документы и материалы по внешней политике Закавказья и Грузии. – Тифлис: Типография Правительства Грузинской Республики, – 1919. – 514 с.; Сельское хозяйство и аграрные отношения: [в 4 томах] / Составил проф. П.В.Гугушвили. – Тбилиси: Издательство АН Груз.ССР, – Том второй. – 1950. – 728 с.; Сельское хозяйство и аграрные отношения: [в 4 томах] / Составил проф. П.В.Гугушвили. – Тбилиси: Издательство АН Груз.ССР, – Том четвертый. – 1955. – 876 с.; Из истории аграрной политики царизма в Грузии, Азербайджане и Армении. – Архивные материалы. – Ереван: – 1954 вэ б.

Russian Tsarism in Azerbaijan in the 20s-60s of the 19th century”.⁴⁶

Fragmentary laws regulating land relations of state peasants in the South Caucasus and the works - “Materials for the study of the economic life of state peasants in the Transcaucasian region” included 7 volumes, “A collection of materials for the study of the economic life of state peasants in the Transcaucasian region” included 5 volumes and “Materials for the arrangement of state summer and winter pastures and for the study of cattle breeding in the Caucasus” included 4 volumes were also systematized and published.

The sources related to the topic include reports,⁴⁷ memoirs,⁴⁸ and notes⁴⁹ of tsarist officials who held high positions in the Caucasus. The “Reviews”⁵⁰ published as supplements to the reports of the governors of Baku and Yelisavetpol in various years, and the memory books of the Iravan gubernia,⁵¹ are important in terms of following the agrarian policy of tsarism in those governorates.

⁴⁶ Колониальная политика Российского царизма в Азербайджане в 20-60-х гг. XIX в.: [в 2 частях] – Москва-Ленинград: Издательство АН СССР, – Ч. 1. – 1936. – 463 с.; Колониальная политика Российского царизма в Азербайджане в 20-60-х гг. XIX в.: [в 2 частях] – Москва-Ленинград: Издательство АН СССР, – Ч. 2. – 1937. – 480 с..

⁴⁷ Николай, А.П. Отчет по Главному управлению наместника Кавказского за первое 10-летие управления Кавказским и Закавказским краем князем Михаилом Николаевичем 6 декабря 1862 г. – 6 декабря 1872 г. – Тифлис: Типография главного управления наместника Кавказского, – 1873. – 442 с.; Всеподданнейший отчет Наместника Кавказского по Гражданскому Управлению Кавказским и Закавказским краем 1863-1871. – Тифлис: [Б.и.], – 1873. – 43 с. в 2 б.

⁴⁸ Воспоминания барона А.П. Николаи. Раскрепощенье в Закавказском крае // Русский архив, – 1892. №28, – с. 91-125.

⁴⁹ Корф, М.А. Записки / М.А.Корф. – Москва: Захаров, – 2003. – 720 с.

⁵⁰ Обзор Бакинской губернии за 1889 год. – Тифлис: [б. и.], – 1895. – 30 с.; Обзор Бакинской губернии за 1893 год. – Баку: [б. и.], – 1894. – 47 с. [34] с. в 2 б. Обзор Елисаветпольской губернии за 1892 год. – Тифлис: Типография Е.И. Хасадзе, – 1893. – 33 с.; Обзор Елисаветпольской губернии за 1897 год. – Издание Елисаветпольского губернского статистического комитета, – 1898. – 29 с.; Обзор Елисаветпольской губернии за 1910 год. Издание Елисаветпольского губернского статистического комитета. - Тифлис: - 1912. - 345 с.: табл. в 2 б.

⁵¹ Памятная книжка Эриванской губернии на 1906 год. – Эривань: Типография П.Ованесяна и К°, – 1905. – 396 с.; Памятная книжка Эриванской губернии на 1912 год. – Эривань: Тип. Губернского правления, – 1912. – 783 с.

Object and subject of the research. The main object of the research in the current dissertation is the agrarian legislation applied or attempted to be applied in this region by the tsarist autocracy, which established a heavy colonial regime in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th-early 20th centuries and considered its main goal to turn this region into a raw material base and a wide sales market for the Romanov empire.

