### **REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

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# ABSTRACT

of the thesis for the degree of Doctor of Science

## THE ROLE AND THE PLACE OF AZERBAIJAN IN THE EASTERN POLICY OF THE GREAT BRITAIN (XVIII – early XIX centuries)

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### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH

The significance of the topic. The emergence of independent states in the political map of the South Caucasus at the end of the twentieth century motivated a strong interest in an objective study of its historical past. Azerbaijan, with its rich historical heritage, also did not stay away from this process. After the restoration of the independence of Azerbaijan in 1991, national historical science began to gradually get rid of the stereotypes of Soviet historiography. Azerbaijani historians began to reconsider many pages of the country's historical past. At the same time, previously unstudied problems became the object of historians' research. It's on its turn, it allowed to form a more holistic and objective picture of the historical past of Azerbaijan as a single geopolitical space, divided by the confrontation of major powers in the early XIX century into northern and southern parts. Today, in the history of the Motherland, the history of Azerbaijan is already accepted within the framework of unified historical lands. In this context, the topic of the place and role of Azerbaijan in the eastern policy of Great Britain in the XVIII and early XIX centuries was not the object of a special study so far.

The relevance of the research topic is determined, on the one hand, by the interrelation between the modern policies of the European powers in the South Caucasus, in particular, Great Britain, with the policies pursued in the XVIII – early XIX century, and on the other, the place and role of Azerbaijan in the eastern policy of Great Britain in the period of the Russia-Qajar wars, was still not a special object of study in national and foreign historiography.

The history of Azerbaijan in the XVIII – the beginning of the XIX centuries is a very complex and at the same time rich in political events period. The study period is one of the most important stages in the history of Azerbaijan, which has become the object of the struggle of the neighboring powers for the capturing of the South Caucasus. The reason for the acute struggle was the rich material resources and the important strategic position of the region. In this regard, a comprehensive and multifaceted study of the essence and specifics of this most complex and largely contradictory historical

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process in this period is a task of great scientific importance, both for the history of the South Caucasus in general and for the history of Azerbaijan in particular. The importance of the study period includes an analysis of the place and role of Azerbaijan in the development of political and economic relations of Great Britain with the Safavid, Afshar, Qajar states and the Russian Empire that is increasing its influence in the region. Covering the multilateral aspects of the policy of Great Britain in Azerbaijan during the Russia-Qajar wars, current work fills a significant information gap\_related into problem mentioned in the national historiography.

It should be noted, the socio-economic and trade aspects of the policy of Great Britain in Azerbaijan in the XVIII – in the beginning of XIX centuries have been considered in the presented work. In the context of Britain-Qajar, Britain-Russian and Britain-Ottoman relations, the political and diplomatic aspects of the eastern policy of Great Britain at the beginning of the XIX century and the place of Azerbaijan in it are considered. All of this leaves no doubt of the need for the scientific study of this topic that determines its relevance.

**Topicality of the thesis.** The lack of knowledge of the problem of the place and role of Azerbaijan in the eastern policy of Great Britain in the XVIII and early XIX centuries justifies the choice of the topic of our research, making it even more relevant and necessary. That is why, given the particular importance of this issue for studying the history of Azerbaijan and the lack of relevant scientific literature directly related to the study of that issue, the author tried to consider the works that highlight general and specific aspects of the history of Azerbaijan of that period. To research the issues posed in the thesis, were involved the works of national, Soviet, post-Soviet and foreign historiography on the history of Azerbaijan, the Caucasus, Iran, Turkey, and Russia of the studied period. The factual material of these studies was used to conduct generalizations and conclusions about events in the South Caucasus and Azerbaijan.

First of all in our study we use researches of national authors who studied the history of Azerbaijan in the period under study in various aspects. One of the important are historian-chroniclers: "Gulistani-Iram" by A.A.Bakikhanov, "Garabag-name" by Mirza Adygezalbey, "Tarihi-Garabag" by Mirza Jamal Javanshir, etc.<sup>1</sup> All these works are chronicle narrations about the khanates of Azerbaijan on the eve and after its conquest by Russia, contain valuable information, are full of facts on the history of Azerbaijan of that period.

A large contribution to the study of the history of Azerbaijan made by such authoritative Azerbaijani scientists as O.Efendiyev,<sup>2</sup> A.Rahmani,<sup>3</sup> A.Abdurakhmanov,<sup>4</sup> S.Ashurbeyli,<sup>5</sup> G.Dalili,<sup>6</sup> G.Abdullaeva<sup>7</sup> and F.Aliyev.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Бакиханов, А.А. Гюлистан-и-Ирам / А.А.Бакиханов. Редакция, комментарии, примечания и указатели акад. З.М. Буньятова. – Баку: Элм, – 1991; Qarabağnamələr. I kitab. – Bakı: Yazıçı, – 1989; Qarabağnamələr. II kitab. – Bakı: Yazıçı, – 1991; Qarabağnamələr. III kitab. – Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, – 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Эфендиев, О.А. Образование Азербайджанского государства Сефевидов в начале XVI века / О.А.Эфендиев. – Баку: Акад. наук АзССР, 1961; Эфендиев, О.А. Азербайджанское государство Сефевидов в XVI веке / О.А.Эфендиев. – Баку: Элм, – 1981; Əfəndiyev, O. Azərbaycan Səfəvilər dövləti / О.Əfəndiyev. – Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, – 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Рахмани, А.А. Азербайджан в конце XVI и в XVII веке (1590-1700 гг.) / А.А.Рахмани. – Баку: Элм, –1981.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Абдурахманов, А. Азербайджан во взаимоотношениях с Россией, Турцией и Ираном в первой половине XVIII в. / А.Абдурахманов. – Баку: Изд-во Акад. наук АзССР, – 1964.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ашурбейли, С.Б. История города Баку (период средневековья) / С.Б.Ашурбейли. – Баку: Элм, – 1992; Ашурбейли, С.Б. Экономические и культурные связи Азербайджана с Индией в средние века / С.Б.Ашурбейли. – Баку: Элм, – 1990.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Dəlili, H.Ə. Azərbaycan-Rusiya münasibətləri fars və azərbaycandilli sənədlərdə / H.Ə.Dəlili. – Bakı: 1976; Dəlili, H.Ə. Azərbaycanın cənub xanlıqları (XVIII əsrin ikinci yarısında) / H.Ə.Dəlili. – Bakı: Elm, – 1979.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Абдуллаев, Г.Б. Азербайджан в XVIII в. и взаимоотношения его с Россией / Г.Б.Абдуллаев. – Баку: Изд-во Акад. наук АзССР, – 1965; Абдуллаев, Г.Б. Из истории северо-восточного Азербайджана в 60-80 г. XVIII в. / Г.Б.Абдуллаев. – Баку: Элм, – 1958.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Алиев, Ф.М. Миссия посланника русского государства А.П.Волынского в Азербайджане / Ф.М.Алиев. – Баку: Элм, – 1979; Алиев, Ф.М. Анти-иранские выступления и борьба против турецкой оккупации в Азербайджане в I половине XVIII в. / Ф.М.Алиев. – Баку: Элм, – 1975; Алиев, Ф.М. Азербайджано-русские отношения в XV-XVIII вв. / Ф.М.Алиев. – Баку: Элм, – 1985.

The work of academician Y.M.Mahmudov "Relationship of Aq Qoyunlu and Safavid States with Western European Countries" is very useful for disclosing the initial period of the formation of the foreign policy of the Safavid Power.<sup>9</sup> The history of diplomacy of Azerbaijan states, its relations with other countries research in other his studies.<sup>10</sup>

After gaining independence, works appeared in the national historiography, in which Azerbaijani researchers began to address previously obscured topics from a new angle, attracting new materials, from the funds of Turkish and Russian archives. Now, the realized greatness of national history in the centuries-long path of state development and the unconditional belief in the uniqueness of national culture have made it natural for everyone to strive to revive the historical traditions of the state existence of Azerbaijan.

Equally interesting, informative and noteworthy are the works of famous national historians T.Mustafazadeh,<sup>11</sup> K.Shukurov,<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Махмудов, Я.М. Взаимоотношения государств Аггоюнлу и Сефевидов с западноевропейскими странами / Я.М.Махмудов. – Баку: Издательство Бакинского университета, – 1991.

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Sh.Hamidova, <sup>21</sup>	M.Heydarov, <sup>22</sup>	Sh.Farzaliev, <sup>23</sup>	I.Huseynova, <sup>24</sup>

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"The History of Azerbaijan",<sup>37</sup> "The Treaty of Kur<u>e</u>(a)kchay – 200",<sup>38</sup> "The Irevan Khanate"<sup>39</sup> were extremely usefully.

When studying the events of the first half of the XIX century in Azerbaijan, it is impossible to do without a whole series of official scientific research, the authors of which were Russian statesmen, military historians and publicists. In fact, these authors were authorized to become historiographers of those events. Among these researchers are the names of P.G.Butkov,<sup>40</sup> P.Zubov,<sup>41</sup> V.A.Potto,<sup>42</sup> N.F.Dubrovin,<sup>43</sup> A.P.Berger,<sup>44</sup> A.P.Sherbatov.<sup>45</sup> Despite the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Azərbaycan tarixi: [Yeddi cilddə]. (XIII-XVIII əsrlər). – Bakı: Elm, – III cild – 2007; Azərbaycan tarixi: [Yeddi cilddə]. (XIX əsr). – Bakı: Elm, – IV cild – 2007.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> İrəvan xanlığı. Rusiya işğalı və ermənilərin Şimali Azərbaycan torpaqlarına köçürülməsi / Y.M.Mahmudov [və b.]. – Bakı: – 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Бутков, П.Г. Материалы для новой истории Кавказа с 1722 по 1803 гг.: [в 3-х частях] / П.Г.Бутков. – Санкт-Петербург: – 1869, ч.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Зубов, П.П. Персидская война в царствование императора Николая I / П.П.Зубов. – Санкт-Петербург: Конрад Вингебера, – 1837 (второе издание); Зубов, П. Картина последней войны России с Персиею. 1826-1828 / П.Зубов. – Санкт-Петербург: тип. К.Вингебера, – 1834; Зубов, П. Подвиги русских воинов в странах Кавказских, с 1800 по 1834 г. / П.Зубов. – Санкт-Петербург: – Т. 2. Ч. 4. – 1836.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Потто, В.А. Кавказская война в отдельных очерках, эпизодах, легендах и биографиях: [в 5 томах] / В.А.Потто. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. Е.Евдокимова, – 1887. Том II; Потто, В.А. Кавказская война в отдельных очерках, эпизодах, легендах и биографиях: [в 5 томах] / В.А.Потто. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. Е.Евдокимова, –1888. Том III; Потто, В.А. Кавказская война в отдельных очерках, эпизодах, легендах и биографиях: [в 5 томах] / В.А.Потто. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. Е.Евдокимова, – 1888. Том III; Потто, В.А. Кавказская война в отдельных очерках, эпизодах, легендах и биографиях: [в 5 томах] / В.А.Потто. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. Е.Евдокимова, – 1889. Том IV.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Дубровин, Н.Ф. История войн и владычества русских на Кавказе: [в 8 томах] / Н.Ф.Дубровин. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. Департамента уделов, – 1871. Том I, Книга 2; Дубровин, Н.Ф. История войны и владычества русских на Кавказе: [в 8 томах] / Н.Ф.Дубровин. – Санкт-Петербург: Тип. Департамента уделов. – 1886. Т. IV. Ртищев и Ермолов; Дубровин, Н.Ф. История войн и владычества русских на Кавказе: [в 8 томах] / Н.Ф.Дубровин. – Санкт-Петербург: Склад издания у В.А.Березовского, – 1888. Том VI; Дубровин, Н. Георгий XII Последний царь Грузии и присоединение ее к России / Н.Дубровин. – Санкт-Петербург: Типография Департамента уделов, – 1867; Дубровин, Н.Ф. Закавказье от 1803-1806 года / Н.Ф.Дубровин. – Санкт-Петербург: – 1866.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Берже, А.П. Хосров-Мирза, персидский принц 1802-1875 гг.: Историкобиографический очерк // – Санкт-Петербург: Русская старина. – 1879. №6, – с.

interesting and rich factual material contained in the studies, some biases and incompleteness should be taken into account.

