

of a little significant dynamics of positive development recently. In article the role the strategy of the national leader Heydar Aliyev in involvement of the international organizations to fair resolution of conflict is considered.

Keywords: Nagorno-Karabakh, conflict, settlement, Azerbaijan, Heydar Aliyev, international organizations.

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Стратегія залучення міжнародних організацій до справедливого вирішення Вірмено-Азербайджанського Нагірно-Карабахського конфлікту

Відзначається, що роль міжнародних організацій особливо важлива, так як Азербайджан завжди виступав за мирне врегулювання Вірмено-Азербайджанського Нагірно-Карабахського конфлікту шляхом переговорів через міжнародних посередників. Попрання найважливішого права держави на територіальну цілісність призводить до трагічних наслідків, війни і руйнувань. Процес врегулювання Вірмено-Азербайджанського Нагірно-Карабахського конфлікту останнім часом фіксує певний застій, відсутність скільки-небудь значимої динаміки позитивного розвитку. У статті розглядається роль стратегії загальнонаціонального лідера Гейдара Алієва в залученні міжнародних організацій до справедливого вирішення конфлікту.

Ключові слова: Нагорний Карабах, конфлікт, врегулювання, Азербайджан, Гейдар Алієв, міжнародні організації.

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SOCIO-POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF MEHRIBAN ALIYEVA AS THE PROOF OF AZERBAIJANI WOMAN'S WORKING STATUS

The article refers to sources related to the characteristics of the Azerbaijani woman, social life style and public status. The status of the Azerbaijani woman in the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic and the Soviet power is mentioned. The essence of the state policy pursued by the Republic of Azerbaijan in the late 20th and early 21st centuries is disclosed. An explanation of the current legislation in this field is provided. Thoughts and deeds by Heydar Aliyev and Ilham Aliyev in the field of public policy on women are widely covered. Mehriban Aliyeva's services are valued in the formation and promotion of women's movements in Azerbaijan. The achievements of Mehriban Aliyeva in social, public and political activities are mentioned.

Keywords: Azerbaijani woman, Mehriban Aliyeva, women policy, family, public status.

(стаття друкується мовою оригіналу)

When we look at women's characters in literary samples from ancient times to the present day that have been translated into Azerbaijani and have become a part of the Azerbaijani culture, we can see that women have always been regarded as defenders of honor and dignity. Even in Islam, which gives women the greatest privilege, it is clearly declared that paradise is under the feet of mothers. In the various genres of oral folklore of Azerbaijan, the subject of social activeness of women is widely covered in the background of family and society, women and men, sister and brother relations. Particularly, in the epic «Kitabi Dede Gorgud» the women are one of the most active forces, the position of the woman in society, her motherhood honor, family name, pure love, selflessness, courage and other features have been presented in an obvious way.

In addition to the existence of ethical values in the «Kitabi-Dede Gorgud», the democratic attitude of the Turks towards women is also in the center of attention. The dominant idea is that the mother is sacred and inviolable. «Kitabi-Dede Gorgud», the foundation book of Oghuz

