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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE KARABAKH
PROBLEM**

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I. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISSERTATION

Relevance of the topic and degree of development. The investigated topic is dedicated to the study and analysis of the most tragic, painful, unjust, and centuries-old problem in the history of our people that had been resolved today, and the historical works written about it. The topic is also quite relevant in terms of preventing the mistakes made in the study of our history in the past from being repeated in the future.

The collapse of the USSR, one of the largest empires of the world, at the end of the 20th century was an important and progressive event in the history of human society, positively influencing the formation of a new world order. The chauvinistic, nationally discriminatory, anti-Turkish, anti-Muslim, pro-Christian and biased policies, which led to the collapse of the USSR and on the eve of its collapse, up to 30 hotbeds of national conflicts had emerged in the country.

In 1985, after M.S.Gorbachov was elected General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the "perestroika policy" implemented by him further deepened political crisis of the declining state. As a result, our people, which had restored state independence on October 18, 1991, faced the occupation policy and aggression of the Karabakh Armenians and the Republic of Armenia, which aimed to tear Karabakh, the ancestral land of Azerbaijanis, from Azerbaijan and unite it to Armenia. The Armenians, supported by Moscow, refused to be subordinated to the Azerbaijani state under the pretext of the right of nations to self-determination in order to seize the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Thus, arose the "Karabakh problem". As a result of the First Karabakh War in 1988-1994, Azerbaijan lost 20 percent of its territory, more than a million Azerbaijanis were brutally expelled from their ancestral homelands, both from Karabakh and from the territory of Armenia (former Western Azerbaijan). In 1992, the OSCE Minsk Group was

established to peacefully resolve the conflict. Although the UN Security Council adopted 4 resolutions on the unconditional withdrawal of Armenia's troops from the territory of Karabakh, these resolutions were not implemented. In 1994, a ceasefire was declared under the protocol signed in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, with the mediation of the Russian Federation, and the First Karabakh War ended.

For about 30 years since the First Karabakh War, Armenians have violated the ceasefire regime almost every day, committed various provocations, and involved Azerbaijan to launch military operations. The military operations carried out in early April 2016 to prevent the next armed provocation of the Armenian state against the Republic of Azerbaijan showed both the Armenians and the whole world that the Azerbaijani people will never reconcile with this occupation and will liberate their lands even at the cost of their blood and lives. The April fights also changed the line of contact. As President İlham Aliyev said: *"These battles showed that Armenia cannot and will not keep these lands under occupation without foreign assistance"*.¹

On July 12-17, 2020, Armenians once again resorted to provocation in the direction of the Tovuz district of the Azerbaijani-Armenian state border, but this was prevented. The Tovuz fights once again demonstrated the unity of the people and the President, the people and the army in our country. On September 27, 2020, Armenians again resorted to provocation, and the Azerbaijani Army launched a counter-offensive operation in response. As a result of the 44-day Second Karabakh War, by November 9, the Azerbaijani Army led by the Supreme Commander-in-Chief İlham Aliyev, liberated 5 towns, 4 settlements and 286 villages from occupation.²

¹ İlham Əliyev Azərbaycan Ordusunun aprel qələbələrinin ildönümü ilə əlaqədar bir qrup hərbiçilərlə görüş keçirib. 31 mart, 2017. URL: <https://president.az/az/articles/view/23230>

² İşğaldan azad olunan şəhər, qəsəbə və kəndlərimiz. 1 dekabr 2020. URL: <https://mod.gov.az/az/news/isigaldan-azad-olunan-seher-qesebe-vekendlerimiz-28583.html>

On November 10, 2020, heads of three states - Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia - signed a Statement, and from that day a ceasefire and a complete cessation of military operations were declared in the conflict zone in the mountainous part of Karabakh. Under the Statement, on November 20, 2020, Agdam, on November 25, Kalbajar and on December 1, Lachin regions were liberated through negotiations.³ Thus, the Second Karabakh War ended with complete capitulation of Armenia. However, this was not a lesson for Armenia. On September 19, 2023, Armenia was once again brought to its knees by an anti-terrorist operation, and territorial sovereignty of Azerbaijan was fully ensured.

The victory of the Azerbaijani Army over Armenian fascism in the 44-day Patriotic War and 1-day anti-terrorist operation led by the victorious Supreme Commander-in-Chief Ilham Aliyev resolved the 30-year-long conflict both militarily and politically, and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict ended. There is no longer an administrative territorial unit - Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan. This great victory of our people in Karabakh also shows the relevance of the topic under study. Now our intellectuals working in various fields of science and culture face the task of conducting more serious research on liberated Karabakh.

During the Soviet occupation, history of Azerbaijan was distorted and propagated in that form. The genocides committed against our people by Armenians who believed in the existence of the imaginary "Greater Armenia" state and made efforts for it throughout the 20th century were not fully and objectively studied and analyzed until the collapse of the USSR. After the North of the historical lands of Azerbaijan regained independence in 1991, all obstacles to our researchers in purifying our history from distortions and studying it objectively were removed. The instructions of the Great Leader Heydar Aliyev on the comprehensive and objective investigation of

³ İşğaldan azad olunan şəhər, qəsəbə və kəndlərimiz. 1 dekabr 2020. URL: <https://mod.gov.az/az/news/isghaldan-azad-olunan-seher-qesebe-vekendlerimiz-28583.html>

the last 200 years of our history allowed for a more correct and comprehensive study of it.

Investigating how and at what level the historical roots, causes, essence, character and purpose for emergence of the Karabakh problem are reflected in both domestic and foreign historiography, and considered one of the most urgent problems facing modern Azerbaijan historiography.

As known, from the first days of the conflict, Armenians, taking advantage of their superiority in the information war, were proclaiming to the world that it was allegedly taking place between Azerbaijan and the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh. This even had influence on the documents adopted by the UN Security Council in 1992-1993 to resolve the conflict, and this conflict was assessed in the document as “a conflict in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region”. From the first day of coming to power, the National Leader Heydar Aliyev repeatedly justified that the conflict was not between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan, but precisely between Armenia and Azerbaijan. In this regard, the Great Leader said: *“We say Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. But what do the rest say - Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Because everyone believes that this conflict is not between two countries, but between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan”*.⁴ Due to the purposeful policy and activities initiated by the Great Leader Heydar Aliyev and continued by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, today there are many who objectively reflect the realities of Azerbaijan in foreign historiography. Generalizing existing ideas on the research, examining how and in what way the problem is approached in the works of European and American, Russian, Iranian, Turkish and Armenian historians, and delivering it to the public is one of the main factors determining the relevance of the topic.