In Soviet historiography, among major studies covering the general issues of international relations in the South Caucasus, can be selected monographs of O.Markova,<sup>46</sup> A.Fadeyev,<sup>47</sup> L.Semenov,<sup>48</sup> N.Kinyapina,<sup>49</sup> F.Abdullaev,<sup>50</sup> H.Ibrahimbeyli,<sup>51</sup> O.Orlik<sup>52</sup>, N.Tumanovich<sup>53</sup> and others, containing a wealth of factual material

333-352; Берже, А.П. Хосров-Мирза, персидский принц 1802-1875 гг.: Историко-биографический очерк // – Санкт-Петербург: Русская старина. – 1879. №7. С. 401-414; Берже, А.П. Александр Сергеевич Грибоедов. Деятельность его как дипломата 1827-1829 г. // – Санкт-Петербург: Русская старина. – 1874. Т. 11, – с.516-534; с.746-765; Берже, А.П. Александр Сергеевич Грибоедов в Персии и на Кавказе 1818-1828 г. // – Санкт-Петербург: Русская старина. – 1874. №10, – с. 275-300; Берже, А.П. Посольство Ермолова в Персию: Исторический очерк // – Санкт-Петербург: Русская старина. – 1877. Т. 19, – с. 255-274; – с. 389-427.

- <sup>45</sup> Щербатов, А.П. Генерал-фельдмаршал князь Паскевич. Его жизнь и деятельность: [в 9 томах]. Санкт-Петербург: 1888-1904.
- <sup>46</sup> Маркова, О.П. Россия, Закавказье и международные отношения в XVIII века/ О.П.Маркова. – Москва: Наука, – 1966.
- <sup>47</sup> Фадеев, А.В. Россия и Восточный кризис 20-х гг. XIX в. / А.В.Фадеев. Москва: Издательство Восточной литературы, 1958.
- <sup>48</sup> Семенов, Л.С. Россия и международные отношения на Среднем Востоке в 20-х годах XIX в. / Л.С.Семенов. Ленинград: ЛГУ, 1963; Семенов, Л.С. К вопросу о значении Туркманчайского договора для истории Армении // Ереван: Историко-филологический журнал. АН Арм. ССР, 1959, Вып. 2, №4. с.105-122.
- <sup>49</sup> Киняпина, Н.С. Кавказ и Средняя Азия во внешней политике России. Вторая половина XVIII 80-е годы XIX века / Н.С.Киняпина, М.М.Блиев, В.В.Дегоев. Москва: Издательство Московского университета, 1984; Киняпина, Н.С. Внешняя политика Николая I // Москва: Новая и новейшая история, 2001. №1, с. 192-210; Киняпина, Н.С. Внешняя политика России первой половины XIX века / Н.С.Киняпина. Москва: Высшая школа, 1963.
- <sup>50</sup> Абдуллаев, Ф. Из истории русско-иранских отношений и английской политики в Иране в начале XIX века / Ф.Абдуллаев. – Ташкент: Фан, – 1971.
- <sup>51</sup> Ибрагимбейли, Х.М. Кавказ в Крымской войне 1853-1856 гг. / Х.М.Ибрагимбейли. – Москва: Наука, – 1971.
- <sup>52</sup> Орлик, О.В. Россия в международных отношениях, 1815-1829: От Венского конгресса до Адрианопольского мира / О.В.Орлик. Москва: Наука, 1998.
- <sup>53</sup> Туманович, Н.Н. Европейские державы в Персидском заливе в XVI-XIX вв. / Н.Н.Туманович. – Москва: Наука, – 1982.

on the subject under study. The works of these authors are of great importance for understanding some aspects of Russia's eastern policy and its interrelations with the Safavid, Afshar and Qajar states and the Azerbaijani khanate.

The works of N.Kuznetsova,<sup>54</sup> V.Gadzhiyev<sup>55</sup>, N.Sotavov,<sup>56</sup> I.Enikopolov,<sup>57</sup> S.Shostakovich,<sup>58</sup> M.Igamberdyev,<sup>59</sup> also reveal the

- <sup>56</sup> Сотавов, Н.А. Северный Кавказ в русско-иранских и русско-турецких отношениях в XVIII в. / Н.А.Сотавов. Москва: Наука, 1991; Сотавов, Н.А. Крах «Грозы вселенной» / Н.А.Сотавов. Махачкала: 2000.
- <sup>57</sup> Ениколопов, И.К. А.С.Грибоедов в Грузии и Персии. Историкобиографический очерк / И.К.Ениколопов. – Тифлис: Заккнига, 1929; Грибоедов в Грузии. При участии М.Заверина / И.К.Ениколопов. Тбилиси: Заря Востока, – 1954; Ениколопов, И.К. Грибоедов и Восток. Ереван: Айпетрат, – 1954; Ениколопов, И.К. Из истории русско-иранских отношений и дипломатической деятельности А.С.Грибоедова // – Ереван: Историко-филологический журнал, – 1962. №4, – с. 143-150; Ениколопов, И.К. «Записка о переселении армян из Персии в наши области» и ее настоящий автор // – Ереван: Известия Академии наук Армянской ССР, Общественные науки, – 1949. №8, – с.69-73.

58 C.B. Дипломатическая деятельность Шостакович. Грибоедова / С.В.Шостакович. – Москва: Соцэкгиз, – 1955; Шостакович, С.В. Из истории английской агрессии па Ближнем и Среднем Востоке. Сколачивание британской дипломатией в первой половине XIX века антирусского иранотурецкого блока // – Иркутск: Ученые записки. Иркутский Педагогический институт, - 1955. Вып. II, - с.125-154; Шостакович, С.В. О секретаре Грибоедовской миссии Иване Сергеевиче Мальцове // – Иркутск: Труды Иркутского государственного университета им. А.А.Жданова. Серия историкоэкономическая, - 1958. Т. XXV. Вып. 1, - с. 137-147; Шостакович, С.В. К истории искупительного посольства Хосров мирзы (из архивных материалов о Грибоедовской миссии) // – Иркутск: Труды Иркутского государственного университета им. А.А.Жданова. Серия историко-экономическая, - 1958. Т. XXV. Вып. 1, - с.149-168; Шостакович, С.В. Английская дипломатия и борьба вокруг престола в Иране в первой половине XIX в. // Вопросы истории международных отношений и колониальной политики: [сб. ст.]. – Иркутск: – 1974. Вып. 1, – с. 45-69.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Кузнецова, Н.А. Иран в первой половине XIX века / Н.А.Кузнецова. – Москва: Наука. – 1983; Кузнецова, Н.А. Эволюция государственного аппарата каджарского Ирана (с конца XVIII века до 60-х годов XIX века) // – Москва: ИРАН: история и современность / Под ред. Л.М.Кулагиной, Н.М.Мамедовой; Сост. И.Е.Федорова, Л.М.Раванди-Фадаи. Москва: ИВ РАН; Центр стратегической коньюнктуры, – 2014, – с.17-25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Гаджиев, В.Г. Разгром Надир Шаха в Дагестане / В.Г.Гаджиев. – Махачкала: Тип. Мининформпечати РД, – 1996.

rivalry of European powers for influence in the Caucasus region, foreign and domestic policies of the Qajar government, etc. Important studies on the history of political and socio-economic relations in Azerbaijan are the works of I.Petrushevsky<sup>60</sup>, V.Leviatov,<sup>61</sup> N.Kukanova,<sup>62</sup> A.Yukht,<sup>63</sup> H.Atayev,<sup>64</sup> G.Ragimov,<sup>65</sup> which also contain information about the military-political events of the XVIII – the beginning of the XIX century. From the works of contemporary Russian authors on the history of international relations in the South Caucasus during the period under study, should be highlighting the works of V.Degoev,<sup>66</sup> I.Nachkhebiya,<sup>67</sup>

- <sup>62</sup> Куканова, Н.Г. Очерки по истории русско-иранских торговых отношений в XVII – первой половине XIX века (по материалам русских архивов) / Н.Г.Куканова. – Саранск: Мордов. книж. изд-во, – 1977.
- <sup>63</sup> Юхт, А.И. Торговля России с Закавказьем и Персией во второй четверти XVIII в. // – Москва: История СССР, – 1961, №1, – с.131-146; Юхт, А.И. Торговые компании в России в середине XVIII в. // – Москва: Исторические Записки, – 1984, том 111, – с. 238-295.
- <sup>64</sup> Атаев, Х.А. Торгово-экономические связи Ирана с Россией в XVIII XIX вв. / X.А.Атаев. – Москва: Наука, – 1991.
- <sup>65</sup> Рагимов, Г. Торгово-экономические аспекты в Русско-азербайджанских отношениях во второй половине XVIII– в начале XIX веков / Г.Рагимов. – Баку: Азернешр, – 1998.
- <sup>66</sup> Дегоев, В. Болышая игра на Кавказе: история и современность (вторая половина XVIII в.) / В.Дегоев. Москва: Русская панорама, 2003; Дегоев, В.В. Кавказ и великие державы 1829-1864 гг. Политика, война, дипломатия / В.В.Дегоев. Москва: Рубежи XXI, 2009; Дегоев, В.В. Приз для победителя / В.В.Дегоев, И.И.Стамова. Москва: МГИМО Университет, 2013.
- <sup>67</sup> Natchkhebia, I. Envoys of Napoleon: General Gardane's Mission to Persia, 1807-1809 // Qajar studies: Travellers and diplomats in the Qajar era, journal of international Qajar studies association, – 2007, volume VII; Natchkhebia, I.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Игамбердыев, М.А. Россия и Азербайджан в первой трети XIX века (из военно-политической истории) / М.А.Игамбердыев. – Москва: Наука, – 1969.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Петрушевский, И. Джаро-Белоканские вольные общества в первой трети XIX столетия / И.Петрушевский. – Тифлис: в издательстве «Заря Востока», – 1934; Петрушевский, И.П. Очерки по истории феодальных отношений в Азербайджане и Армении в XVI-XIX вв. / И.П.Петрушевский. – Ленинград: Издательство Ленинградского Государственного Университета, – 1949.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Левиатов В.Н. Очерки из истории Азербайджана в XVIII века / В.Н.Левиатов. – Баку: Изд-во АН Азерб. ССР, – 1948; Левиатов, В.Н. Из истории южных ханств Азербайджана (вторая половина XVIII в.) // – Баку: Доклады АН АзССР, – 1946, том II, №7, – с. 308-312.

G.Dzhahiev,<sup>68</sup> L.Kulagina,<sup>69</sup> S.Aliyev,<sup>70</sup> J.Rogozina,<sup>71</sup> O.Kuznetsov<sup>72</sup> and V. Sidorova.<sup>73</sup>

For a comprehensive coverage of this studied, the works of Western authors as J.Malcolm,<sup>74</sup> G.Curzon,<sup>75</sup> R.Watson,<sup>76</sup>

Unfinished Project: Napoleon's Policy in Persia in the context of the Indian Expedition and Georgia // Journal of the International Qur'anic Studies Association IQSA journal, – 2005. N5, – p.17-39; Natchkhebia, I. Unfinished Project: Napoleon's Policy in Persia in the context of the Indian Expedition and Georgia // Journal of the International Qur'anic Studies Association IQSA journal, – 2005. N5, – p.17-39; The Issue of Georgia in Napoleon's Policy in Persia (1804-1810). Lingua-Culture Contextual Studies in Ethnic Conflicts of the World (LiCCOSEC), Annual Report 2011, 20 (2012) Osaka: Research Institute for World Languages, Osaka University, 2012.