In Northern Azerbaijan, where the main part of the economy was agricultural in the 19th - beginning of the 20th centuries, the various laws, instructions, and various other legal acts implemented by the Romanov autocracy is the main subject of the research conducted in the current study.

Goals and objectives of the study. The main scientific goal of the dissertation is to achieve a comprehensive study of the agrarian legislation of Tsarist Russia in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th-early 20th centuries. Based on this goal, it was attempted in the research to solve the following specific scientific tasks:

- To reveal the essence and goals of the measures taken by tsarism to legally regulate agrarian relations during the occupation period;

- To draw attention to the fact that tsarism showed special interest in the preparation of agrarian laws in the 30s of the 19th century, and to shed light on the essence of these laws;

- To analyze the Russian agrarian legislation applied in Northern Azerbaijan in the 40s of the 19th century;

- To review the amendments made to the agrarian laws by the tsarist government in the 50s-60s of the 19th century and to comment on the issues arising from these amendments;

- To assess the preparation of the Peasant Charter of May 14, 1870, its content and implementation;

- To reveal and show the main essence and features of the agrarian legislation in the 80s-90s of the 19th century;

- To analyze the uniqueness of the agrarian laws of 1900-1904 and the innovations brought by these laws to the agrarian sphere;

- To analyze the uniqueness of the agrarian laws of 1900-1904 and the innovations that these laws brought to the agrarian sphere;

- To study and assess the preparation of agrarian laws on the abolition of temporary obligations and dependency relations, the essence of these laws and their consequences;

- To search for the principles that guided the preparation of the agrarian reforms of the 19th-early 20th centuries and to give them an objective assessment;

- To determine to what extent the essence of the official agrarian policy implemented in the South Caucasus corresponded to the interests of tsarism;

- To assess the main results of the functioning of the agrarian legislative system in the South Caucasus during the period under study.

Research methods. In writing the dissertation, the main methods of determining scientific truth are the systematic analysis, the structural analysis, the comparative analysis, the objective research methods and its historicity principles. Also, scientific and theoretical provisions existing in world historiography were used.

Main provisions of the defense. The current dissertation attempts to put forward the following main scientific provisions for defense in a substantiated manner:

- The agrarian legislation that the Romanov Russia tried to implement in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th-early 20th centuries has gone through a long and contradictory evolution;

- The main goal of the agrarian legislation applied here was to put the agrarian life of this country completely under the control of the imperial center;

- One of the main goals of the Russian agrarian legislation applied in Northern Azerbaijan was to ensure as much income as possible was received from this country into the Russian imperial treasury;

- Russian agrarian legislation in Northern Azerbaijan, as a rule, did not take into account local peculiarities;

- agrarian legal acts of the imperial bodies were prepared very slowly and were implemented very slowly;

- this legislation could not fully solve the tasks facing it and rebuild the agrarian life of Northern Azerbaijan in accordance with the

wishes and desires of the imperial circles.

Scientific novelty of the research. In the dissertation for the first time in Azerbaijan national historiography, an attempt has been made to specifically and comprehensively study the agrarian legislation of the Russian Empire in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th - early 20th centuries. New archival documents and various source materials have been revealed. The scientific novelty of the work also lies in the fact that for the first time the following scientific issues have been resolved here:

- For the first time in Azerbaijan national historiography, the agrarian legislation of the Russian Empire in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th-early 20th centuries has been comprehensively studied;

- The agrarian laws applied by the Russian Empire in Northern Azerbaijan at the beginning of the 19th – early 20th centuries were sequentially periodized, and the changes made in each period were systematized;

- The goals of the initial experimental initiatives of tsarism in the field of agrarian legislation in Northern Azerbaijan in the first half of the 19th century were determined and their essence was evaluated;

- An objective assessment of the changes in the agrarian policy of tsarism in Northern Azerbaijan in the second half of the 19th century and the nature of these laws was given.