⁴ Qasımlı, V., Şiriyev, Z., Vəliyeva, Z. İran-Ermənistan münasibətləri: geosiyasi realıq, versus, siyasi iddialar. Bakı, 2011. URL: http://elibrary.bsu.edu.az/files/books_460/N_224.pdf

The fact that the study of the problem during the Soviet era was left to the Armenians it creates great difficulties for those who investigate the subject today. However, the investigation of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem separately in the studies of the figures of the People's Republic, the Soviet era and the period of independence is of great importance in terms of revealing the gaps in the study of the subject. This necessitates a deeper study of the subject and determines a path for future research. Because no systematic research has been conducted in this direction in our historiography so far.

In order to resolve the Karabakh problem, it was necessary to separately study the policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards the Caucasus. From this perspective, the IRI's position on the Karabakh events in Iran's Caucasian policy has become a special object of research in Azerbaijani and foreign studies determines the relevance of this topic. It is true that a significant research work has been presented in our historiography by Subhan Talibli⁵ in this direction. Since that work covers only the years 1991-2005, the research conducted in this line in subsequent years is left out. So, the study of the Karabakh problem in Iranian historiography from a scientific aspect based on facts and sources until recent years determines the relevance of the topic.

The subjective approach to the problem from the opposite front, which is full of biased claims and refutations, written by Armenian historians both during the Soviet period and the period of independence, is also presented, which makes the topic relevant.

The approach to the problem in Turkish historiography is similar to the modern homeland historiography. However, the systematic study of Turkish historians' works is due to the fact that the topic is extremely important and necessary for both them and us.

Thus, it is important to study the status and level of research on the Karabakh problem in domestic and foreign historiography, to summarize the successes and shortcomings achieved in this area, and

⁵ Talibli, S.Ə. İran İslam Respublikasının Qafqaz siyasətində Dağlıq Qarabağ problemi (1991-2005-ci illər) / S.Ə.Talibli. – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2016. – 362 s.

to determine future research opportunities and prospects. This historical experience can also help in the formation of a new system of views.

It should be noted that this topic has not been a separate object of research in either domestic or foreign historiography, and has not been systematically investigated. Since the works written are mainly devoted to the history of the problem, the level of study of the problem in domestic and foreign historiography has been ignored. The occupation of the mountainous part of the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan by Armenia, the falsification of the history of Karabakh by Armenian scholars, and the dangerous nature of Armenian terrorism in the world make it necessary to investigate the historiography of the history of the problem.

Although this problem is not the object of a special study in the homeland historiography, some research works have included certain ideas about the historiography of the subject, albeit briefly. Even the issue of highlighting the Karabakh problem in Iranian historiography has been the subject of research by some researchers separately or within the framework of general historiography studies. As examples of such works, we can cite the works of Subhan Talibli⁶ and Eynulla Madatli.⁷ In the work of Maharram Zulfugarli,⁸ attention was paid to the investigation of the historiography of the problem in the Soviet period. It is also possible to obtain certain information about the homeland, Armenian and Russian historiography of the Soviet period regarding the problem under study from this work. In the work of Nazim Mammadov, "The History of the Nagorno-Karabakh Region of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Soviet Historiography",⁹ the

⁶ Talibli, S.Ə. İran İslam Respublikasının Qafqaz siyasətində Dağlıq Qarabağ problemi (1991-2005-ci illər) / S.Ə.Talibli. – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2016. – 362 s.

⁷ Mədətli, E.Y. Azərbaycan həqiqətləri İran tarixşünaslığında / E.Y.Mədətli. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2011. – 272 s.

⁸ Zülfüqarlı, M.P. Azərbaycan tarixi. İkinci respublika dövrünün tarixşünaslığı / M.P.Zülfüqarlı. – Bakı: Çarşıoğlu, – 2001. – 312 s.

⁹ Məmmədov, N.R. Azərbaycan Respublikası Dağlıq Qarabağ bölgəsinin tarixi sovet tarixşünaslığında / N.R.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Avropa, – 2015. – 334 s.

reflection of the problem in Soviet period investigations was extensively studied.

In our historiography, the study of the issue of Armenia's territorial claims against Azerbaijan was paid attention to, mainly from the moment when Armenians began to occupy the mountainous part of Karabakh and to this end, to aggression against Azerbaijan. A number of works on the Nagorno-Karabakh problem have been published. In each new work, a brief review of the level of study of the topic has been given. In this regard, the research works of Y.Mahmudov, K.Shukurov¹⁰, T.Kocherli¹¹, G.Hajiyev¹², I.Aliyev¹³, S.Babayev¹⁴, R.Imanov¹⁵, N.Mammadov¹⁶, Z.Sultanov¹⁷, G.Geybullayev¹⁸, H.Abdalli¹⁹, G.Chakhmagli²⁰ and other historian scientists are devoted to the economic, political and cultural history of Karabakh. In these works, separate aspects of the problem are mainly illuminated in an objective manner. In these works, separate aspects of the problem are mainly illuminated in an objective

¹⁰ Mahmudov, Y.M., Şükürov, K.K. Qarabağ: Real tarix, faktlar, sənədlər / Y.M.Mahmudov, K.K.Şükürov. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2005. – 380 s.

¹¹ Köçərli, T. Qarabağ: yalan və həqiqət / T.Köçərli. – Bakı: Əbilov, Zeynalov və oğulları, – 1998. – 244 s.

¹² Hacıyev, Q.Ə., Nuriyev, S. Vladimir Kazimirovun “Qarabağa sülh” arzusu və əsl niyyəti / Q.Ə.Hacıyev, S.Nuriyev. – Bakı, – 2011. – 131 s. və d.

¹³ Əliyev, İ.H. Dağlıq Qarabağ. Tarix. Faktlar. Hadisələr / İ.H.Əliyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 1989. – 120 s.

¹⁴ Babayev, S.A. Müharibə: 1988-1993 / S.A.Babayev. – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1995. – 120 s.

¹⁵ İmanov, R.C. Azərbaycanın ərazi bütövlüyünə qəsd-qondarma Dağlıq Qarabağ Muxtar Vilayəti / R.C.İmanov. – Bakı: Adiloğlu, – 2005. – 260 s. və d.