- <sup>68</sup> Джахиев, Г.А. Россия и Дагестан в начале XIX в. / Г.А.Джахиев. Махачкала: Даг. кн. изд-во, – 1985; Джахиев, Г.А. Дагестан в международных отношениях на Кавказе (1813-1829 гг.) / Г.А.Джахиев. – Махачкала: Дагест. кн. издательство, – 1991.
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- <sup>70</sup> Алиев, С.М. Междоусобные войны и борьба за верховную власть в Иране после распада империи Надир Шаха. История и культура в середине века и новое время / С.М.Алиев. – Москва: Наука, – 1980; Алиев, С.М. История Ирана XX век / С.М.Алиев. – Москва: ИВРАН-Крафт, – 2004.
- <sup>71</sup> Рогозина, Я.В. Из истории возвышения династии Каджаров. Вестник Санкт-Петербургского Университета, Сер. 9. 2008. Вып. 2. Ч. II, – с.287-295.
- <sup>72</sup> Кузнецов, О.Ю. Гюлистанский мир: 200 лет спустя (Опыт исторического осмысления событий русско-персидской войны 1804-1813 годов и Гюлистанского договора в контексте его 200-летия) // Стокгольм: Центральный Кавказ: ретроспектива столкновения цивилизаций. Сб. статей. Стокгольм: СА&СС Press, 2013, с. 39-85; Кузнецов, О.Ю. «Дорога на Гюлистан...»: путешествие по ухабам истории (рецензия на книгу О.Р.Айрапетова, М.А.Волхонского, В.М.Муханова «Дорога на Гюлистан... (Из истории российской политики на Кавказе во второй половине XVIII первой четверти XIX в.)») / О.Ю.Кузнецов. Москва-Тула: Гриф и К, 2014.
- <sup>73</sup> Сидорова, В.П. Товарооборот между Ираном и Великобританией в 30-40-е гг. 18 века // – Москва: Вестник МГОУ, Серия «История и политические науки», – 2011. №3, – с.183-188; Сидорова, В.П. Транзитная торговля Британских купцов с Ираном через территорию России В 30-40-е гг. XVIII в.: / автореферат диссертации ... кандидата исторических наук / – Москва: 2012.
- <sup>74</sup> Malcolm, J. The history of Persia, from the early period to the present time / J.Malcolm. London: John Murray, Vol. II, 1815.

L.Lockhart,<sup>77</sup> P.Sykes,<sup>78</sup> M.Atkin,<sup>79</sup> R.Savory,<sup>80</sup> R.Frye,<sup>81</sup> J.Baddeley,<sup>82</sup> J.Perry,<sup>83</sup> F.Russell,<sup>84</sup> and others, containing significant factual material represented of great scientific importance. Undoubtedly, the works of comparatively modern researchers as

- <sup>77</sup> Lockhart, L. Nadir Shah. A critical study based mainly upon contemporary sources / L.Lockhart. – London: Luzac & Co., 1938; Lockhart, L The fall of the Safavi dynasty and the afghan occupation of Persia / L.Lockhart. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, – 1958; Lockhart, L European contacts with Persia, 1350-1736 // The Cambridge history of Iran, – 1986. Vol. VI, – p. 373-411.
- <sup>78</sup> Sykes, P. A history of Persia. [in 2 volumes] / P.Sykes. London: Macmillan & co. ltd. – Vol. II. – 1915; Sykes, P. History of Afghanistan. [in 2 volumes] / P.Sykes. – London: Macmillan & co. ltd. – Vol. I, – 1930; Sykes, P. Persia. By brigadier-general sir Persy Sykes, author of "A history of Persia" / P.Sykes. – Oxford: Oxford at Clarendon Press. – 1922.
- <sup>79</sup> Atkin, Muriel. The strange death of Ibrahim Khalil Khan of Qarabagh // New York: Iranian Studies, Published in the USA, 1979. Vol. XII, №1-2, p. 79-107; Atkin, Muriel. Russia and Iran 1780-1828 // Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1980; Atkin, Muriel. Soviet and Russian Scholarship on Iran // New York: Iranian Studies, Published in the USA. 1987. Vol. XX, №2-4, p. 223-251.
- <sup>80</sup> Savory, R.M. Notes on the Safavid state // Iranian Studies, Published in the USA. Vol. I, №3, – 1968, – p. 96-101; Savory, R.M. Iran under the Safavids / R.M.Savory. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, – 1980; Savory, R.M. Studies on the history of Safavids Iran / R.M.Savory. London: Galliard (Printers) Ltd., – 1987; Savory, R.M. The Safavid administrative system // The Cambridge history of Iran. – Vol. VI. – 1986, – p. 351-372.
- <sup>81</sup> Frye, R.N. Iran / R.N.Frye. New-York: Harvard University, 1953.
- <sup>82</sup> Baddeley, J.F. The Russian conquest of the Caucasus / J.F.Baddeley. London: Longmans, – 1908.
- <sup>83</sup> Perry, J.P. Forced migration in Iran during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries // Iranian Studies, Published in the USA. – Vol. XVIII, №4, – 1975, – p. 199-216; Perry, J.P. Karim Khan Zand (1747-1779) / J.P.Perry. – Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, – 1979; Perry, J.P. The Zand Dynasty // – Cambridge: The Cambridge history of Iran: From Nadir Shah to the Islamic Republic. – 1993. Vol. VII, – p. 63-103.
- <sup>84</sup> Russell, F.S. Russo-Turkish War, 1828-1829. Eastern question (Balkan) / F.S.Russell. – London: H.S. King & Co., – 1877.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Curzon, G.N. Persia and Persian question: [in 2 vol.] / G.N.Curzon. – London-New York: – Vol. I. – 1892; Curzon, G.N. Persia and Persian question: [in 2 vol.] / G.N.Curzon. – London-New York: – Vol. II. – 1892.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Watson, R.G. A History of Persia from the beginning of the nineteenth century to the year 1858 / R.G.Watson. – London: Smith, Elder and Co., – 1866.

P.Avery,<sup>85</sup> R.Tapper,<sup>86</sup> E.Ingram,<sup>87</sup> W. Floor,<sup>88</sup> T. Ernest,<sup>89</sup> M.Axworthy<sup>90</sup> and others are of undoubted value in the light of the issue under study, which initiated the beginning of a new trend in the study of the era that we are now witnessing and the beginning of a new interest in the history of our region.

In foreign historiography, also should mention fundamental studies of D.Reading,<sup>91</sup> T.Ricks,<sup>92</sup> E.Herzig,<sup>93</sup> A.Lambton<sup>94</sup> and others on the history of economic and trade relations of Iran and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> Avery, P. Nadir Shah and Afsharid legacy // The Cambridge history of Iran: From Nadir Shah to the Islamic Republic. – Cambridge: – 1993, Vol. VII. p.3-62; Avery, P.W. An Enquiry into the Outbreak of the Second Russo-Persian War, 1826-28 // – Edinburgh: Iran and Islam, in Memory of Vladimir Minorsky / ed. C.E.Bosworth, – 1971, – p.17-45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Tapper, R. Shahsevan in Safavid Persia // Bulletin of the School of the Oriental and African studies. – University of London. –Volume 37, Issue 2 June – 1974, – p. 321-354; Tapper, R. Frontier Nomads of Iran: A Political and Social History of the Shahsevan / R.Tapper. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Pres. – 1997; Tapper, R. The tribes in eighteenth and nineteenth century Iran // The Cambridge history of Iran: From Nadir Shah to the Islamic Republic. – Cambridge: Cambridge: Cambridge University Pres. – Vol. VII. – 1993, – p. 506-541.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Ingram, E. Britain's Persian connection, 1798-1828: prelude to the Great Game in Asia / E.Ingram. – Oxford: Clarendon Press, – 1992.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Floor, W. The Iranian Navy in the Gulf during the eighteenth century // Iranian Studies, Published in the USA, – 1987. Vol. XX, №1, – p. 31-53; Floor, W. Safavid Government Institution / W.Floor. – Costa Mesa: Mazda Publishers, – 2001; Floor, W. Faghfoory Dastur al-Moluk, A Safavid State Manual / W.Floor, H.Mohammad. – Costa Mesa: Mazda Publishers, – 2007; Floor, W. The rise and fall of Nader Shah, Dutch east India company reports, 1730-1747 / W.Floor. – Washington: Mage Publishers, – 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Ernest, S.Tucker. Nadir Shah's Quest for Legitimacy in Post-Safavid Iran / S.T.Ernest. – Florida: 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Axworthy, M. The Sword of Persia: Nadir Shah, from Tribal Warrior to Conquering Tyrant / M.Axworthy. – London, UK and New York: I.B. Tauris, – 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Reading, D.K. The Anglo-Russian Commercial Treaty of 1734 / D.K.Reading. – New Haven: CT, – 1938.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> Ricks, T.M. Towards a social and economic history of eighteenth century Iran // Iranian Studies, Published in the USA. – Vol. VI, №2-3, – 1973, – p. 110-126.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Herzig, E.M. The Volume of Iranian Raw Silk exports in the Safavid period // Iranian Studies, – Published in the USA. – Vol. XXV. №1-2, – 1992, – p. 61-79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Lambton, A. Landlord and Peasant in Persia / A.Lambton. – London: Oxford University Press, – 1953.

Azerbaijan. The authors of these papers emphasize the strong influence of economic interests on British foreign policy. Collective research from the series «Cambridge History of Iran» is a voluminous work on the history of Iran. This is the most significant and authoritative publication on the history of this country and contains very valuable information on the history of Azerbaijan.<sup>95</sup>

Our study used the translations of Iranian historians to extract some very interesting information to better understand some of the characteristics and peculiarities of British Eastern politics in in the Qajar state. In the course of our research, the works of such Iranian researchers as F.Adamiyat,<sup>96</sup> R.Ramazani,<sup>97</sup> R.Shabani,<sup>98</sup> M.Beyruz,<sup>99</sup> M.Makhdiyan,<sup>100</sup> M.Tehrani<sup>101</sup> and others were used. The research of Turkish historians is also of undoubted value in the study of the history of Azerbaijan. In our study, we used the works of I.Uzuncharshili,<sup>102</sup> N.Kurat,<sup>103</sup> A.Djafar-Pur,<sup>104</sup> M.Aktepe,<sup>105</sup>

- <sup>95</sup> The Cambridge history of Iran: [in 7 volumes]. The Timurid and Safavid Periods. Cambridge: – Vol. VI, – 1986; Cambridge history of Iran: [in 7 volumes]. From Nadir Shah to the Islamic Republic. Cambridge: – Vol. VII. – 1993.
- <sup>96</sup> Adamiyat, F. The Diplomatic relations of Persia with Britain, Turkey and Russia 1815-1830: / Thesis to be presented for the Ph. D. / – Degree of the University of London. October, – 1949.
- <sup>97</sup> Ramazani, R.K. The foreign policy of Iran. A developing nation in world affairs (1500-1941) / R.K.Ramazani. – Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, – 1966; Ramazani, R.K. Persian Gulf. Iran's Role / R.K.Ramazani. – Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, – 1972.
- <sup>98</sup> Шабани, Р. Краткая история Ирана / Р.Шабани. Санкт-Петербург: Петербургское востоковедение, – 2008.
- <sup>99</sup> Maziar, Behrooz. Revisiting the Second Russo-Iranian War (1826-1828): Causes and Perceptions // Iranian Studies, Volume 46, Issue 3, 2013, p.1-23.
- <sup>100</sup> Махдиян, М.Х. История межгосударственных отношений Ирана и России (XIX – начало XXI века) / М.Х.Махдиян. – Москва: ИВ РАН, Центр стратегической конъюнктуры, – 2014.
- <sup>101</sup> Məhbubə, Tehrani. Kərim xan Zənd. Tərcüməçi: Əkrəm Bağırov / M.Tehrani. Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2017.
- <sup>102</sup> Uzunçarşılı İ.H. Osmanlı Tarihi, IV cilt, I bölum / İ.H.Uzunçarşılı. İstanbul: Türk Tarih Kurumu, – 2011.
- <sup>103</sup> Kurat, A.N. Türk-ingiliz münasebetlerine kısa bir bakış (1553-1952) / A.N.Kurat. Ankara: Türk Tarih kurumu basimevi, – 1952; Kurat, A.N. XVIII Yüzyıl Sonundan Kurtuluş Savaşına Kadar Türk-Rus İlişkileri (1798-1919) / A.N.Kurat. Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu Yayınları, – 2011.