- On the basis of extensive source materials the essence, goals and results of the colonial agrarian reforms carried out in Northern Azerbaijan in early 20th century were assessed;

- It was proven that the agrarian reforms carried out by the Russian Empire in North Azerbaijan were of a colonial nature;

- It was once again proven that the basis of the agrarian policy of tsarism was the brutal exploitation of the natural resources of Northern Azerbaijan.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research. The study of the agrarian legislation of the Russian Empire in Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th - early 20th centuries revealed the content, essence of the colonial agrarian policy of tsarism and its interests in this region. The generalizations made here, the scientific conclusions drawn can be used in the preparation of various generalizing works,

scientific-mass and scientific-popular publications, textbooks on the “History of Azerbaijan” for general education, secondary specialized and higher schools, and in conducting lecture courses, special courses and special seminars.

Approbation and application of the research. The dissertation work was carried out in the department of “History of Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th-early 20th centuries” of A.A.Bakikhanov Institute of History and Ethnology of ANAS, discussed twice in that department and submitted for defense. The main provisions and main results of the research were reflected in the author’s scientific articles on this problem, as well as in his speeches at republican and international scientific-practical conferences.

The organization where the dissertation work was carried out. The dissertation work was carried out at the department of “History of Northern Azerbaijan in the 19th-early 20th centuries” of A.A.Bakikhanov Institute of History and Ethnology of ANAS.

The total volume of the dissertation (except the list of literature) is 265093 characters. Introduction – 24264 characters, Chapter I – 68663 characters, Chapter II – 72348 characters, Chapter III – 84113 characters and the conclusion – 15705 characters.

II. MAIN CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION

In the “**Introduction**” section of the dissertation, the relevance and chronological framework of the dissertation is justified, the degree of study of the problem is commented on, the goals and objectives of the research, theoretical and methodological bases, source base, scientific novelty and practical significance are systematically analyzed, and its approval and structure are shown.

Chapter I of the dissertation, entitled “**The first initiatives of Tsarist Russia in the field of agrarian legislation in Northern Azerbaijan in the first half of the 19th century**”, consists of three subchapters. The first subchapter, entitled “**Attempts to legally regulate agrarian relations during the occupation period**”, examines the characteristics of taxes and duties applied here during the process of occupation of Northern Azerbaijan by Russia.

Already in 1802, it was decided to collect taxes from the population of the occupied territories. This tax, called the “Sursati tax”, was supposed to be collected for a period of 3 years. It was planned to collect 1352 sursati (wheat and barley products) from the population living in Borchaly, 9000 from Gazakh, 3000 from Shamshaddil, 2000 from Shorayel, and 1500 kods (1 kod is equal to 7 poods or 10 pounds) from Pambak.⁵²

The “Regulation on the Rules for the Protection of the Landlords of Gazakh, Shamshaddil, and Borchaly and Their Relatives and the Duties of the Landlords before the Government”, signed by Yermolov on March 31, 1818, was met with great dissatisfaction and mass demonstrations by the landlords, as it abolished a number of privileges they had.⁵³

In 1819, after the death of the Sheki Khan Ismail Khan, General Yermolov’s declaration dated July 31 stated that since there was no heir from Ismail Khan’s lineage to rule the khanate, all taxes received by the khan would be transferred to the imperial treasury.⁵⁴ These rules applied by the government were also intended for the Shamakhy and Karabakh khanates. This can be clearly seen from the emperor’s supreme decree dated April 19, 1823.⁵⁵

In order to clarify the relations between the landowner and his employee, Yermolov signed an instruction in 1824 “On the regulation of mutual relations between the beys and the peasants in the Guba province”. According to this instruction, the bey was to receive 1/10 of all agricultural products. The bey could not demand anything from the peasants in addition to what was specified in the instruction or

⁵² Акты, собранные Кавказской археографической комиссией (bundan sonra АКАК – К.А.). – Тифлис: Главное Управление Наместника Кавказского, – т. I. – 1866, – с. 195-196.

⁵³ АКАК. – Тифлис: Главное Управление Наместника Кавказского, – т. VI. – 1874, – часть 1, с. 696-698.

⁵⁴ АКАК. – Тифлис: Главное Управление Наместника Кавказского, – т. VI. – 1874, – часть 1, с. 739.