¹⁶ Məmmədov, N.R. Azərbaycan Respublikası Dağlıq Qarabağ bölgəsinin tarixi sovet tarixşünaslığında / N.R.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Avropa, – 2015. – 334 s. və d.

¹⁷ Sultanov, Z.K. Qarabağın qara günləri / Z.K.Sultanov. – Bakı: Yazıçı, – 1992. – 152 s. və d.

¹⁸ Qeybullayev, Q.Ə. Qarabağ (etnik və siyasi tarixinə dair) / Q.Ə.Qeybullayev. – Bakı: Elm, – 1990. – 248 s.

¹⁹ Abdalli, H.İ. Azərbaycan, Dünya birliyi və Qarabağ problemi / H.İ.Abdalli. – Bakı: Yeni nəsil, – 2003. – 129 s. və d.

²⁰ Çaxmaqlı, Q.Q. Dağlıq Qarabağ işğaldan əvvəl ... və sonra / Q.Q.Çaxmaqlı. – Bakı: Hərbi nəşriyyat, – 2009. – 136 s. və d.

manner. These studies with historical facts have proven the genocide committed by Armenians against our people in various regions, but the claims of Armenian scholars who have used fraud to create a "Greater Armenia", and that Nagorno-Karabakh belongs to Armenia is baseless.

The issue of studying the Karabakh problem in the works of European and American researchers has been hardly studied in either domestic or foreign historiography. We find brief information about this in the works of N.R. Mammadov and E.J. Mammadli²¹. In foreign historiography, however, certain generalizing points are found in the works²² of T.Świętochowski, S.Cornell and A. Altstadt.

In modern Russian historiography, one can distinguish the research of Oleg Kuznetsov.²³

His research on Karabakh can be considered somewhat closer to objectivity compared to other works in Russian historiography.

The Turkish historiography of the problem has not been a separate subject of research. Since the main reference source of the studies of Turkish historians²⁴ such as T. Demirtepe, E. Efegil, R.

²¹Məmmədov, N.R. Azərbaycan SSR-in Dağlıq Qarabağ Muxtar Vilayətinin tarixi mənbələrdə / N.R.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Elm, – 2013. – 845 s.; Məmmədli, E.C. Azərbaycan-Böyük Britaniya münasibətləri (1991-2003) / E.Y.Mədatli. – Bakı: Adiloğlu, – 2003. – 173 s.

²²Svyatohovski, T. Rusiya Azərbaycanı 1905–1920-ci illər: (Kitabdan parçalar) // Azərbaycan, – 1989. № 11, – s. 117-149; Svante, E. Cornell. Azerbaijan since independence / E.Svante. – USA: Routledge, – 2011. – 512 p.; Altstadt, A.L. The Azerbaijani Turks: power and identity under Russian rule / A.L.Altstadt. – California: Hoover Press, – 1992. – 331 p.

²³Kuznetsov, O. Mərkəzi Qafqaz: sivilizasiyaların toqquşmasına retrospektiv baxış (məqalələr toplusu) / O.Kuznetsov. – Bakı: Qafqaz Nəşriyyat Evi, – 2013. – 120 s.; Кузнецов, О. Нагорно-Карабахский конфликт: Столкновение цивилизаций? // – Кавказ и Глобализация. – 2013, том 7. вып. 1-2, – с.94-108; Кузнецов, О. Этно-конфессиональные истоки транснационального армянского терроризма (историко-культурологический анализ)// – Баку: Strateji təhlil. – 2016, № 3-4 (17-18), – с. 65-66.

²⁴Demirtepe, T.M. Dağlık Karabağ Sorunu: Dar Alanda Büyük Oyun / T.M.Demirtepe. – Ankara: USAK, – 2011. – 112 s.; Efegil, E., Kasımlı, C. Dağlık Karabağ üzerine yazılar / E.Efegil, C.Kasımlı. – İstanbul: Gündoğan yayınları, –

Ekşi, E.Karaca, N.Onk on the problem is the historiography of the homeland, their views almost coincide with those of Azerbaijani historians.

The problem involved in the research in Armenian historiography is considered in general terms. Armenian historiography is full of “substantiation” of Armenian claims to both Karabakh and other territories of Azerbaijan. According to Z.Balayan’s fabrications, 98 percent of those living in Karabakh at the beginning of the 19th century were Armenians. In fact, until the massive settlement of Armenians in the historical lands of Azerbaijan by Tsarist Russia at the beginning of the 19th century, Azerbaijanis dominated the national composition of the population both in the territory of present-day Armenia and in Nagorno-Karabakh. The fact that Armenians were comers in the Caucasus is also confirmed by Russian authors of the 19th century - N.N.Shavrov²⁵ and V.L.Velichko²⁶.

It appears that in fact, international organizations and world actor states, that are deeply familiar with the history of the Caucasus, are also aware of the aggressive intentions of the Armenians. They simply protect the Armenians for political interests and Christian solidarity. Over the past 200 years, Armenians have literally been the leaders of a crusade against Azerbaijan by presenting the “historical materials they produced” as historical sources for themselves. For this reason, there is a need to widely promote the objective results obtained by studying this topic.

2015. – 252 s.; Ekşi, R. Şanlı Tarihi, Acı Talihi Karabağ / R.Ekşi. – İstanbul: Doğu Kütüphanesi, – 2010. – 278 s.; Karaca, E. SSCB Sonrası Türkiye Siyasetinin Karabağ Mesaisi 1991-1994 / E.Karaca. – Ankara: Gece Kitaplığı, – 2018. – 228 s.; Onk, N. Azerbaycan Karabağ tarihi / N.Onk. – İstanbul: Fatih ofset, – 1997. – 142 s. və d.

²⁵ Шавров, Н.Н. Новая угроза русскому делу в Закавказье: предстоящая распродажа Мугани инородцам; Записка генерального консула России в Эрзеруме Маевского / Н.Н.Шавров. – Баку: Элм, – 1990. – 156 с.

²⁶ Величко, В.Л. Кавказ русское дело и междуплеменные вопросы / В.Л.Величко. – Баку: Элм, – 1990. – 224 с.

The information in the historical works included in the research was studied in a comparative and critical manner with the facts and information in the sources. Therefore, numerous sources were used in studying the problem. These sources can be classified as follows:

- The sources translated and printed;
- Information taken from the press and mass media;
- Electronic resources on the topic.