A.Tekdemir,<sup>106</sup> K.Beydili,<sup>107</sup> G.Gokcha<sup>108</sup> and many others. These works are of great assistance in the justification of certain scientific issues, because contains a rich actual material from valuable sources that are not in the archives of our country.

The work of foreign authors gives us an opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the subject matter and, by comparing and analyzing different points of view, to identify and assess the motives of particular events. A critical examination of the writings of foreign authors is necessary both for the objective presentation of the Caucasian problem as a whole and for the identification of the true role of Azerbaijan in the political processes of the time.

**Object and subject of research.** The object of the research is the place and role of Azerbaijan in the eastern policy of Great Britain in the XVIII and early XIX centuries. The subject of the research is the attempts of Great Britain to infiltrate Azerbaijan in the first half of the XVIII century, the eastern policy of Great Britain in the region in the second half of the XVIII century, Azerbaijani lands in the policy of Great Britain on the eve and during the Russia-Qajar (1804-1813, 1826-1828) and Russia-Ottoman (1828-1829) wars.

**Goals and objectives of the thesis:** The main goal of the presented thesis is a comprehensive study and coverage of the place and role of Azerbaijan in the eastern politics of Great Britain in the XVIII and early XIX centuries, the history of Britain's trade and diplomatic relations in the region before and during the Russia-Qajar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Djafar-Pour, Ali. Nadir şah Devrinde Osmanlı-İran munasebetleri: / Ph.D. diss. – İstanbul Universitesi, Edebiyat Fakultesi, – 1977.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> Münir, Aktepe M. 1720-1724 Osmanlı-Iran Munasibetleri və Silaşör Kamani Mustafa Ağanın Revan Fateh-namesi / A.M.Münir. – İstanbul: 1970; Münir, Aktepe M. Nadir Şah'ın Osmanlı Padişahı I Mahmud'a gönderdiği Taht-i Tavus Hakkında // – İstanbul: Tarih Dergisi, – №28-29. – 1975, – s. 113-122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> Tekdemir, Aziz. XIX Yüzyılın ilk çeyreğinde Osmanli-Iran ihtilaflari ve 1821-1823 savaşı // Karadeniz (Black Sea-Çernoye More) Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi, – Number: 4, – 2010, – s. 77-95.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Beydilli, K. 1828-1829 Osmanlı-Rus Savaşı'nda Doğu Anadolu'dan Göçürülen Ermeniler // – Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu, Belgeler, Türk Tarih Belgeleri Dergisi, – 1988, c. XIII, sayı: 17'den ayrı basım, – s. 365-478.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Gokce, Gemal. Kafkasya ve Qsmanli imperatorlugunun Kafkasya siyaseti / G.Gokce. – İstanbul: Has-Kutulmus Matbaasi, – 1979.

wars (1804-1813; 1826-1828), which was not yet the object of special research in Azerbaijani historiography. This topic is considered for the first time on the basis of involvement in scientific circulation many previously little-known sources, various publications and works of national and foreign authors.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned goal, the following tasks have been addressed:

- to study the importance of Azerbaijan in the trade and diplomatic relations of Great Britain with the Safavid state in the first half of the XVIII century.

- to investigate the role of the Caspian area in the cooperation of between Great Britain and the state of Nadir Shah in the military and trade spheres;

- to research the degree of influence of the "Russian factor" on the Britain-Qajar relations;

- to study the degree of influence of the eastern policy of Great Britain on the geopolitical interests of the Ottoman and the Qajar states, on the formation of international relations in Azerbaijan;

- to identify the place and role of Azerbaijan in the aggravation of the Russia-Qajar relations in the context of the Eastern policy of Great Britain during the studied period;

- to study the essence and nature of the treaties signed by Great Britain with the Qajar state and its influence on the situation in the South Caucasus and Azerbaijan;

- to study the level of rivalry between Great Britain and Russia for influence in Azerbaijan;

- to research the role of Great Britain in the relations of the Ottoman Empire with the Qajar state;

- to consider the preconditions for the start of the second Russia-Qajar war (1826-1828) in the light of the fulfillment by Great Britain of its obligations under the Tehran Treaty (1814).

- to analyze the process of concluding the Turkmanchay (1828) and Adrianople (1829) treaties and their consequences;

- to consider the process of resettlement of Armenians from the Qajar state and the Ottoman Empire to Northern Azerbaijan based on data given by British diplomats; - to investigate the impact of the results of the Russia-Qajar wars (1804-1813; 1826-1828) on the position of Great Britain in the region;

**Research methods.** The collected factual material gives an opportunity to study on concrete facts the place and role of Azerbaijan in the Eastern policy of Great Britain in broader background of international relations. We tried to study all available archival sources and scientific literature, allowing reconstructing the policy of the Great Britain in Azerbaijan and throughout the South Caucasus, to analyze a topic from different viewpoints. The study is based on the principle of historicism, which considers all historical events in the process of its emergence, development, and change in a specific historical context, to determine its significance for subsequent historical development. Historical, chronological, comparative methods, discourse analysis as well as a number of historical principles: objectivity and sufficient reason, analytical, historical-systemic are used in the process of the research.

#### Core provisions to be defended.

-Since the XVIII century, Great Britain has been actively involved in the struggle for influence in the South Caucasus and Azerbaijan. Strengthening positions in Azerbaijan is becoming <u>a</u> one of the priority direction of the eastern policy of Great Britain. Great Britain's interest in Azerbaijan was primarily due to its advantageous strategic position and trade value. The seaports of Azerbaijan in the Caspian Sea were a transit artery connecting Europe not only with Iran, but also with the South Caucasus, Central Asia, and also with India. From Azerbaijan to the foreign market were supplied: raw silk, cotton, wool, silk and cotton fabrics, spices, fruits, wines, etc. The most valuable export item was raw silk.

- In the first half of the XVIII century, British imperial policy in the region was limited to the establishing its trade and diplomatic influence. Britain lobbied its trading companies through diplomatic maneuvers without openly entering into a confrontation for dominance in the region. A more active British policy in the region was hampered primarily by the active military expansion of Russia and the Ottoman Empire. - Following the collapse of the Safavid state, British and Russian interests first clashed in Azerbaijan. The relationship between the state of Great Britain and Afshar state should be considered primarily in the context of Nadir Shah's active military and political activities, in particular his attempts to build a Caspian navy. Britain, realizing the importance of navigation in the Caspian Sea, took an active part through its British trade agents to the establishment of the Caspian Navy, which had a negative impact on the course of Russia-British relations. However, the unexpected death of Nadir Shah Afshar left unfinished his plans to build a strong navy in the Caspian Sea, which later played a significant role in the conquest of Azerbaijan by the Russian Empire.

- In the second half of the XVIII century, political fragmentation prevailed in Azerbaijan. Azerbaijani khans, striving in every possible way to preserve their independence, pursued a policy of maneuvering between the great Powers. At the same time, the situation in the South Caucasus and Qajar Iran attracted the attention of Great Britain and France, as an integral part of their anti-Russia policies. The rivalry between Britain and France for political and economic dominance in the region went hand in hand with their struggle against Russia. British diplomacy in the first half of the XIXth century focused on one of the most important tasks of British foreign policy - securing the conquest and exploitation of the colonies, as well as the establishment of strongholds on the way from metropolitan East. Whereas in the early of the XVIII century Great Britain had exclusively commercial interests in the region, its have now given way to new political and strategic interests.

- The main object of the Russia-Qajar contradictions was the South Caucasus, namely the territory of the North Azerbaijani khanates. Great Britain, seeking to prevent the strengthening of the position of the Russian Empire and playing on the Russia-Qajar controversy, tried to increase its own influence in the region. From the beginning of the XIX century, Great Britain began active diplomatic and military activities in Qajar Iran. Seven diplomatic embassies were dispatched to Tehran and Tabriz on behalf of the British government and three missions on behalf of the mission in India. As a result of these missions and embassies, both economic and political treaties (1801, 1809, 1812, and 1814) were signed, providing material and military support to Qajar Iran. As a result, Britain, along with diplomatic activities in Qajar Iran, took an active part in the reorganization of its armed forces. The British government assumed that the Qajar army, modernized with the help of British military experts, could assist them in defending the East India Company's possessions, as well as become effect mediator of British influence in Qajar Iran.

- Considerable interest represents the Qajar -Ottoman relations, especially in the context of the Britain-Russia confrontation, since it is this factor that, to a large extent, determined their foreign policy course. The British government in relation to the Ottoman Empire, as well as Qajar Iran, pursued a policy of preserving "integrity", out of fear of the so-called "Russian threat" to British rule in India. As part of its Eastern policy, Great Britain tried to prevent a conflict between these states, which could lead to the complete disintegration of these countries. At the same time, the Qajar government's attempts to form a military alliance with the Ottoman Empire against Russia met with strong opposition from Britain as incompatible with its interests. The role of British diplomacy in the conclusion of the Erzerum Treaty of 1823, as well as the pressure exerted by the British Ambassador in Istanbul on the Turkish government to abrogate the Qajar proposal for a military alliance with the Ottoman Empire, are undeniable.

-Since the 1820s, the territorial scope of the Eastern question has been extended to include a number of other international problems, particularly the Caucasus problem. Thus, Azerbaijan becomes part of Britain's eastern policy. The outbreak of the second Russia-Qajar war heightened Britain's fears of the Russian's threat to British India. Therefore, in the course of hostilities, Great Britain in every possible way pushed Qajar Iran to recognize the territorial concessions presented by Russia, while itself refused to fulfill the obligations assumed under the Tehran Treaty (1814), namely, the payment of subsidies and the provision of military assistance. Therefore, in the course of military actions, Great Britain encouraged Qajar Iran to recognize the territorial concessions offered by Russia, while refusing to comply with the obligations undertaken under the Tehran Treaty (1814) payment of subsidies and military assistance. The results of the two Russia-Qajar wars put an end to the independence of the North Azerbaijani khanates, finally burying the Qajars' hopes for a full return to their power the «Safavid inheritance», confirming the complete domination of the Russian Empire in the South Caucasus, including in Northern Azerbaijan. At the same time, the Russia-Qajar wars and the agreements reached as a result in Gulistan (1813) and Turkmenchay (1828) preserved the integrity of the Qajar state, preventing for a while Britain's fears about the possibility of Russia's military penetration through the territory of Qajar Iran to its possessions in India. The result of the Adrianople Peace (1829) can be considered the fact that the diplomatic struggle of European states, namely Great Britain against Russia during the  $\underline{e}(E)$ astern crisis of the 1820s was actually lost.