⁵⁵ АКАК. – Тифлис: Главное Управление Наместника Кавказского, – т. VI. – 1874, – часть 1, с. 714.

replace taxes with money.⁵⁶

The second subchapter of this chapter, entitled **“Regulation of agrarian relations in the 30s of the 19th century”**, deals with the wider application of tsarism’s colonial policy in this region after the occupation of Northern Azerbaijan by Russia and the implementation of the process of regulating agrarian relations in accordance with its own interests and benefits.

In the project prepared by Senators P.I.Kutaysov and Y.I.Mechnikov together with the commander-in-chief Count I.F.Paskevich and submitted to Tsar Nicholas I, they brought to the fore the issue of the social support of tsarism in the South Caucasus, including Northern Azerbaijan, and, approaching the higher Muslim class from a strictly hostile and discriminatory position, they tried to justify the necessity of creating a “Russian nobility” here as a reliable support by abolishing the lands of local feudal lords, primarily the tiyul land ownership.⁵⁷

The next subchapter of Chapter I, entitled **“Agrarian Legislation of the 1940s”**, discusses the restriction of the rights of beys and aghas in the regions of Northern Azerbaijan, the relocation of Russian nobles from Russia to these territories, and the granting of special privileges to them, as well as a number of laws signed by the tsarist government regarding the relations between the owner and the peasant.

On April 10, 1840, with the law “Institutions for the Administration of the Caucasus Region” approved by Tsar Nicholas I, the commandant administration method was abolished, and provincial and regional tax committees were established in the cities of Tiflis and Shamakhy in the South Caucasus, and district land tax committees were established in the district centers.⁵⁸

⁵⁶ Историческая записка об управлении Кавказом: [в 2 томах] / – Тифлис: Типография «Гуттенберг», – Том 1. – 1907. – с. 590-591.

⁵⁷ Колониальная политика Российского царизма в Азербайджане в 20-60-х гг. XIX в.: [в 2 частях] – Москва-Ленинград: Издательство АН СССР, – Ч. 1. – 1936. – с. 26-29.

⁵⁸ Полное Собрание Законов Российской Империи (bundan sonra – ПСЗРИ – К.А.). Собрание 2-ое. Отделение 1-ое: [в 48 томах] / – 1840 г. Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 15.

By a special decree issued on January 5, 1841, the Georgian-Imereti and Caspian state property chambers were established in the South Caucasus.⁵⁹

On February 13, 1841, the Council of the General Administration adopted two important decisions on the liberation of the Armenian villages of Gazakh, Shamshaddil and Borchaly from the “management” of the aghas and meliks, and the liberation of the “Tatar” (Azerbaijani - A.K.) villages of these areas from the administration of the aghas (landlords).⁶⁰

Tsar Nicholas I established the Caucasian Governor-generalship in 1844 instead of the General Administration in the South Caucasus.⁶¹ On December 6, 1846, a draft decree consisting of 12 articles was approved by the tsar. According to this decree, land plots given to their owners by hereditary ownership, along with all their equipment and farmsteads, were declared the full property of the owner.⁶²

The main principles of the decree of December 6, 1846 were developed in the “Peasant Regulations” issued on April 20 and December 28, 1847. The first of the regulations was concerned to the khans and beys of Shamakhy, Shusha, Lankaran, Baku and Guba uyezds, and the second to the aghas of the Borchaly, Gazakh and Shamshaddil districts and the families of the khans and beys of Yelizavetpol.⁶³

Chapter II of the dissertation, consisting of three subchapters, is

– 1841. – Закон 13 370, – с. 265-267.

⁵⁹ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 1-ое. – 1841 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 16. – 1842. – Закон 14 157, с. 21.

⁶⁰ Гасанов, И.М. Частновладельческие крестьяне в Азербайджане в первой половине века / И.М.Гасанов. – Баку: Изд. АН Азербайджанской ССР, – 1957. – с. 147.

⁶¹ Зиссерман, А.Л. Отрывки из моих воспоминаний // Русский вестник, – 1876, – Т. 126. № 12, – с. 480.

⁶² Azərbaycan tarixi üzrə qaynaqlar. – Bakı: Azərbaycan Universiteti nəşriyyatı, – 1989, – s. 310-313.