Among the document collections published during the research, it should be mentioned the collection for 1990-1993,²⁷ the legal documents of the Council of Europe on the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.²⁸ The collection of documents for 1990-1993 contains official documents related to the political activity of the Great Leader Heydar Aliyev from July 22, 1990 to June 9, 1993. This collection is very important for the research because it belongs to a period when the Karabakh conflict deepened and became even more acute. Eg., in the 4th issue of the “Naşe delo” (Nashe Delo)” newspaper in 1990, the following opinion was reflected in the interview of the National Leader Heydar Aliyev: *“Nagorno-Karabakh is an integral part of Azerbaijan and must remain so”*.²⁹ Or, in another part of the interview, when the National Leader Heydar Aliyev was the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, he said about the current situation in Nagorno-Karabakh: *“The situation in Nagorno-Karabakh was stable, and no appeals from the residents of the NKAO to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan regarding secession from Azerbaijan had been received”*.³⁰ These thoughts, reflected in the source, form a general idea of the Great Leader’s attitude to the problem and the position he took.

²⁷ Qayıdış: 1990-1993 sənədlər toplusu. – Bakı: “Azərbaycan” nəşriyyatı, – 2008. – 840 s.

²⁸ Abdullayev, E.İ. Dağlıq Qarabağ problemi Avropa Şurasının hüquqi sənədlərində / E.İ.Abdullayev. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2006. – 286 s

²⁹ Qayıdış: 1990-1993 sənədlər toplusu. – Bakı: “Azərbaycan” nəşriyyatı, – 2008. – s. 31-32

³⁰ Yənə orada, s. 33

In the research, translated and published sources related to the Middle Ages and the modern period were also addressed to criticize or confirm various ideas. Among these sources, we can especially mention the “Qarabagh-namehs”³¹ written about the history of Karabakh, and the “Detailed book of the Ganja-Karabakh province” translated by Husameddin Mammadov. According to the “The detailed book” dated 1727, out of 121.975 people registered in the Ganja-Karabakh province, 80.340 (65.9%) were Turkic-Muslims, 37.885 (31%) were Christians, and 3.750 (3.1%) were Kurds.³² The source entitled “Description of the Karabakh province” is also of great importance in terms of investigating the problem we are studying. Thus, this source was compiled in 1823 by the order of Colonel Yermolov, the commander-in-chief in Georgia, and Mogilevsky, the actual civil adviser. It was republished in Tiflis in 1866 based on the original. According to the information in the detailed book, 18.563 families were registered in the entire Karabakh province, out of which only 1.559 were Christian families.³³

The Soviet press also has its own unique features as a source. First of all, it should be noted that the one-party system and authoritarianism prohibited the existence of any alternative propaganda and agitation apparatus in the territory of the USSR, except for party bodies. In this regard, the press of the Soviet period represented only the Communist Party and the Soviet government. The censorship bodies kept the press under strict control. Since we used the newspaper “Kommunist” (Communist)³⁴, the official press

³¹ Qarabağnamələr: [2 kitabda] /tərt. edən və çapa haz. N. Axundov ; elmi red. A. Fərzəliyev. – Bakı: Yazıçı, – k.2. – 1989. – 192 s.

³² Gəncə-Qarabağ əyalətinin müfəssəl dəftəri. Ön söz, tərcümə, qeyd və şərhlərin müəllifi Hüsameddin Məmmədov - Qaramanlı. – Bakı: Şuşa, – 2000. – s. 17

³³ Описание Карабахской провинции (Составленное в 1823 году, по распоряжению главноуправляющего в Грузии Ермолова). – Тифлис: типогр. гл. упр. наместника Кавказа, – 1866. – с. 220-235, 242-245, 310-337

³⁴ Dağlıq Qarabağ: Həyəcanlı satirlər. Kommunist. 1988 fevral – 1989 sentyabr. – Bakı: Kommunist, – 1989. – 480 s.; Kommunist. – 1988, 1 iyul. – s. 5; Kommunist. – 1988, 22 may. – s. 4 və d.

organ of the Communist Party, in the study of a problem such as Nagorno-Karabakh, we tried to take this feature into account.

The available electronic resources related to the topic also play a role as a source in the study of the problem. In particular, we can state the speeches and interviews³⁵ published in the press regarding the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

On the whole, this research topic has a rich source base. Although there are enough sources that necessary to be used, since our main research topic is historiography, we have tried to refer to certain sources as needed without going beyond this framework.

Object and subject of the research. The historiography of the Karabakh problem is the main research object of the dissertation work. The subject of the research is to analyze the ideas reflected in historiography regarding this conflict and obtain objective results.

The goals and objectives of the research. The main goal of the research is to study the historiography of the Karabakh problem. For this purpose, various works in Azerbaijani, English, Russian, Turkish, Persian, Armenian and other languages related to the Karabakh conflict in the policies of Western states, Russia, Turkiye, Iran and Armenia were involved in the research. As a result of the research, scientific generalizations were made and an attempt was made to reveal the true essence of the issue. The goal set makes it necessary to determine the following tasks. So:

- To review the history of the emergence of the expression Nagorno-Karabakh and to study the explanation of this name in sources and research works as a whole,
- To examine the level of investigation of the problem under study in the historiography of the homeland in a phased manner, that is, based on the research of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, the Soviet and independence periods;

³⁵ Qasımlı, V., Şiriyev, Z., Vəliyeva, Z. İran-Ermənistan münasibətləri: geosiyasi reallıq, versus, siyasi iddialar. Bakı, 2011. URL: http://elibrary.bsu.edu.az/files/books_460/N_224.pdf; Cane, H. Narco Karabakh. Inside the global nexus for transnational crime. 2019. URL: [http://narcokarabakh.net/en/news/book_launched və d](http://narcokarabakh.net/en/news/book_launched_və_d).

- To identify and summarize the ideas existing in the works of European and American historians on the topic involved in the research;
- To determine, investigate and analyze the attitude of Russian historians to the problem and explain the essence of their approach on scientific grounds;
- To elucidate the attitude of Iranian historians to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem;
- To identify attempts to falsify the Karabakh problem and baseless claims in the works of Armenian historians;
- To explain the position of Turkish historians on the Karabakh issue;
- To explain the essence of the attitude to the Karabakh conflict on scientific grounds based on irrefutable facts;
- To provide scientific recommendations and suggestions for future research is the main goal and task of the dissertation.