#### Scientific innovation of the research.

The scientific innovation follows:

- for the first time in national historiography, an attempt was made to study comprehensively and broadly of Azerbaijan's place and role in the Eastern politics of Great Britain in the XVIII and early XIX centuries;

- for the first time an attempt was made to thoroughly analyze and study the political and economic relations of Great Britain with Afshar and Qajar states during the study period;

- for the first time used many unpublished archival, documentary and narrative sources from archives of Russia, Great Britain, Turkey and Georgia, collections of scientific institutions, central and local libraries. The data obtained allowed us to follow the development of British policy in Azerbaijan during this period at a qualitatively new level;

- in our research, in accordance with its aims and objectives, a retrospective analysis was made of the political relations between Great Britain and the Safavid State, the diplomatic embassies of Nadir Shah Afshar, the policy of the British Empire in Azerbaijan during the reign of Nadir Shah Afshar, in particular his attempts to build a navy on the Caspian Sea with the help of British specialists; - for the first time an analysis of the role of diplomatic missions in the development of Britain-Qajar interstate relations, British diplomacy initiatives to develop trade, diplomatic relations between the Qajar state and Great Britain and the role of British military instructors in reforming the Qajar troops during the study period;

- for the first time we studied in detail the process of concluding the Tiflis agreement (1825), and the reasons for Britain's refusal to intervene in the region despite its obligations under the Treaty of Tehran (1814);

- for the first time, in Azerbaijani historiography an analysis has been done, the position taken by Britain on the eve and during the Russia-Qajar wars (1804-1813; 1826-1828);

- for the first time, an analysis has been done, the participation of British diplomats during the preparation and conclusion almost all fateful for Azerbaijan international agreements in the first third of the XIX century.

The sources of the research. The source base of the thesis based primarily on archival documents extracted from the archives of the United Kingdom, Russia, Georgia and Turkey, published collections of archival documents, travel diaries, works of contemporaries etc.

**Theoretical significance of the thesis.** The theoretical basis of the thesis consists of conceptual, theoretical approaches and conclusions contained in the works of scientists and politicians in the field of international relations, regional studies, Iranian studies, Caucasian studies, etc. Scientific conclusions and generalizations of the thesis make it possible to clarify and correct errors and inaccuracies that sometimes occur in publications on the history of British-Qajar, Russian-British and Russian-Qajar relations.

The thesis materials and conclusions can applied in the preparation of works on the history of Azerbaijan, the Caucasus, Russia, Great Britain and Iran, as well as in giving lectures and special courses, writing thesis and term papers.

**Practical value of the research.** The practical significance of the study determined by the novelty of its findings and provisions, first used in the work of the sources, which leads to the hope that this

work will significantly enrich the historiography of Azerbaijan.

**Approbation and application.** The main points of the thesis have been presented at Department of History of International Relations of the Institute of History of ANAS. They have also been published in the monograph "The place of Azerbaijan in Eastern Policy of Great Britain in the first third of the XIX Century" (Baku: 2017), as well as a number of chapters in collective monographs published in Turkey and Russia (Istanbul, 2016; Moscow, 2018), also in numerouse journals published in Azerbaijan, Great Britain, Italy, Russia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine etc., and presented at conferences in London, Oxford, Rome, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Istanbul, Krakow, Munster, Frankfurt, Warsaw, Jena, Berlin, Seville, Tashkent and others.

Name of organization where the work is performed. The work was performed in the "History of International Relations" department of the Institute of History named after AA Bakikhanov of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences and was discussed at the enlarged meeting of the department with the participation of invited experts and recommended for defense.

**Structure of work.** The work consists of an introduction, four chapters, fourteen half-chapters, a conclusion and a list of references.

**Total number of signs and of the thesis.** The thesis includes introduction, four chapters, conclusion and bibliography. The size of the introduction of 29230 characters without spaces, the chapter I - 85937 characters without spaces, the chapter III - 42674 characters without spaces, the chapter III - 89031 characters without spaces, the chapter IV - 198210 characters without spaces, the conclusion consists of 20890 characters without spaces. Total length of thesis without list of used literature 465972 characters without spaces.

### **II. BASIC CONTENT OF THE THESIS**

In the Introduction, the significance of the topic, its aim and functions, the theoretical and practical value on which the research is based and proved by testing is postulated.

The first chapter of the thesis "British infiltration attempts in Azerbaijan in the first half of the XVIII century" consists of three subchapters. The first subchapter provides an analysis of international rivalry in Azerbaijan on the eve of the decline of the Safavid state. It is known that by the beginning of the XVIII century, the internal political situation in the Safavid state, as well as the international situation in the region, was very tense. Azerbaijan, with its important strategic and geographical location, was the centre of the trade and economic interests of the major European powers, which sought to expand its influence in the East and become the dominant power on the way to India.

From the start of conquests in India and the emergence of a stubborn struggle for the silk market of the Safavid state, Britain's attention would be focused on the East. The British government monitored Russia's position in the Caspian Sea and the South Caucasus, as well as its diplomatic successes in the area. By the beginning of the XVIII century, the conflict between the Ottomans and Russia for the dominance in the Safavid state by the end of the century gradually developed into a open confrontation for influence in the Caucasus. Taking advantage of the catastrophic situation of the Safavid state after the uprising of the Afghan's Gilzay tribe in Gandahar and the internecine wars that began afterwards, Russia and the Ottoman Empire intensified their policies in Azerbaijan.

By the beginning of 1724, the positions of Russia and the Ottoman Empire in the region were clearly defined by the occupation and and division of Azerbaijan. The noticeable weakening of Russia's positions in Azerbaijan after the death of Peter I (1725), as well as the refusal of Shah Tahmasib to recognize the Treaty of Istanbul (1724) led to increased military activity of the Ottoman Empire, which sought completely oust Russia from Azerbaijan. The support of Britain and other European powers, the situation in the

Safavid state, contributed to the expansion of its conquests in the Caucasus. However, the expectation that the weakened Safavid State would be immune to external forces was deeply flawed. The heavy consequences of the Afghan, Ottoman and Russian occupation contributed to the rise of the liberation struggle against the invaders under the leadership of the talented Turkic commander Nadir from the Afshar clan. In this difficult situation, Nadir liberated the country from the Afghan troops at first, and soon forced the Russian (in Resht (1732) and Ganja (1735) treaties) and Ottomans (1736) to fully return all the lands seized in the South Caucasus.

The second subchapter introduces the main events in the investigation the relation of Great Britain with the empire of Nadir Shah Afshar (1736-1747), the founder of the Turkic dynasty of Afshar. By 1740, Nadir Shah had reached the peak of his power. By this time, Russian and Ottoman armies had already been expelled from all former Safavid possessions, conquered Khiva and Bukhara, the forces of the Mughal emperor, accused of helping Afghans were defeated, and captured the Mughal capital, Delhi.

The relationship of the state of Great Britain with the state of Afshar took place in the context of Nadir Shah's active attempts to build Caspian Navy. As is known, the Caspian Sea was a transit artery connecting Europe not only with the Afshar state, but also with India. The interest in the silk trade, except for Russia and the Ottoman Empire, was also shown by the majority of European states. From this point of view, the United Kingdom was more active and effective, having been interested in trade in the Caspian Sea since the time of the Safavids, and relevant British trading companies were established at that time. These companies motivated the signing of favorable trade agreements with Russia. The reasons that attracted Britain and Russia in the Caspian Sea basin were primarily maritime harbours, lively international trade in cities, markets, wealth of raw materials and Azerbaijan's advantageous strategic position. In order to implement its plans, Britain had to have a fleet on the Caspian Sea. At the same time, Nadir Shah, well aware of the importance of the Caspian fleet, pursued far-reaching military-political and economic goals, mainly aimed at strengthening his power in the Caspian

region.

During this period, only Russia had a fleet in the Caspian Sea. In an effort to fortify the region, Peter I built a rather strong fleet on the Caspian Sea. The Russian government was well aware that if there was a strong Afshar's Caspian fleet, it would pose a real threat to Russia's conquests in the Caspian region. Nadir Shah, in turn, was dissatisfied with Russia's trade and military monopoly on the Caspian Sea. Along with the need to create a fleet to provide troops with food in the course of military operations against the highlanders, Nadir Shah's additional motive was to share trade and power in the Caspian Sea with Russia. With the talent of the great warlord, Nadir Shah was well aware that the dominance on the Caspian Sea was of great strategic importance. By creating the Caspian fleet, it would, firstly, secure its northern borders, and secondly, provide reliable supplies of food to its troops in the event of the outbreak of hostilities in the Caspian region, in particular in the event of an invasion of Russian troops. The main motive for building the fleet in the Caspian was Nadir Shah's desire to weaken Russia's military position in the region.

Thus, Nadir Shah was one of the first Turkic rulers who realized the need to have his own navy in the Caspian Sea. In less than three years (1743-1745), the British built several small ships and two large ships. The latter, which by 1745 was ready to descend, outnumbered any Russian vessel sailing at that time on the Caspian Sea.

A strong, well-armed fleet in the Caspian Sea would represent a real threat to the Russian fleet and, in general, to the positions of Russia in the Caspian Sea. As soon as news of the shipbuilding activities of the British trade agent J. Elton began to arrive, in 1743 the Russian government protested to the Afshar and British governments against such activities. The Russian government's dissatisfaction led to the annulment of article 8 of the British-Russia trade agreement of 1734, according to which British merchants had the right of transit trade with the Nadir Shah's empire across the Caspian Sea. In November 1746, the Empress issued a decree completely banning British trade in the Caspian. Furthermore, immediately after the death of Nadir Shah (1747) Russian

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government decided to take immediate advantage of the country's disorder in order to destroy the Caspian fleet. The Board of Foreign Affairs of Russia adopted a resolution on the "extermination" of shipbuilding begun by Elton. Two large frigates were burned the following year by Russian seamen. Thus, Russia, determined to prevent the build of a naval by a neighboring state on the Caspian Sea, completely destroyed the Caspian industry. As a result, Nadir Shah's desire to establish his naval domination in the Caspian Sea ended in failure.

The third subchapter talks about the history of the development of the transit trade of British merchants through Azerbaijan in the first half of the XVIII century. From the second half of the XVII century, the first signs of an economic and political crisis appeared in the Safavid state. Transit trade through the Safavid state in the XVII-XVIII centuries was no longer as important as in the earlier period. This led to a reduction in the income of the Shah's treasury and to the deterioration of the economic situation of the country. Europe's relative well-being and rising standard of living during the eighteenth century led to an increase in its trade with the rest of the world, including also the Caspian countries. No trade statistics are available at this time. Direct participation by European companies was almost entirely concentrated on maritime transport. In the first half of the XVIII century the general political situation in Azerbaijan hindered the development of trade. The instability of political power, the absence of real centralized control, and the economic recession led to an increase in robbery and looting along the caravan routes of Azerbaijan. Through Azerbaijan were the most important militarystrategic and trade routes, there were the seaports needed by Russia for access to the eastern countries. The seizure of Azerbaijan by the Ottoman Empire would closed Russia's way to a number of eastern countries, cutting the main line of communications linking it with the Caucasus and the Safavid state.

In addition to Russia and the Ottoman Empire, European states showed interest in the silk trade. Due to a solid waterway from the Safavid state to Arkhangelsk through the Caspian Sea, the Volga and the Northern Dvina, the transit of silk through the territory of Russia represented huge benefits. The British and Dutch trade missions established in Isfahan sent their agents to Shamakhi to buy silk and send it to Europe via Aleppo and Izmir. French merchants also traded with the Safavid state. Europeans attempts to penetrate into the Caspian regions were viewed with caution from Russia.

In the first half of the XVIII century, British commercial capital penetrated into the Safavid state in two directions – through Astrakhan by the Caspian Sea and through the Persian Gulf. This transit trade was the most important and profitable for Europeans. This is evidenced by the constant petitions of their trade and political circles to the Russian state for granting them the right of access through the Astrakhan region to the Caspian regions of Azerbaijan. Britain made considerable efforts to conclude a lucrative contract for itself.