⁶³ Гасанов, И.М. Частновладельческие крестьяне в Азербайджане в первой половине века / И.М.Гасанов. – Баку: Изд. АН Азербайджанской ССР, – 1957, – с. 217.

entitled **“Agrarian legislation of Tsarist Russia in Northern Azerbaijan in the second half of the 19th century”**. The first subchapter of this chapter, called “Agrarian legislation in the 50-60s of the 19th century”, is about the changes made by the tsarist government to the agrarian legislation applied in Northern Azerbaijan, the issuance of new laws, the size of taxes and duties, and the new rules applied to the relations between the landowner and the peasant.

The proposals “On the imposition of a new rate of tax on the population of the Shamakhy gubernia” were approved on November 2, 1851. It envisaged the abolition of the tax collected when selling silk, the elimination of types of tax collection imposed in 1836 and already hindering the development of local trade and crafts.⁶⁴

On November 18, 1853, an order was issued “On taking a number of measures for the establishment of land taxes in the South Caucasus region”.⁶⁵

In 1852, some changes were made to the Regulations of April 20, 1847: the tax to be paid by peasants living on the lands of the owner was increased to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the entire product (previously this figure was $\frac{1}{5}$), the cost of each working day of the peasants was increased to 40 kopecks, etc.⁶⁶

In 1853, the ban on peasants moving from one village to another without permission was approved by the governor-general, and the district chiefs were instructed to control this matter.⁶⁷

On October 6, 1860, a law was passed “Giving the right to purchase their land plots to the peasants residing in the lands of the

⁶⁴ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 2-ое. 1851 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 26. – 1852. – Закон 25 709, – с. 84-90.

⁶⁵ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 1-ое. 1853 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 28. – 1854. – Закон 27 704, – с. 560.

⁶⁶ Колониальная политика Российского царизма в Азербайджане в 20-60-х гг. XIX в.: [в 2 частях] – М.-Л.: Издательство АН СССР, – Ч. 2. – 1937, – с. 174-178.

⁶⁷ Политика Российского царизма в Азербайджане в 20-60-х гг. XIX в.: [в 2 частях] – М.-Л.: Издательство АН СССР, – Ч. 2. – 1937, – с. 170.

bey, melik, agha and landowner of the South Caucasus region”.⁶⁸

In 1861, the South Caucasus Central Reform Committee was organized, and on June 29, the “Regulation on the boundary-stripping of the South Caucasus region” was approved.⁶⁹

The “Regulations on the Establishment of Village Societies, Their Public Administration, State and Public Obligations” issued for the Tiflis gubernia on June 29, 1865, the Baku gubernia on September 28, 1866, the Iravan gubernia on December 6, 1867, and the Zagatala District on July 31, 1867, were intended to further strengthen the subordination of the peasants to the state and keep them completely dependent on the police- autocracy state.⁷⁰

The next subchapter of Chapter II, entitled “**The Peasant Regulation of 1870**”, discusses the factors that conditioned the application of the Regulation of May 14, 1870, the activities of the bey commissions, and examines the problem of regulating the relations between the landowner and the peasant in accordance with this Regulation.

On October 25, 1865, the bey commissions began their work in the Gazakh, Shamshaddil, Akhalsikh, Saritala areas, Yelisavetpol and Iravan gubernias. The Tiflis bey commission, having considered the rights of 340 kins, considered 184 of them, and the Iravan commission

⁶⁸ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 2-ое. 1860 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 35, – 1862. – Закон 36 206, – с. 164-165.

⁶⁹ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 1-ое. 1861 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 36. – 1863. – Закон 37 186, – с. 1017-1052.