Research methods. The methodological basis of the research is the principles of objectivity and historicity. The scientific methods used in the research serve to study and objectively investigate the process of the emergence and development of the studied phenomena and manifestations within specific historical conditions. At the same time, topical methods such as hypothetical-deductive (comparative) and scientific analysis were used. One of the most commonly used methods in the research is the comparative-historical method, while another method used is the method of critical approach, which is considered the main line in historiography.

Main provisions of the defense. These provisions are the following:

- Historical sources prove that the division of Karabakh into “Mountainous” and “Plain” Karabakh was a fictitious division that was later used for political purposes. In history existed only the expressions Karabakh and Arran Karabakh;
- The establishment of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region in Karabakh in 1923 did not solve the Karabakh

problem, but to this day even had been a source of reference for Armenian territorial claims against Azerbaijan;

- During the existence of the Azerbaijan People's (Democratic) Republic, any territorial claim by Armenians regarding Karabakh was considered unfounded, and both from the establishment of the APR until its collapse, and during the emigration period, our thinkers of the republic period based on scientific facts justified the falsehood of Armenian claims;

- During the Soviet occupation, when Armenians published books on Nagorno-Karabakh in Baku and falsified our history, our historians, who were “specially trained” during the Soviet period, devoted their main attention either to the struggle of the Karabakh Bolsheviks for the victory of Soviet power, or to works on the study of economic life in Karabakh;

- Although since 1991, works aimed at propaganda against the seditious and occupying position of the Armenians in the emergence of the Karabakh problem have predominated in the historiography of the homeland, gaps remain in the collection of factual materials on the Karabakh issue with extracts from sources and their wider dissemination to the international community;

- In the works of Western historians, the majority defend our notorious neighbors from the position of “Christian solidarity”;

- In most of the works in Russian historiography that we have included in the research, Russian-Armenian cooperation comes to the fore and attempts are made to instill the idea that a complete solution to the problem is impossible unless Russia wants it;

- The works of Armenian researchers are far from scientific objectivity, as they aim to falsify territorial claims against Azerbaijan based on fabricated historical facts;

- In Iranian historiography, where the ethnic identity factor plays an important role, in the works of authors of Persian origin, in relation to the Karabakh problem, there is a

subjective approach to the problem based mainly on the “love for Armenians” in accordance with state policy;

– In Turkish historiography, while support is expressed for the position of Azerbaijan, the position of Armenia is criticized as an occupying party.

Scientific novelty of the research. All issues raised in the dissertation work were scientifically investigated, based on the information of historical works and primary sources. The investigation of the Karabakh problem in domestic and foreign historiography was studied in a comprehensive, purposeful and complex manner for the first time in Azerbaijani historiography, and the following scientific innovations were achieved in the course of the research:

– The research process included the translation into Azerbaijani of sources and works that had not been studied by Azerbaijani historians so far, including the works of Turkish, Russian, Persian, English and Armenian researchers, and comprehensively examined and critical generalizations were made;

– The complete groundlessness of the fraud and biased claims of Armenian historians regarding the Karabakh problem was proven with solid evidence;

– A critical assessment of the achievements and shortcomings of Azerbaijani historians in the field of historiography of the Karabakh problem, especially in recent years;

– For the first time, Iranian historiography was involved in a comprehensive scientific research related to the history of the Karabakh problem;

– For the first time, European and American historiography was involved in a comprehensive scientific research related to the history of the Karabakh problem;

– For the first time, Russian historiography was involved in a comprehensive scientific research related to the history of the Karabakh problem;

- For the first time, Turkish historiography was involved in a comprehensive scientific research related to the history of the Karabakh problem;
- A consistent, systematic, and concrete generalization of the scientific conclusions obtained in the field of studying the problem.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research. The materials of the dissertation work and the scientific results obtained can be used in higher education institutions, in conducting seminars, lessons, lectures, and in preparing methodological tools for history teachers. The materials of the dissertation can also be used in teaching the history of Karabakh in secondary schools, and in higher education institutions - in teaching historiography and history. In addition to a wide readership, the provisions and results of the research can be used by state and non-state organizations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Milli Majlis, and foreign relations departments of political parties in their practical activities.

Approbation and application of the research. The research work was discussed at the meeting of the chair of “Source Studies, Historiography and Methodology” of the Faculty of History of Baku State University on April 3, 2023 and was recommended for defense. The provisions covering the main content of the dissertation work were reflected in the author’s scientific articles, as well as in her speeches at scientific conferences organized at the Faculty of History of Baku State University, other scientific and educational institutions of the country, as well as outside the country.

Name of the organization where the dissertation work was carried out. The dissertation work was carried out at the chair of “Source Studies, Historiography and Methodology” of the Faculty of History of Baku State University.

Total volume of the dissertation, including structural sections. The total volume of the dissertation consists of 282.622 characters (except the list of references). Introduction consists of 32.462 characters, Chapter I – 31.359, Chapter II – 84.184, Chapter III – 118.981, the Conclusion – 15.636 characters.

II. MAIN CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION

The **Introduction** explains and justifies the relevance of the topic in detail. This section provides information about the chronological framework of the dissertation, the level of study, the source base, and defines the goals and objectives, justifies its scientific novelty, notes its methodological foundations, theoretical and practical significance, and provides information about the approbation and structure of the dissertation.

Chapter I, entitled **“The Terminology of Nagorno-Karabakh”**, consists of two subchapters. The first subchapter, entitled **“The Name of Nagorno-Karabakh in Sources”**, first explains the name of Karabakh and considers the area of distribution of this name, the form of its use in sources. It is once again proven that the word “Karabakh” expresses meanings such as “large garden”, “dense garden”, etc., and that the name, like Karabakh itself, an integral part of Azerbaijan, it is also a product of the thinking of our people.³⁶ As another important factor, this subchapter draws attention to the fact that the name “Karabakh” is associated with the tribe of the same name from the Kipchaks.³⁷ Then it is noted that the term “Nagorno-Karabakh” is not based on any historical source and was introduced as a political term in the 20th century. At the end of the subchapter, it is concluded that the foundation of the “Karabakh problem” of the 20s of the 20th century was actually laid with the creation of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region. With the support of Western states and Russia,

³⁶ Бартольд, В.В. Сочинения: [В 9 т.] / В.В.Бартольд. – Москва: Из-во вост. лит., – т.2, ч.1. – 1963. – с.735; Бартольд, В.В. Сочинения: [В 9 т.] / В.В.Бартольд. – Москва: Наука, – 1974. – с.214; Mahmudov, Y.M., Şükürov, K.K. Qarabağ: Real tarix, faktlar, sənədlər / Y.M.Mahmudov, K.K.Şükürov. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2005. –s.11

³⁷ Баскаков, Н.А. Введение в изучение тюркских языков / Н.А.Баскаков. – Москва, – 1969, с.237; Гаджиев, И. Село Карабаглар и мавзолей в исторических источниках//– Москва: IRS-Наследие. – 2017. № 5, – с.26-30; Григорьев, В.Г. Статистическое описание Нахичеванской провинции / В.Г.Григорьев. – Санкт-Петербург: тип. Деп. внеш. торг., – 1833. – с. 32.