As a result of the political rapprochement of Great Britain and Russia in the late of 20s of the XVIII century, Britain obtained great trade privileges from Russia, which were formalized by the Britain-Russian treaty in 1734. The eighth article, according to which British merchants were entitled to trade with the Safavid State in transit through the territory of the Russia State, with the payment of 3% duty on the estimated value of the goods, was an important part of the treaty.

In 1740, Elton received from Nadir Shah's eldest son Rzaguly(u)Mirza – the charter for the merchants of the Russian company. After the issue of the charter in 1740, the British began to actively use the right of transit trade with Afshar's state through the territory of Russia.

The development of Britain-Afshar trade had some influence on the course of Russia-British relations. In November 1746, the Russian Empress issued a decree completely prohibiting British trade in the Caspian Sea. From 1749-1779 Britain was completely excluded from the Caspian trade through Russia, but dominated in the Persian Gulf. The reason for the cessation of British trade in the Caspian basin was the Russian government's discontent with Nadir Shah's attempts to build his own fleet in the Caspian Sea and the support given to him by Elton. Such an imperial policy was aimed at maintaining its dominant positions in the Caspian.

To be sure, Russia was determined not to allow any other state to have a fleet on the Caspian Sea, and the main direction of British imperial policy in the region during the first half of the XVIII century was not so much the establishment of its political, how much trade and economic influence. The more active policy of Great Britain in the region was primarily hampered by Russia, whose entire policy throughout the XVIII century was aimed at preventing the establishment of European influence here. However, in addition to Russia's reluctance to allow Britain participation in the Caspian trade, there were other reasons and, above all, considerable the distance from Britain that prevented it from actively influencing developments in the region.

By the end of the XVIII century, Russia and Great Britain, had become equally powerful states, had begun to struggle for political and commercial supremacy in the Middle East region.

Chapter II of the thesis is called **"International rivalry in Azerbaijan in the second half of the XVIII century"** consists of two subchapter. The first subchapter also explores the geopolitical position of the Azerbaijani khanates and the eastern policy of Great Britain. The second half of the XVIII century is a turning point in the history of the South Caucasus. After the death of Nadir Shah in 1747, the Afshar government in the South Caucasus has fallen. On the territory of Azerbaijan emerged independent states – khanates, the period of its existence covers the second half of the XVIII – first quarter of the XIX centuries. At this time Russia began to conduct a more active policy in the Caucasus and Azerbaijan, with the aim of conquering these lands. Russian interest mainly focused on using the Caucasus as a springboard for military operations against the Ottoman Empire and the Qajar state and a commercial center for trade expansion with Asia.

If we consider the Britain-Russia relations in that period, it is clear that, in general, both countries were interested in cooperation. In the XVIII century, three trade agreements were signed between Russia and the Great Britain (1734, 1766 and 1793). Commercial relations were strengthened by political and military alliances. Russia and Great Britain were allies during the war for the Austrian inheritance (1740-1748). Moreover, by the middle of the XVIII century Russian and British political elites pushed the idea that Britain and Russia -were "natural allies".

At the time that the Qajar came to power, the British East India Company established its dominance almost throughout India. The Persian Gulf was of interest to the British, not only in terms of a strategic trading base, but also in terms of security. The Eastern policy of Great Britain during that period revolved around two main issues: the danger of the French threat in British India and the Russian invasion of the Qajar state and the South Caucasus. The first task formed the diplomacy of Great Britain in the region in relation to the Qajar state, and the second, based on the need to contradict, was the main important motive of the Qajar foreign policy. Eastern policy of Great Britain in region preceded more from economic interests. Great Britain lobbied its trading companies through diplomatic manoeuvres without openly entering into a dominance confrontation in the region.

The second subchapter addresses the issue of struggle of the Qajar dynasty for the unification of the Azerbaijani lands and British policy in region. After the death of Kerim Khan Zand (1779), the head of the Turkic Qajar tribe Agha Mohammed Khan began struggle for the throne. He managed to establish his power in early 1794 in all of Iran and South Azerbaijan. Thus, after the short rule of the Zand, the new Qizilbash Turkic dynasty came to power again. The Qajar state, as the successor of the Safavid dynasty, hoped to restore the borders of the Safavid state. Agha Mohammed Khan attached the highest importance to the accession of the South Caucasian lands. In 1795 Agha Mohammed Khan sent his troops to the South Caucasus. As a result, all the khanates of the South Caucasus, with the exception of the Kartli-Kakheti kingdom, the Qarabag and Lankaran khanates, expressed submission to the Qajar government. Aiming to restore the Safavid borders, Agha Mohammed Khan stay on winter in the Mugan plain, where in March 1796 he was crowned, following the example of Nadir Shah Afshar. Aiming to restore the Safavid borders, Agha Muhammad Khan

stopped for winter in the Mughan Plain, where in March 1796 he was crowned, following the example of Nader Shah Afshar. As for Russia, it should be noted that after the Agha Mohammed Khan campaign in the South Caucasus in 1795, this region again became a priority in Russian politics. As a result of the campaign of General V. Zubov in 1796, the Russian troops occupied Darband and Baku, and then Salyan, Lankaran, Shamakhi, Guba and Ganja. However, soon the campaign had to be stopped, since in November 1796 Catherine II died. Her son Paul I took the throne of Russia, by order of which the troops were recalled. Meanwhile, Agha Mohammed Shah, taking advantage of the withdrawal of Russian troops, in 1797 once more marched on the South Caucasus, with the aim of subjugating Ibrahim Khalil Khan of Qarabakh and the capture of Shusha, that is, the completion of what could not be done last time. In June 1797, Agha Mohammed Shah occupied Shusha, where he stayed for three days, but unexpectedly fell victim to a palace conspiracy. After the assassination of Agha Muhammad Shah Qajar, the heir to the Qajar throne, Fatali Khan, came to the throne. Although Fatali Shah formally assumed the throne in 1797, in fact he had to fight against his opponents until 1801 in order to be confirmed on the Qajar throne.

The third chapter is called "Azerbaijan in the Politics of Great Britain during the First Russia-Qajar War of 1804-1813" consists of four subchapter. The first subchapter of this chapter focuses on the topic of the international situation at the beginning of the XIX century and Qajar diplomacy. At the turn of the XVIII-XIX centuries, the Middle East region is undergoing significant changes that are beginning to affect all spheres of life in the region. The changes that took place in the Middle East region were primarily associated with the growth of the expansion of European states in the East and with the entry of Eastern countries into the orbit of global geopolitical processes. The main forces in the Muslim East were the Ottoman Empire and Qajar State.

At the same time, the military-political and economic pressure of the European powers in the Qajar state is intensifying. The expansion of European countries contributes to the development of new principles of Qajar's foreign policy. Fatali Shah was not deeply informed about all the vicissitudes of European politics, but he was smart enough to understand the case: British and French were interested in the Qajar state, as one needs it to protect India, another is to attack it. For the Qajar state, it was necessary to find an ally to help solve the issue of establishing its influence in the entire South Caucasus by diplomatic or military means. Therefore, the Qajar government chose a policy of balancing between the European powers in order to use their help in the struggle against Russia. However, Fatali Shah overestimated, firstly, the effectiveness of the strategy of balancing between the two powers, secondly, the reliability of the alliances with London or Paris, and, thirdly, its military potential.

The situation in the South Caucasus and in the Qajar state attracted the attention of Great Britain and France, which competed for world domination and pushed the region into the orbit of their eastern policies, particularly anti-Russia policies. Mutual rivalry between Britain and France for political and economic dominance in the region went hand in hand with their struggle against Russia. In 1801, the manifesto of Emperor Alexander I about the annexation of the Kartli-Kakheti kingdom to Russia was issued. The Qajar State followed developments in the situation in the South Caucasus. Using Eastern Georgia as a springboard, the Russian Government launched its plan of conquest against the northern Azerbaijani khanates of the South Caucasus.

The General P. Tsitsianov's troop attacked of the Ganja Khanate in January 1804 caused outrage from the Qajar State, which considered the whole of Azerbaijan and the South Caucasus as a zone of its interests. The refusal of the Russian command to withdraw troops from the South Caucasus caused the start of the first Russia-Qajar war in June 1804. This subchapter also explores the reasons and some issues of diplomacy of the Qajar State. It was noted that the Qajars, both militarily and diplomatically, were significantly inferior to the European powers, which was an important factor in strengthening the British military and diplomatic presence in the Qajar state.

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In the second subchapter, are discussed in detail issues of the British diplomatic missions in the Qajar state.

The efforts of British diplomacy in the first half of the XIX century were aimed at achiving one of the most important tasks of British foreign policy - at seizing new colonies and its exploitation, as well as the creation of strongholds on the way from the metropolis to the East. The states of this region are beginning to be seen as possible allies and adversaries in the diplomatic and military struggle of the European powers. From the end of the XVIII – beginning of the XIX century, the Qajar state becomes the scene of political and diplomatic struggle between the leading European powers.

At the beginning of the XIX century, British eastern politics in the region focused mainly on seeking economic and political domination of the Qajar state and its transformation into a militarystrategic base for expansion in the Middle East. With the realization of these plans, it clashes with the southern direction of the foreign policy of the Russian empire, which also aiming to advance to the Caucasus and into Central Asia. At the same time, it should be stressed that the diplomatic and strategic interests of Great Britain in the Qajar state originally arose not so much from fear of Russia, as the French threat. Frightened by France's activities in the Middle East, namely the French invasion of Egypt in 1798, British government fears for the safety of its interests in India. Britain has also stepped up its eastern policy in order to counteract France.

During the first quarter of the XIX century, numerous diplomatic embassies were sent to the Qajar court on behalf of the British government and several missions led by Captain Malcolm on behalf of the British Office in India. As a result of these missions, both economic and political treaties were signed, which contained clauses on the provision of material and military support to the Qajar state. In the course of the numerous treaties signed during the Russia-Qajar wars, Britain, while guaranteeing assistance to the Qajar state, in reality, did not provide direct assistance to the Qajar state during the war with Russia. This was because Britain did not consider the Qajar state as an equal partner, and the nature of these treaties was aimed at ensuring that Great Britain influenced policy in the region at the time it needed it. Eastern policy of Great Britain in the region was directly dependent on European politics. Accordingly, European cases have always been a priority and influenced the policies of the British government in the region.

The third subchapter introduces the role of British military specialists in reforming the Qajar army. The Qajar troops were irregular cavalry, whose core was the militia of various Turkic nomadic tribes. The army did not possess modern battle tactics and the construction of troops. The first clashes with Russian troops during the first Russia-Qajar war revealed the insufficient fighting capacity of such an army. The Qajar regular army at the beginning of the XIX century formation by external influence and was largely determined by the rivalry of the opposing Western powers in the Middle East. Crown Prince Abbas Mirza needed a strong modernized army to re-conquest some border lands of Turkish Pashalyks, Afghan lands, also restoration of Qajar's power in Georgia and the Azerbaijani khanates of the South Caucasus.French and British military experts were invited to introduce modern technologies and reorganize military forces. Thus, a new formation of military units, the Nizam-and Jadid, was established in the Qajar state.

One of the important points of the treaties signed between Great Britain and the Qajar government during the first quarter of the XIX century was the reorganization of the Qajar troops, supplied arms and uniforms. Military cooperation between Great Britain and the Qajar State was one of the most important components of their relations. Indeed, during numerous British missions and embassies, the issue of military assistance was one of the most important in the course of negotiations. This is also evidenced by Britain's extensive military missions and military subsidies to the Qajar state.