⁷⁰ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 1-ое. 1865 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 40. – 1867. – Закон 42 268, – с. 705-716; ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 2-ое. 1866 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 41. – 1868. – Закон 43 678, – с. 57-68; ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 2-ое. 1867 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 42. – 1871. – Закон 45 247, – с. 360; Gülmalyev, M.M. XVIII əsrin son rübü – XIX əsrin birinci yarısında Azərbaycan kəndinin sosial-siyasi strukturu / M.M.Gülmalyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 1989, – s. 189.

considered 282 kins out of 586 to be “belonging to the upper class”. In 1869, the Shusha Bey Commission, and in 1870, the Baku Bey Commission began their work.⁷¹

On May 14, 1870, the emperor approved the draft law “On the land structure of state peasants residing on the lands of the Muslim, belonging to the upper class and also the Khamsa meliks of the South Caucasus gubernias: Yelisavetpol, Baku, Iravan and partly Tiflis gubernia”.⁷²

The “Regulation” of May 14 came into force on November 8, 1870. In connection with this, gubernia courts for peasant affairs were soon opened, jury positions were established, and conciliation departments, mainly consisting of judges, were created in the districts.⁷³

The 1870 year’s reform was not applied to peasants living on the landowners’ lands on the principle of “voluntariness”. The number of such peasants in the 200 villages of Yelisavetpol gubernia reached 65 thousand people. The reform was applied to them only from February 21, 1876.⁷⁴

The last subchapter of Chapter II, entitled “**Agrarian legislation in the 80s-90s of the 19th century**”, deals with the changes made to the rules for the zoning of state lands and the specific features of the relations that emerged from these changes between the landowner and the peasants, etc.

On April 3, 1889, the government tried to accelerate boundary-stripping by issuing a law “On increasing the number of employees in boundary-stripping offices in the South Caucasus region and the

⁷¹ Николай, А.П. Отчет по Главному управлению наместника Кавказского за первое 10-летие управления Кавказским и Закавказским краем князем Михаилом Николаевичем 6 декабря 1862 г. – 6 декабря 1872 г. / А.П.Николай. – Тифлис: Типография главного управления наместника Кавказского, – 1873, – с. 3-4.

⁷² ПСЗРИ. Собр. 2-ое. Отд. 1-ое. 1870 г.: [в 48 томах] / – Санкт-Петербург: Типография второго отделения собственной Е.И.В. канцелярии, – Т. 45. – 1874. – Закон 48 357, – с. 638-642.

⁷³ Авалиани, С.Л. Крестьянский вопрос в Закавказье: [в 4-х частях] / С.Л.Авалиани. – Одесса: Типография техник, – Ч. 3. – 1914, – с. 182.

⁷⁴ Azərbaycan tarixi: [7 cildə]. – Bakı: Elm, – IV cild (XIX əsr), – 2000, – s. 186.

number of locals involved in boundary-stripping.⁷⁵

In 1880, a draft “On the rights over water and the rules for the use of water in the South Caucasus” was prepared,⁷⁶ and on December 3, 1890, the “Draft on the rights over water and irrigation of lands in the South Caucasus region” was approved by the tsar and entered into force.⁷⁷

On May 26, 1897, a new law was promulgated, which discussed measures to accelerate the land boundary-stripping in the South Caucasus.⁷⁸ According to the tsar’s decree of November 6, 1897, in order to consolidate land plots in the South Caucasus as the property of landowners, the issuance of certificates to them was approved, and the issuance of such certificates was entrusted to the courts.⁷⁹

On May 17, 1898, the tsarist government introduced special rules legalizing the assessment of peasant lands.⁸⁰

Chapter III of the dissertation, entitled **“Agrarian reforms carried out by Tsarist Russia in Northern Azerbaijan at the beginning of the 20th century”**, also consists of three subchapters. The first subchapter, entitled **“Agrarian Laws of 1900-1904s”**, illuminates the new rules applied in providing peasants with land, collecting land taxes, and organizing irrigation work.

According to the law “On the Collection and Estimate of Land Taxes in the South Caucasus for 1901-1903s”, the collection of land

⁷⁵ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 3-е. 1889 г. Санкт-Петербург: Гос. типография, – Т. 9, – 1891. – Закон 5 901, – с. 128-129.

⁷⁶ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 3-е. Отд. 1-ое. 1890 г. Санкт-Петербург: Гос. типография, – Т. 10. – 1893. – Закон 7 255, – с. 761-769.

⁷⁷ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 3-е. Отд. 1-ое. 1897 г. Санкт-Петербург: Гос. типография, – Т. 17. – 1900. – Закон 14 150, – с. 315-319.