Azerbaijan lost its historical lands piece by piece, and the creation of such a province in Karabakh became a reference point for Armenian territorial claims against Azerbaijan in the future. As a result, this policy, which began at the beginning of the 20th century, resulted in losing another 20 percent of its historical lands of Azerbaijan by the end of the century. More than 1 million of our compatriots forcibly left their native lands, became refugees and internally displaced persons.

In the second subchapter, entitled *“Explanation of the term Nagorno-Karabakh in research works”*, is noted that the expression “Nagorno-Karabakh” was gradually introduced into political circulation by Armenians during the existence of the Azerbaijan People’s Republic and began to be used more often.³⁸ This was due to the desire of Armenians to create a state for themselves for the first time in the South Caucasus and to try to form their own territory at the expense of their neighbors as much as possible. It is no coincidence that, starting from the mid of the 20th century, the concept of Nagorno-Karabakh and the history of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region, which laid the foundation for the politicization of this concept, were falsified on purpose in Armenian historiography by Armenian authors. Modern Armenian historians, referring to the works of S.T.Yeremyan, A.N.Ter-Gedendiyani, A.Sh.Mnasakanyan, V.A.Ulubabyan, A.A.Khachaturyan, G.S.Svazyan, A.A.Hakobyan, S.Vartanyan, G.Galoyan, G.B.Abramyan, G.A.Ionesiyan, M.Mkrtichyan and others, modern Armenian historians - Aganbekyan, Hambarsumyan, Ikityan, Z.Balayan, S.Kaptukiyani and others “researched” history based on supposedly consistent, “accurate” facts. Most of the slander, lies and fabrications were based on those “works”.³⁹ As a result of the

³⁸ Шадунц, С. Карабах // К истории образования Нагорно-Карабахской автономной области Азерб. ССР. 1918-1925. Документы и материалы. – Баку, – 1989, – с.135-137.

³⁹ Мəммədov, N.R. Azərbaycan SSR Dağlıq Qarabağ Muxtar Vilayəti iyun 1941 - dekabr 1950-ci illərdə / N.R.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Elm, – 2006. – s.12.

research conducted in this subchapter, it becomes clear that the concept of “Nagorno-Karabakh” was created by the Armenian Dashnaks. In general, in reality from a geographical viewpoint this concept does not even cover the territories that are included in Upper Karabakh. If we pay attention, we will see that the territory called “Nagorno-Karabakh” included special territories in Karabakh where Armenians were mass resettled as a result of the resettlement policy of Tsarist Russia. Moreover, *Dağlıq Qarabağ*, which was translated into Russian as “Nagorny Karabakh”, was presented in international documents in the Russian version without being translated, and was instilled and propagated in the minds. Today, although the Nagorno-Karabakh problem has been resolved with the “Iron Fist” operation led by the victorious Supreme Commander-in-Chief İlham Aliyev, the expression “Nagorno-Karabakh” is still used in the Russian, Persian and Western press.

Chapter II, entitled “The Karabakh Problem in the Historiography of the homeland,” consists of three subchapters. In the first subchapter, entitled “*The Karabakh Issue in the Studies of the Figures of the People’s Republic*”, the problem was studied, especially with reference to the works of prominent Azerbaijani thinkers such as Mahammad Amin Rasulzadeh, Yusif Vezir Chemenzeminli, Mirza Bala Mammadzadeh, Rashid bey İsmayilov, Jahangir Zeynalovlu, and Ahmad bey Agaoğlu⁴⁰. It should be noted that the government of the People’s Republic fought throughout its

⁴⁰ Rəsulzadə, M.Ə. Əsərləri: [5 cildə] / M.Ə.Rəsulzadə. – Bakı: Təhsil, – c.1. – 2014. – 480 s.; Rəsulzadə M.Ə. Əsərləri: [5 cildə] / M.Ə.Rəsulzadə. – Bakı: Təhsil, – c.4. – 2014. – 416 s.; Rəsulzadə M.Ə. Kənddə Müsibət // İrşad. – 1906, 5 yanvar. – s. 2; Rəsulzadə M.Ə. Rus imperalizmi haqqında // Açıq söz. – 1917, 31 may. – s. 2; Çəmənözəminli, Y.V. Əsərləri: [3 cildə] / Y.V.Çəmənözəminli. – Bakı: Avrasiya press, – c.3. – 2005. – 440 s.; Məmmədözə, M.B. Ermənilər və İran. Əsgi əlifbadan çevirəni, ön söz və lüğətin müəllifi. A. Paşayev; Red. M. Əsədova / M.B.Məmmədözə. – Bakı: Azər nəşr, – 1993. – 42 s.; İsmayilov, R.Ə. Azərbaycan tarixi / R.Ə.İsmayilov. – Bakı: Azər nəşr, – 1993. – 163 s.; Zeynalovlu, C. Müxtəsər Azərbaycan tarixi. – Bakı: Azərbaycan Dövlət Kitab Palatası, – 1992. – 144 s.; Mirəhmədov, Ə.M. Əhməd bəy Ağaoğlu / Ə.M.Mirəhmədov. – Bakı: Örgünəş, – 2014. – 264 s.

activities for Karabakh to remain part of Azerbaijan. Because, as the Governor-General of Karabakh, Khosrov bey Sultanov noted at that time, Muslims constituted the majority of the population not only in Karabakh, but also *“in the places we call Armenia”*.⁴¹ ‘On the whole, the provisions considered by the figures of the People’s Republic, both in the political arena and in the works they wrote and the opinions they uttered, show that during the existence of the People’s Republic, any territorial claims of the Armenians regarding Karabakh were considered inappropriate. Our thinkers of this period, who were steadfast in their ideas until the fall of the Republic, defended these positions in the international arena to the end, not only with words, but also with actions.