Britain's policy, namely to help the Qajars reorganize their armed forces, was primarily to prevent Russian infiltration into the South Caucasus. British politicians estimated that the modernized Qajar army could also assist Britain in defending the East India Company's possessions. This army was also to be a permanent conductor of British influence in the Qajar state. However, the activities of the British military specialists in the Qajar army remained incomplete, with no expected result. British aid to the Qajar state did not save him from defeat. The reason for this was the considerable backwardness of the Qajar socio-economic and political system, as well as the backwardness of the Qajar military organization. Russia stood at a very high level of socio-economic development, an army that was one of the best in the study period.

In the fourth subchapter, introduces the main events in the investigation of the process of concluding the Gulustan Treaty (1813) and the relationship between the Qajar state and the Russian Empire around the division of Azerbaijani lands. With the defeat of Napoleon, the international situation changed dramatically. The temporary resolution of differences between Russia and Britain, as well as the conclusion of the Bukharest Peace Treaty with the Ottoman Empire in 1812, allowed the Russian authorities to concentrate their main forces in the South Caucasus. The French invasion of Russia brought Britain and Russia closer together against a common enemy. Therefore, the Great Britain officially withdraws British officers from the Qajar army and informs the Russian Command.

Meanwhile, the Qajar state, left without a main ally, was forced to agree to the terms of the Gulustan peace treaty concluded with the Russian Empire on October 12, 1813. According to this treaty, Russia officially captured most of the South Caucasus, with the exception of the Irevan and Nakhchivan khanates. The Gulustan peace treaty was concluded with the mediation of the ambassador and the plenipotentiary minister of Great Britain at the Qajar court G.Ousley.

It was G.Ouesli who formulated the basic principles of the Treaty of Gulistan, the basic of which was the *status quo ad praesentem* – - delimitation by occupation line, thereby leaving the clarification of disputed territorial issues for subsequent commissions. This will lead to endless territorial disagreements between Russia and the Qajar State.

In order to resolve the disputed issues, on June 29, 1816, General A.P. Yermolov, commander of the Separate Georgian Corps, governor of Georgia and chief executive officer of the civil part in

the Astrakhan and Caucasian provinces was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Qajar State. He was to settle the issue of the Russia-Qajar border and, if possible, persuade the Qajar state to join forces against the Ottoman Empire. On the whole, the results of the embassy of A.P.Yermolov to the Qajar state can be considered successful for Russia. As a result of difficult negotiations, the terms of the Gulustan treaty were reaffirmed, which meant that new territorial acquisitions of Russia in the South Caucasus became part of the empire.

At the same time, the embassy of A.P. Yermolov not only did not save Russia from a possible military threat from the Qajar state, but also in many ways catalyzed the second Russo-Qajar War. Confirming the terms of the Gulistan treaty, in fact, the Qajar state did not renounce its claim to the South Caucasus.

In 1818, immediately after the embassy of Yermolov, the Qajar government, seeking to get the Great Britain to fulfill the terms of the treaty (1814), sends a new embassy to London. The embassy's goal was to put pressure on the British government and enlist its support. However, the Qajar mission failed to fulfill a single point of the plan outlined by the shah: the provision of additional British subsidies, the establishment of the Qajar embassy in London, the receipt of an agreement to send the number of British officers to the Qajar state, etc. One of the reasons for the failure of the Qajar mission was disagreement with Britain in the Persian Gulf region, where the Qajar-owned Bahrain Islands were occupied by British forces.

The fourth chapter is entitled "Azerbaijan in the Politics of Great Britain on the Eve and in the Period of the Second Russia-Qajar War of 1826-1828" consists of five subchapter. The first subchapter discusses British policy during the conflict between the Qajar state and the Ottoman Empire (1821-1823). One of the acute problems in the relations between the two states (Qajar Iran and the Ottoman Empire) was the issue of delimitation in Eastern Anatolia, where the boundary between the two states was established at the beginning of the XVI century. The frequent migration of Kurdish tribes from Qajar territory to Ottoman territory has led to persistent land ownership conflicts. Since 1819, disputes and clashes intensified between border authorities – the heir to the throne, the ruler of Azerbaijan and Sarasker or commander-in-chief of the Ottoman army in Erzeurum.

The Qajar state, in its foreign and national policy, was guided by the search for a balance between the great Powers – Russia and Great Britain. Relations with Russia played a decisive role for the Qajar state in determining the nature of its relations, not only with Britain, but also with the Ottoman Empire. The threat of Russian conquests in Azerbaijan and the South Caucasus forced the Qajar state to seek an alliance with it, in order to obtain territorial concessions from Russia in the South Caucasus. In the years, 1820-1822 the Qajar government pursued a policy of rapprochement with Russia. However, such a policy, have not been successful, due to various factors, including foreign policy. Therefore, the Qajar state, having changed its foreign policy once again, tried to conclude a defensive alliance with the Ottoman Empire already against Russia.

At the same time, immediately after the conclusion of the Erzurum peace treaty (1823), Qajar ambassador Mirza Feyzullah was sent to Istanbul, requested the assistance of the Sultan "in the alleged war against Russia". Any union between the Ottoman Empire and the Qajar Iran was considered by Russia as an alliance against it, and, naturally, it made every effort to prevent rapprochement between the two Muslim powers. Great Britain also disapproved of a possible alliance between the Sultan and the Shah, but for completely different reasons. The central idea of British politics was an attempt to prevent hostilities between Russia and the Ottoman Empire and to govern relations between them. Thus, Britain sought to prevent the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, which would lead to the strengthening of Russia's influence throughout the Middle East.

As a result, because of the fear of the so-called "Russian threat" to British rule in India, the British government pursued a policy of preserving the "integrity" of the Qajar Iran as well as in relation to the Ottoman Empire. Thus, as part of its Eastern policy the Great Britain sought to prevent the conflict between these states, which could lead to its weakening and imminent disintegration.

The second subchapter, addresses the issue of the preconditions

of the second Russia-Qajar war (1826-1828) and the position of Great Britain. Although hostilities between Russia and the Qajar state ended after the conclusion of the Gulistan treaty, tensions between the two countries persisted. In the spring of 1823, the Qajar state suggested establishing a joint Boundary Commission to delimitation the boundary line between the Qajar Iran and Russia in accordance with the Gulistan Treaty. In March 1825, the so-called Tiflis agreement to delimitation the boundary line between the Qajar Iran and Russia was held. Tiflis agreement of 1825 gave Russia part of the northern shore of the Lake Goycha, and for the Qajar state the Kafan region. However, the Kafan region, located in the southwest of Qarabagh, although disputed by the two parties, was transferred to Qajar Iran under the terms of the Gulistan Treaty (1813). So the Tiflis agreement can be described as a diplomatic concession by the Qajar State. Abbas Mirza and Fatali Shah refused to ratify the treaty, stating that the new border should pass along the Hamza-Chiman River, on the Lake Goycha and then through Kafan, the Mugan steppe and Talysh.

In response to the refusal to ratify the Tiflis agreement, Yermolov provoked an escalation of hostilities with the Qajar Iran, occupying areas to the north-west of Lake Goycha belonging to the Irevan khanate.

In that situation, the Qajar state, expecting to receive of subsidies and military help, in accordance with the 1814 treaty appealed to Great Britain, demanding implementation of the terms of the terms of the treaty. British diplomacy, which took into account the undesirability of further aggravation of relations with Russia in the Balkans and feared its independent actions in this direction, it is obvious that Britain has deviated from its obligations to the Qajar Iran by the Tehran treaty (1814). The simultaneous aggravation of the Eastern Question and the Russia-Qajar relations ultimately resulted in the complete defeat of the Qajar Iran. G.Canning, as the head of the British Foreign Ministry, firmly adhered to the course of cooperation with Russia in Greek affairs, despite the fact that this required Britain to fail to comply with the terms of the Tehran Treaty (1814). However, Britain did not intend to break away from regional policy, since the weakening of its influence in the Middle East assumed a real threat to India, whose security was the central theme of its Eastern policy. Therefore, Britain chose to take an observation position during the Russo-Qajar War and the Qajar Iran was officially denied financial and assistance.

However, Britain did not intend to disengage itself from regional politics, as its weakening influence in the Middle East implied a real threat to India, whose security was the central theme of its Eastern politics. Undoubtedly, the British cabinet was alarmed by the apparent failures of the Qajar Iran in the war, which threatened it with significant territorial losses, and possibly the complete destruction of the Qajar dynasty and the disintegration of the Qajar Iran. British diplomacy believed that the preservation of the Qajar throne was a problem throne was a problem that went beyond of Russia-Qajar relations. Therefore, Britain's intervention was perfectly legitimate, as it concerned its immediate interests and its formal obligations to the Qajar Iran.

From the beginning of the XIX century, the Britain-Qajar relations were intertwined with the Qajar-Russia relations. During that period, the Britain-Russia relations were ambiguous and contradictory: periods of rivalry and hostility between Great Britain and Russia were followed by periods of clear interaction and even cooperation. The British government, deciding which side to take in the Russia-Qajar war, chose to cooperate with Russia on the Greek issue. That is, the Great Britain opted for a more important issue of British national interest at the time. The problem was that neither Fatali Shah nor Abbas Mirza, starting a war, realized that. However, this was not mean of Britain's complete rejection of the «long-term strategic» partnership with the Qajar Iran, but about a specific moment when Britain had to choose the path of least risk for its national interests.

In the third subchapter, introduces the main events in the investigation of the role of Great Britain in the course of peace negotiations (1827-1828) and the conclusion of the Turkmanchay peace treaty. Immediately after the first defeat of the Qajar troops during the second war with Russia, the Shah authorities sent its

emissaries to conclude a peace treaty. However, the real negotiation process began only after the capture of Tabriz by the Russian troops in October 1827, the defeat of the Qajar troops and the impending direct threat of losing the entire Azerbaijani province. During the second Russia-Qajar war (1826-1828) can be divided into three main stages of negotiations. The first attempt to negotiate for the conclusion of a peace treaty was in Kara-Ziyaddin (July 20-25, 1827). The second stage of the negotiations was in Day-Kargan, where the preparation of a peace treaty was conducted with the participation of special commissioners, secretaries and advisers. The third final stage of the negotiations took place in Turkmanchay (February 7-10, 1828), where the signing of a peace treaty was held, which put an end to the Second Russia-Qajar war. The British government, allowing complete defeat Qajar state, tried to offer Russia its mediation, which was refused. Nevertheless, the British mission in the Qajar Iran took an active part in the Russia-Qajar negotiations as Abbas Mirza's personal unofficial advisers.

The Turkmanchay treaty ended the Russia-Qajar war of 1826-1828, giving Russia large territorial acquisitions that were of great strategic and political importance to it. The Turkmanchay treaty led to the consolidation of Russia's positions in the Middle East. At the same time, the treaty weakened Britain's position in the region. One of the most important points of the Turkmanchay treaty was Article VIII, according to which Russia was given the exclusive right to have a navy in the Caspian Sea. Thus, as a result of the Turkmanchay treaty, Russia acquired wide trade benefits in the Qajar state, established its full control over the South Caucasus, and, having achieved full domination on the Caspian Sea, opened the way for itself to further conquest in Central Asia. Therefore, the outcome of the second Russia-Qajar war heightened Britain's fears about Russia's threat to British India.

British diplomats, solving the main foreign policy aims tried to find common points for the settlement of the Russia-Qajar conflict between the parties. Britain's position on peace under any conditions, in order to save the Qajar dynasty, played an important role in the peace negotiations. Thus, we can conclude that the British mediation mission, the main goal of which was to secure its possessions in India from Russian expansion, has largely succeeded in this task.