⁷⁸ Отношение юрисконсульта по судебным и межевым делам на Кавказе от 10 декабря 1897 года, №1560 // Azərbaycan Respublikası Dövlət Tarix Arxivi, fond №54, siyahı №1, iş №73, vərəq – 2.

⁷⁹ Отношение юрисконсульта по судебным и межевым делам на Кавказе от 10 декабря 1897 года, №1560 // Azərbaycan Respublikası Dövlət Tarix Arxivi, fond №54, siyahı №1, iş №73, vərəq – 2.

⁸⁰ Исмаилов, М.А. Государственные крестьяне Азербайджана в конце XIX в. // – Баку: Труды Института Истории АН Азербайджанской ССР, – 1957. – Т. 11, – с. 129.

taxes in Northern Azerbaijan was planned for 3 years and its estimate was calculated.⁸¹

This law mainly established the toyju (one of the taxes collected from the peasants) obligation for treasury lands in permanent use by state peasants, the land tax for all other lands, and the permanent public-land tax. Along with the land tax, 10-12% of the net income of state peasants was also included in the toyju tax.⁸²

The main goal of the numerous laws and other acts with the force of law issued in 1900-1904 was one - to keep the property rights over land, which tsarism still considered the main source of income, in the hands of the state treasury and to increase treasury revenues as much as possible by all means.

The second subchapter of Chapter III, entitled “Preparation of agrarian laws on the abolition of temporary obligations and dependency relations”, elucidates various projects prepared in Northern Azerbaijan to abolish the dependency relations and temporary obligations of owner peasants on landlords.

According to the draft prepared in 1904, peasants living on landlord lands in the South Caucasus gubernias were included in the category of private property owners by forcibly purchasing allotments with “state financial assistance”.⁸³

On November 22, 1905, the Caucasian Viceroy I.I.Vorontsov-Dashkov submitted a draft law “On the Settlement of the Peasant Question in the Caucasus” to the Council of Ministers.⁸⁴

At the beginning of 1909 – during the heyday of Stolypin’s agrarian policy, the draft law prepared by the Caucasian Viceroy for the South Caucasus gubernias was discussed several times in the Council of Ministers, and after the draft was approved on March 17,

⁸¹ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 3-е. 1900 г. Санкт-Петербург: Гос. типография, – Т. 20. – 1902. – Закон 18 856, – с. 782-784.

⁸² Материалы для изучения хлопководства. Санкт-Петербург: 1912, с. 115.

⁸³ Talıbzadə, İ.A. Azərbaycanca 1912-ci il aqrar islahatı / İ.A.Talıbzadə. – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR Elmlər Akademiyası nəşriyyatı, – 1965, – s. 26.

⁸⁴ Всеподданнейшая записка по управлению Кавказским краем генерал-адъютанта графа Воронцова-Дашкова. – Тифлис: Гос. типография, – 1907. – – с. 41.

1911 was submitted to the III State Duma on September 24, 1911.

Finally, the draft became law on December 20, 1912. This law covered the Baku, Yelisavetpol, and Iravan gubernias of the South Caucasus, as well as part of the Tiflis gubernia. The law was not applied to Dagestan and Zagatala districts.⁸⁵

The preparation of laws on the abolition of temporary obligations and dependency relations of peasants can be considered an innovation in the field of agrarian legislation of tsarism.

The last subchapter, entitled **“Agrarian laws on the abolition of temporary obligations and dependency relations and their consequences”**, deals with the agrarian laws applied to regulate landlord-peasant relations and land purchase and sale transactions.

The law of December 20, 1912, stipulated the rules for the compulsory purchase of land by temporarily obligated peasants living on landowners' lands and having share plots. Payments to landowners in the Tiflis, Kutaisi, Iravan, Yelisavetpol and Baku gubernias were transferred to purchase payments from January 1, 1913, and according to these rules, the lands became the private property of the peasants.⁸⁶ Thus, the laws of 1912-1913 could not completely resolve the agrarian issue.

In the **“Conclusion”** section of the dissertation, the main provisions arising from the research are generalized, the scientific research is concluded, and the important results obtained are noted.