In the second subchapter, entitled *“In the researches of the Soviet Period”*, the research works on the Nagorno-Karabakh problem in the historiography of the homeland were analyzed within a large chronological framework covering the period from the collapse of the Azerbaijan People’s Republic on April 28, 1920, and the establishment of Soviet power in Azerbaijan to the declaration of independence of Azerbaijan on October 18, 1991. Particular attention was paid to the books and articles of Pasha Aliyev, Igrar Aliyev, Ibrahim Muslimov, Kamil Mehdiyev, Raftar Imanov, Irina Mosesova and others on the formation and further development of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region.⁴² On the whole, it is enough to make a small comparison to look at the gap in our Soviet-era history regarding the Karabakh problem. If we pay attention, we will see that

⁴¹ Nəbibəyli, Z. Sultan bəy və Xosrov bəy qardaşları. Bakı: Nurlar, 2011. – s.138

⁴² Əliyev, İ.H. Dağlıq Qarabağ. Tarix. Faktlar. Hadisələr / İ.H.Əliyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 1989. – 120 s.; Əliyev, P.M. Qarabağ bolşevikləri sovet hakimiyyətinin qələbəsi uğrunda mübarizədə / P.M.Əliyev. – Bakı: Azərnəşr, – 1963. – 104 s.; İmanov, R.C. Sosialist Dağlıq Qarabağı-60 il / R.C.İmanov. – Bakı: Azərbaycan SSR Maarif Nazirliyinin mətbəəsi, – 1981. – 52 s.; Mehdiyev, K. Stepanakert / K.Mehdiyev. – Bakı: Uşaqgənəcnəşr, – 1960. – 34 s.; Нагорный Карабах: разум победит. Документы и материалы. – Баку, – 1989. – 444 с. və b.

the author of the first work⁴³ on “Nagorno-Karabakh” published in Baku in 1925 by the Azerbaijan Research and Education Society was an Armenian - G.A. Kocharyan, and the author of the second work⁴⁴, “Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region”, published in Baku in 1960, was also an Armenian - N.S.Shahnazarov. This semichapter elucidates that when the Armenians published books on Nagorno-Karabakh in Baku and falsified history, our historians of the Soviet period focused their main attention either on the struggle of the Karabakh Bolsheviks for the victory of the Soviet government, or were busy devoting works to the study of agricultural life in Karabakh for agriculture and cattle breeding. After the problem with Nagorno-Karabakh deepened and reached its most tense level with the works of Armenian historians, that is, starting from the end of the 80s of the 20th century, special attention began to be paid to this issue in our historiography.

The third subchapter, entitled “*Researches of the independence period*”, analyzes a series of research works written on Karabakh since the first years of the independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In particular, attention is drawn to the increased concern and care of the National Leader of the Azerbaijani people, Heydar Aliyev, and then the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. İlham Aliyev, in this direction. In his speech at the annual general meeting of ANAS on April 27, 2011, the importance of setting more specific tasks for historians to objectively study not only Karabakh, but also the last two hundred years of Azerbaijan history as a whole is also emphasized.⁴⁵ It is no coincidence that hundreds of books on Karabakh have been published since 2011. When reviewing these works, it becomes clear that in the works written in recent years, works aimed at propaganda against the seditious and occupying

⁴³ Кочарян, Г.А. Нагорный Карабах / Г.А.Кочарян. – Баку: Общество Обследования и Изучения Азербайджана, – 1925. – 68 с.

⁴⁴ Шахназаров, Н.С. Нагорно-Карабахская автономная область / Н.С.Шахназаров. – Баку: Азернешр, – 1960. – 83 с.

⁴⁵ İlham Əliyev Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyasının illik ümumi yığıncağında iştirak etmişdir. 2011, 26 aprel. president.az/articles/2026

position of the Armenians in the emergence of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem predominate. We can mention the campaigns conducted in the international arena in this direction, including the 3-volume work of Leyla Aliyeva, Vice-President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, Head of the Foundation's Representation in the Russian Federation, which deals with the commendable measures carried out in the international arena within the framework of the "Justice for Khojaly!" campaign.⁴⁶ At the end of the semichapter, it is rightly concluded that the works written and the work done on Karabakh cannot be considered sufficient. For this reason, the continuous promotion of the facts obtained as a result of new research in this direction in the international arena is very important.

The last chapter of the dissertation is called **"The Karabakh Problem in Foreign Historiography"**. This chapter consists of 5 subchapters.

It appears from the first subchapter entitled *"In the researches of Turkish historians"*, that the current opinion in Turkish historiography is that "there is a need to act in accordance with the international conditions and wait for a suitable opportunity to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh problem". In the appropriate conditions that have arisen, Azerbaijan's joint action with Türkiye will allow for a positive result in resolving the problem. Although certain opinions have been voiced in Turkish historiography towards resolving the conflict militarily, most researchers are in favor of resolving the problem peacefully. The position of Armenia as an occupying party is criticized in the written studies. Another opinion is that today the solution to the problem depends more on the Christian bigotry of Western countries and the Russian Federation than on Armenia. When we pay attention to the bloody events taking place in the Muslim world today, it does not seem realistic to see any change in this Christian bigotry. Especially after the 44-day Patriotic War in

⁴⁶ Səmədov, V., Vəlizadə, R. Leyla Əliyeva: "Xocalıya Ədalət!" (Beynəlxalq erməni terroruna qarşı yeni strateji model): [3 cildə] / V. Səmədov, R. Vəlizadə. – Bakı, – 2014, – c. 1 – 344 s. – c. 2 – 376 s., – c. 3 – 480 s.

2020, new political realities in the region led to the formation of different approaches to solving the problem. Despite this, there is no serious change in the approach of international forces to the Karabakh issue. Although the Azerbaijani side has recently taken consistent steps to ensure peace and stability in the region, the destructive attitude of Armenia and some Western circles makes it difficult to solve the problem.

The works included in the second subchapter of the research, entitled *“In the Russian Historiography”*, prove that Russian-Armenian cooperation is more to the fore in the majority of Russian authors. Although only exceptional researchers like Oleg Kuznetsov show a certain tendency to approach the event objectively, as a result, the study of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem in Russian historiography today resembles Russia’s activities in the OSCE Minsk Group. That is, the main goal is not to solve the problem, but to take advantage of the problem for the interests of the Russian Federation. The Russian historian Oleg Kuznetsov⁴⁷, whom we considered in the course of the research as the most objective Russian historian, is trying to instill in the Azerbaijani people the “all or nothing” format that such a problem was created by Russia and that its solution is impossible unless Russia wants it.