The conclusion of the Turkmanchay Treaty caused changes in the relationship between the Qajar state and Great Britain. The Shah's government urgently needed money to pay military indemnity by the terms of the Turkmanchay Treaty. Britain, wishing to get rid of its contractual obligations to the Qajar Iran as soon as possible, offered to partially pay the contribution in return for canceling special articles of the Tehran treaty about the military and financial assistance to the Qajar state. In March 1828, a Britain-Qajar agreement was signed, according to which abrogated the 4th and 6th articles of the Tehran Treaty (1814), and Britain granted 200,000 tumans to the Qajar Iran. It is obvious that Britain no longer saw the need to honour its commitments to the Qajar government, therefore, without losing the opportunity, tried to buy off these two articles. Thus, the Great Britain, taking advantage of the Shah's financial difficulties, achieved the elimination of the 4th and 6th articles. Britain's assistance in the payment of the Qajar's indemnity to Russia was due to the British Government's fear that the occupation of the province of Azerbaijan, if the contribution was not paid, could become annexation.

Unsuccessful wars with Russia had a strong impact on the political situation in the Qajar Iran. The regimes were forced to accept the fact that the Qajar Iran had become a subject of rivalry between colonial powers. The political division of the united people led to a weakening of the political, economic and cultural positions of the Azerbaijani Turks in the Qajar Iran, even though they were the origins of this state. As a single ethnic community with a common ethnogenesis, a common language, a common culture and a common historical background, after the Russia-Qajar wars (1804-1813; 1826-1828) they were divided into Caucasian and Iranian Azerbaijani Turks.

Thus, afraid of losing control over the main trade route Trabzon-Tabriz, and Russia's approach to its Indian colony forced Britain to participate so closely in the negotiation process. Throughout the war, Great Britain pushed Qajar Iran to accept the heavy territorial concessions offered by Russia, while refused to honour the commitments made under the Tehran Treaty (1814). So we can conclude that Great Britain also played a role in this tragic division of the Azerbaijani Turks between Iran and Russia.

The fourth subchapter talks about the position of the Qajar state during the Russia-Turkish war of 1828-1829. The conclusion of peace with the Qajar state changed the political and strategic situation in the South Caucasus in favor of Russia, unleashing the Russian government to begin military operations against the Ottoman Empire.

With the beginning of the new Russia-Turkish war, it was important for the Russian government to strengthen peaceful relations with the state by accurately fulfilling the conditions of the Oaiar Turkmanchay treaty and ensuring the neutrality of the Shah government in the Russia-Turkish war. To address these issues, on 25, 1828, A.S. Griboyedov was appointed Minister April Plenipotentiary in the Qajar Iran. Griboyedov was instructed to seek unconditional compliance with the terms of the contract, especially the full payment of indemnity. However, as a result of the assassination of Griboyedov and the destruction of the Russian mission in Tehran in 1829, the international situation for the Russian government became rather complicated. First, the war with the Ottoman Empire continued. The Russian army has not yet made significant progress in this war. There was a decisive military campaign in the Balkans and on the Caucasian front. Secondly, it seemed quite possible to create a powerful anti-Russia coalition. Austria was heavily armed, and it was possible to fear its invasion of the Danube principalities. Moreover, in Russia itself, there was growing discontent among the masses with army recruits, requisitions and prolonged military operations. For Russia, which was at war with the Ottoman Empire, the security of its borders with the Qajar Iran was particularly important. In these circumstances, the Russian Government was unwilling to wage war on two fronts. A new war with the Qajar Iran would also significantly complicate Russia-British relations.

The Russia government, engaged in the war with the Ottoman

Empire, considered it possible to reduce the events related to the assassination of the Russian ambassador in Tehran to accident and demanded from the Qajar Iran only an apology letter of the Shah to the Emperor, punishment of the guilty and "redeeming" mission of one of the "princes of blood" – the son of Abbas Mirza. Thus, after the Russian Emperor Nicholas I officially accepted the apology of the Qajar shah, the disagreements between the Qajar state and Russia were resolved, which led to the easing of tensions between the states.

The "redeeming" embassy of Khosrov Mirza achieved its goal. The formal version of the non-participation of the Shah's government in the tragedy was accepted by Nicholas I.

In addition to the main purpose of the mission, which Khosrow Mirza managed to accomplish brilliantly, it was also politically background. The mission should have achieved some softening of Russia's position on the issue of paying indemnities. During the negotiations, Khosrov Mirza managed to get the Russian Emperor to forgive one kurur and agreed to postpone the payment of last kurur for 5 years. As a result, a very acute political conflict between Russia and the Qajar Iran, provoked by the attacked on the Russian mission in Tehran in February 1829 and the assassination of Head of Mission, Extraordinary Envoy and Plenipotentiary Minister of Russia in the Qajar Iran A.S. Griboyedov, a few months later was exhausted.

Meanwhile, in August 1829, after the crushing defeat of the Turkish troops in the Balkans and Caucasus, peace negotiations began in Adrianople. British diplomacy assumed the mediation mission, which Field Marshal Dibich (also the head of the Russian delegation at the first stage of the negotiations) did not oppose. Interestingly, at the Adrianople negotiations, it was obvious that the Ottoman Empire did not want to cede territories primarily on the Caucasian front. The Ottoman Empire finally agreed to the transfer to Russia of the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus from the mouth of the Kuban to the pier St. Nicholas and gave up its claims to the North Caucasus region. On September 2, 1829, in the historic Ottoman Sultan's palace, in the city to which the birth of the Ottoman Empire was linked, the parties signed a peace treaty.

The Adrianople Treaty was the culmination of the success of the

Russian Eastern policy. Interest represents first of all the fourth article of the Adrianople Treaty, the Ottoman Empire recognized the possession of Russia in the South Caucasus. The new Russia-Turkish border ran from Guria to Alexandropol, approximately 15 km south of Akhaltsykh and 30 km south of Akhalkalaki. The rest of the Akhaltsykh pashalyk, as well as the pashalyks of Kars, Bayazit and Erzerum, returned to the Ottoman Empire. With the conclusion of the treaty of Adrianople ended the the Eastern crisis of the 20s of the XIX century. Russia became the most influential European state in the Middle East. The successes of Russia in the Middle East, enshrined in this treaty, aroused the European governments, primarily exacerbation of Russia-British rivalry.

Thus, the War of 1828-1829 was a new stage in the century-long struggle between Russia and the Ottoman Empire. Russia-Turkish relations of the first half of the XIX century were defined both by the general state of European international relations and by the specific challenges facing Russian foreign policy in the Middle East region. The Turkmanchay and Adrianople peace treaties legally secured Russia's conquests in the South Caucasus.

At the beginning of the XIX century, the great European powers were engaged in a clear and hidden diplomatic struggle for domination in the Middle East. This was caused, on the one hand, by the economic and political weakening of the Ottoman Empire, and on the other, to the expansion of Europe's powers. By this time, there were two concepts on the Eastern question in Russian diplomacy: on the one hand, Russia was preparing to take an active part in the division of the Ottoman Empire, and on the other, he did not want disappearance of the Ottoman Empire. Therefore, summing up results of this war, it should be considered, that Russia has succeeded not only to expand its political and trade interests, but also to weaken the Ottoman Empire to such an extent that it preserved its existence without interfering with Russian expansionist plans. While the collapse of the Ottoman Empire would lead Russia to war with all European countries.

The successes of Russian foreign policy led to a deterioration of relations with the Western powers. The unprecedented strengthening

of Russia has caused extreme anxiety among European states. However, Russia's success was so decisive that European states that European states have not dared to engage in direct military confrontation with Russia. Russia's increased influence in the Caucasus was contrary to British foreign policy, which also sought to expand its spheres of influence in the eastern territories. The main results of the Turkmanchay and Adrianople treaties can be considered the defeat of European states in the military-diplomatic struggle against Russia during the Eastern crisis of the 20s of the XIX century.

The fifth subchapter introduces the main events in the investigation of activities of British diplomats in the conditions of the resettlement to the Northern Azerbaijan mainly Armenian population from the Qajar Iran and the Ottoman Empire (1828-1830). After the conquest of the northern Azerbaijani lands the Russian government began to strongly encourage the resettlement of Armenians to the newly conquered "Russian" lands. The policy pursued by the Russian Empire was to rely on the Christian minority (Georgians and Armenians), to displace the large part of local Turkic population from the region as an unreliable element. Thus, the region has witnessed a policy of manipulating the history of an entire people. The Russian Government gave Armenians an important role in the implementation of this policy. The mass resettlement of Armenians to Northern Azerbaijan, legally enshrined for the first time in Article XV of the Turkmanchay treaty of 1828, marked the beginning of a process that lasted for a century. On March 21, 1828, Nikolay I issued a special decree on the creation of the so-called "Armenian region", with its center in Irevan, which was headed by the Russian governor.

Lazarev in the report about the results of his resettlement activity, which he presented to the Minister of Internal Affairs A. Zakrevsky, indicates that 8,249 Armenian families were resettled from the khanates of Urmiya, Khoy, Sarab, Tabriz, Maky, Maragha and Kazvin khanates. While according to archival data compiled by British observers of the resettlement process, in addition to these khanates, the resettlement of Armenians was also carried out from the three magals of the Karadag Khanate. This fact is not mentioned in the Lazarev report and has not yet been known in Azerbaijani historiography.

Thus, according to the report of the British observer of the resettlement process, Lieutenant Shee, during May 1828, almost the entire Armenian population from eight villages of Keivi mahal, nine villages of Chelabi mahal, and five villages of Hermaduz mahal were resettled. The successful end of the Russian-Turkish war (1828-1829) gave the Russian government great opportunity to resettle also Turkish Armenians in the South Caucasus, mainly in Northern Azerbaijan. Thus, according to the XIII article of the Treaty of Adrianople that ended the Russia-Turkish war of 1828-1829, Armenians living in the occupied territories of the Ottoman Empire were given the right to resettle in 18 months on the conquered Caucasian lands.

In total, about 90000 people were resettled from Erzurum, Mush, Bayazit, Kars and Akhaltsikh Pashalyks. Thus, Armenian immigrants from the Ottoman Empire to the South Caucasus were mainly resettled in Akhaltsikh and the "Armenian Region". But these are official figures, in fact the number of Armenians resettles from the Ottoman Empire has exceeded 100,000.

Thus, the ethnic composition of northern Azerbaijan changed significantly during 1828-1830. According to British sources, the Russian government prevented the return of the local population to their homes. On the territory of the two newly-conquered khanates (Irevan and Nakhichevan), an "Armenian region" was created, originally thought as a semi-autonomous ethnically Armenian province.In results, the local Azerbaijani Turkic population was being forced out. The Russian government placed the Armenians on the fertile lands of the Azerbaijani Turks, granting them special privileges. In a short time, the immigrants, rich with these privileges, began to actively harass the Azerbaijani Turkic population of the region. Resettlement has also had a negative impact on the demographic situation. The share of Azerbaijani Turks in the region gradually decreased as they were forced to leave their historical lands.

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Because of the artificial increase in the number of Armenians in the "Armenian region" and the simultaneous displacement by Russia from North Azerbaijan to Qajar state and the Ottoman empire of local Azerbaijanis, the ethnic composition of the region has undergone serious changes. The resettlement of Armenians from the Ottoman Empire continued in the following period. Despite the blatant lawlessness, protests from the Azerbaijani Turkic population, the policy of the Russian Caucasus administration remained almost unchanged. After Russia's next wars with the Ottoman Empire during the XIX century (1853-1856, 1877-1878), new waves of settlers appeared.

Thus, the above-mentioned events represented the most important stage in the history of the South Caucasus, which led to major changes in the ethno-political map of the region and, above all, of Northern Azerbaijan.

In the **conclusion** the main provisions of the study are summarized, a general analysis of the place and role of Azerbaijan in the Eastern policy of Great Britain in the XVIII - beginning of the XIX century was carried out.

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