Based on the most different materials brought to the research throughout the dissertation, that most of them newly entered into scientific circulation, it can be argued that during the entire historical period chosen for research - the 19th-early 20th centuries, the agrarian policy pursued by the Romanovs Russia in Northern Azerbaijan, as well as the legislation of tsarism in general for this period, was extremely unstable, inconsistent and contradictory, and was determined primarily by Russia's imperialist-colonial interests.

⁸⁵ Авалиани, С.Л. Крестьянский вопрос в Закавказье: [в 4-х частях] / С.Л.Авалиани. – Тифлис: Издание Тифлисского Государственного Университета, – Часть 4. – 1920, – с. 117-118.

⁸⁶ ПСЗРИ. Собр. 3-е. 1912 г. Отд. I-ое. Петроград: Гос. типография, – Т. 32. – 1915. – Закон 38 539, – с. 1687-1692.

These studies also clearly show that one of the main aspects of the colonial occupation policy pursued by Russia in the South Caucasus was to expand the borders of the empire and turn this land into a source of income for the empire.

As a result of the investigations conducted, it can be come to such a general conclusion that, although a formal legal basis was prepared in the field of regulating a number of areas of agriculture as a result of the agrarian policy pursued by the tsarism in Northern Azerbaijan during the colonial period of the 19th-early 20th centuries, the laws often remained on paper, the agrarian laws could not radically change the situation in practice, the agrarian legislation of the tsarism here had an unstable and inconsistent character, primarily served to ensure the colonial interests of the tsarism, and could not create fundamental changes in local agrarian relations.

The main purpose of the agrarian legislation, which was to provide the legal basis for the agrarian policy pursued by tsarism in Northern Azerbaijan during its nearly century of freedom, was to subordinate local agrarian relations to legal norms and acts that were in line with the goals of tsarism and put them at the service of the new colonizers. Although these agrarian laws formally gave the impression of creating an agrarian jurisprudence base here, in practice local, centuries-old agrarian customs and traditions retained their main positions and continued to play the role of the main destroyers of local agrarian life.

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

1. XIX əsrin ikinci yarısında çarizmin Şimali Azərbaycanıda məzhləmə tədbirlərinə dair // – Bakı: Tarix və onun problemləri. – Bakı: – 2013. №3, – s. 43-47.

2. Şimali Azərbaycanıda XIX əsrin 50-60-cı illərində aqrar qanunvericiliyi haqqında // – Bakı: Tarix və onun problemləri. – Bakı: – 2014. №1, – s. 71-77.

3. 1870-ci il 14 may islahatının müstəmləkə mahiyyəti haqqında // – Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitet Xəbərləri, – 2014. №3, – s. 117-120.

4. Şimali Azərbaycan distansiyalarında rus çarizminin aqrar tədbirlərinə dair (1801-1819-cu illər) // – Bakı: Tarix və onun

problemləri, – 2015. №1, – s. 84-90.

5. Çarizmin Şimali Azərbaycanca “müsəlman zadəganlığı” yaratmaq cəhdləri haqqında // – Bakı: Tarix və onun problemləri, Bakı: 2016, №1, s. 77-81.

6. Rus işğalı dövründə Quba əyalətində aqrar münasibətlərin hüquqi cəhətdən nizamlanması cəhdləri haqqında // – Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitet Xəbərləri, – 2015. №2, – s. 136-139.

7. Разработка закона о водопользовании в ирригации земель в Северном Азербайджане и его колониальная сущность // – Тбилиси: – Кавказ и Мир: Международный научный журнал, – 2016. №21, – с. 170-173.

8. Ирригационные вопросы Северного Азербайджана и Российская официальная политика // Вчені записки Таврійського Національного Університету імені В.І. Вернадського. Серія: Історичні науки. Том 31 (70) № 3. 2020 рік. Україна.

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11. Из истории аграрных отношений в Северном Азербайджане в первой трети XIX века // -Кизляр: Общество, Наука И Образование В Современном Мире Материалы международной научно-практической конференции. – 2023. s. 418-424

12. XIX əsrin əvvəllərində Çar Rusiyasının Şimali Azərbaycanda aqrar münasibətləri nizamlaması cəhdləri // Konfrans materialı International Topkapı Congress-II, İstanbul – 2023. // ISBN:978-625-8254-32-7 . s. 262-269

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