The analysis of the works of Armenian researchers in the third subchapter entitled *“In the works of Armenian historians”* gives grounds to say that these works are not based on historical reality because they make territorial claims against Türkiye and Azerbaijan. Eg., in these works, along with fabrications such as describing Eastern Anatolia as the West of Armenia or the alleged genocide of Armenians by the Ottoman government, the historical territories of Azerbaijan, Nakhchivan, Zangezur and Karabakh, are also presented

⁴⁷ Кузнецов, О. Нагорно-Карабахский конфликт: Столкновение цивилизаций? // – Кавказ и Глобализация. – 2013, том 7. вып. 1-2, – с.94-108; Кузнецов, О. Этно-конфессиональные истоки транснационального армянского терроризма (историко-культурологический анализ)// – Баку: Strateji təhlil. – 2016, № 3-4 (17-18), – с. 65-66 və d.

as Armenian territories. Unlike the fake research written by Armenian historians on the history of Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijani historiography has illuminated Nagorno-Karabakh based on historical facts and has proven that Nagorno-Karabakh was historically an Azerbaijani territory. We should also specially note the favorable conditions created for our scientists at the state level in this work. In accordance with the tasks set before historians by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, in order to properly study our history, our historical scientists are objectively investigating the history of Nagorno-Karabakh based on historical sources and documents. Today, numerous works are being written that reflect the objective reality of the socio-economic, political and cultural life of Karabakh as a whole. Although this issue has been studied more extensively since the beginning of territorial claims of Armenia against Azerbaijan, today a lot of work has been done and is being done in this area. In particular, the genocides, atrocities, and terror acts committed by Armenians against the Turkish-Muslim population of Azerbaijan, not only in Karabakh, but also in various regions, are being exposed to a large extent and historical truths are being promoted to the international community. Even today, no matter how many highly scientific and theoretical works have been written based on historical facts, more work needs to be done in this direction. Because today we live in an information society and the fight for justice is being waged not only with weapons, but also with information. Because the more the truths of Karabakh are promoted to the international community correctly, the more we will be the superior party in the information war.

The works reviewed in the fourth subchapter entitled *“In the Iranian historiography”* show that the ethnic identity factor plays an important role in the formation of the attitude towards the Karabakh problem in Iranian historiography. Thus, in the works of authors of Persian and Armenian origin, a subjective approach to the problem is naturally more pronounced, mainly on the basis of “love for the Armenians”. In the works of our compatriots from the South

Azerbaijan, a direction from the viewpoint of restoring historical truth to the issue is manifested.

The investigation of the works of Western historians in the fifth subchapter, entitled *“The Karabakh problem in the works of European and American historians”*, gives grounds to conclude that there are researchers who demonstrate a position of appeasing both sides and trying to appear objective, while there are those who specifically support one of the conflicting parties. Unfortunately, we must say that there are more people who defend our notorious neighbors from the position of “Christian solidarity”. But this should not prevent us from continuing our propaganda in this direction. If the Armenians have managed to make Europeans accept the lie by repeating it over and over again, we should work harder to convey the truth to the world. We should also keep in mind political interests and organize our propaganda in a continuous and uninterrupted manner so that we can achieve something in the information war that we started too late. Although some progress has been made towards the solution of the Karabakh conflict, especially as a result of the political and diplomatic efforts of Azerbaijan in the recent period, Armenians non-constructive attitude and the double standards of some foreign circles still keep the problem in a complex state. Despite this, the information war and diplomatic steps carried out by Azerbaijan in the international world give real results.

The main scientific and theoretical conclusions obtained during the research are systematized and summarized in the **“Conclusion”** section of the dissertation. As a result of the research work, it is once again confirmed that the expression “Nagorno-Karabakh” was fabricated at the beginning of the 20th century, politicized and ethnonized by the zeal of Armenian authors. The Karabakh issue has been objectively covered in the historiography of the homeland, if we do not take into account the Soviet period studies. Because the repressions and exiles carried out by the Soviet government against our intellectuals in the 20s-30s and 40s-50s of the 20th century dealt a great blow to our historical science as a whole. It was precisely as a

result of this that when Armenian authors published works under the name “Nagorno-Karabakh” and demonstrated their position, our historians were engaged in studying economic life in Karabakh for the development of agriculture and cattle breeding, and propagandizing that the Karabakh Bolsheviks ensured the “victory of Soviet power”. As a result of the research, it becomes clear that although the majority of Western historians try to appear neutral, there are also many who support rightful position of Azerbaijan. Among representatives of foreign historiography, Turkish historiography unequivocally defends rightful position of Azerbaijan. Armenian researchers, both during the Soviet era and after the Republic of Armenia became independent, have always defended and developed their incorrect positions regarding Karabakh. Most researchers of Azerbaijani Turkic nationality in Iranian historiography generally approach the problem objectively, but historians who are of Persian origin and reflect the official position of the IRI in their works demonstrate a loyal character in their approach to the problem. Today, in the international world, it will be possible to achieve positive results if our historians illuminate the problem with more systematic and more conclusive research works based on facts and do this work consistently.

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

1. Ermənistan-Azərbaycan Dağlıq Qarabağ problemi İran tarixşünaslığında // – Bakı: Tarix və onun problemləri. Nəzəri, elmi, metodik jurnal. – 2018. №3, – s.334-341.
2. Qarabağ toponimi mənbələrdə // Dünyaya İntegrasiya və elmlərarası əlaqə. Beynəlxalq elmi və praktik internet konfransının materialları, – Bakı: – 3 dekabr – 2020, – s.36-38.
3. Dağlıq Qarabağ termini erməni tarixşünaslığında // Azərbaycanın Dövlət Müstəqilliyinin 30 illiyi. Mənbəşünaslıq və

- Tarixşünaslıq elminin uğurları və perspektivləri, – Bakı: – 17 noyabr – 19 noyabr – 2021, – s.27-28.
4. Qarabağ problemi Sovet dövrü tədqiqatlarında // – Bakı: Tarix və onun problemləri. Nəzəri, elmi, metodik jurnal. – 2022. №3, – s.252-259.
 5. Dağlıq Qarabağ Muxtar Vilayəti Tarixi Tədqiqatlarda // – Bakı: Zəfər gününə həsr olunmuş Gənc Tədqiqatçıların Elmi məqalələr toplusu. – 2022. II nəşr, – s.157-167.
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