spirituality, serves the triumph of human ideals with its gifts even today [2]. This attitude was not merely the respect for women, but of the fact that «the Turkish woman was able to realize her capabilities not only within a single family, but also in the nation, the state, the community, and the society. They would reckon with her, appreciate her words and would listen to her advice» [9]. The Azerbaijani women, whose majority is the Oghuz Turks, have always been committed to her social status with her intelligence, wisdom, loyalty, heroism, dignity and high maternal quality. Women also have a special place in shaping the moral values of the Azerbaijanis who have given unique treasure to the treasury of the human culture and solving the problematic issues of the people. Ancient history of Azerbaijan gives a rich material to describe women as a source of life and wisdom. Historical facts confirm that, besides being a wife and mother, Azerbaijani women have created the best examples of classical poetry and have actively participated in the protection of the Motherland and the management of the society. The level of socio-cultural activity of the Azerbaijani women in the last century, both during the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan and during the Soviet period, has increased dramatically, and their active representatives have worked very efficiently for the sake of the country, the people and the society. In this sense, the twentieth century went down to the history as the period when the role of women in the society rose up both in Azerbaijan and all around the world. Azerbaijan's re-independence in 1991 has created a more democratic and legal basis for the rise of women's social status. In particular, taking serious steps to increase women's activism in society after Heydar Aliyev's return to power (1993) was a manifestation of state care for women's movement. Socio-political activity of women, along with existing historical traditions, revealed the essence of the gender policy implemented in Azerbaijan. Such an approach was expressly stated in Heydar Aliyev's speeches: «The people of Azerbaijan have always respected the woman, her role in the life of the community, and her high position. The notions of the country, land and the language that people regard as the dearest, most precious and sacred are parallel to the mother's name. Respect for the name of the woman, the eternal love to the mother found its brilliant imprint on our cultural and artistic heritage. The prominent representatives of literature and culture have outlined the courage, beauty, moral purity of the Azerbaijani woman in their works» [9]. The woman who is the first educator of the humanity and the selfless defender of the family is one of the main criteria for defining the image of the Azerbaijani people. The Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan adopted in 1995 confirms the equal right of women to men and creates a legal basis for their active participation in the process of democratic state building. Article 25 of the constitution defining a reliable basis for the protection of women's rights is clearly unequivocally defined by the equality of all before the law and the court, as well as of men and women with the same rights and freedoms. The third part of that article prohibits the restriction of human and civil rights and freedoms for sexual orientation by providing equality of all human rights and freedoms for all, regardless of gender [1, p. 14–15]. Thanks to this, the voice of the Azerbaijani women who have actively participated in the democratization processes of the

society and are in line with the requirements of the new era, comes from the prestigious international arenas. The social and political activeness of women in the Republic of Azerbaijan has increased even after the United Nations has joined the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (June 30, 1995). The establishment of the «State Committee on Women's Issues» by the Decree of 14 January 1998 signed by Heydar Aliyev opened new horizons for the protection of women's rights and their participation in the socio-political life of our country. The Decree dated 6 March 2000 [2] on «Implementation of the State Policy on Women in the Republic of Azerbaijan» ensures the provision of equal representation of women in leadership at all levels of state institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In 2000 «The National Action Plan for Women's Problems of the Republic of Azerbaijan» (2000–2005) was also approved. In the National Action Plan, putting women's problems always on the spotlight, taking urgent concrete actions on women's issues, and preparing state programs were enshrined» [8]. In subsequent years, the Republic of Azerbaijan joined international conventions on «Political Rights of Women», «Cancellation of All Forms of Discrimination against Women», «Minimum age for marriage and registration of marriages».

Continuing the political course of Heydar Aliyev, President Ilham Aliyev has always kept his focus on state-run women's policy. The implementation of gender policies has been prioritized as some other areas. In order to make women's status more responsive and intensive, President Ilham Aliyev decided to create a State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs in 2006 to ensure that the Committee promotes effective activities in the area of women's policy. Today, it also carries out purposeful work. Ilham Aliyev has always appreciated the role of women in the achievements of our republic: «The Azerbaijani women, who have achieved unprecedented success in the pursuit of women's rights in the last century, are now active participants of the socio-political, economic, cultural heritage of our country. They give a considerable contribution to the solution of fateful national issues. Their high esteemed position in state building transformed this holiday into a holiday of our people and society, which is closely integrated with the idea of independence. The achievements gained in science, education, culture, health and other fields confirm that the Azerbaijani women have a great potential» [7, p. 82].

In accordance with the requirements of gender policy, serious steps are being taken to ensure the equality of men and women in Azerbaijan and to increase the role of women in public administration in all state structures. The services of Mehriban Aliyeva, President of Heydar Aliyev Foundation, UNESCO and ISESCO Goodwill Ambassador, MP, First Vice President of Azerbaijan, should be especially emphasized in the implementation of the State Policy on Women, and in general, the formation and promotion of the 21st century Azerbaijani women's movement. Mehriban Aliyeva, who gained the people's confidence with her irreconcilable attitude towards negative trends that make the society and national values undergo debasement, is also in limelight of the international community. Mehriban Aliyeva has created a new page for the Azerbaijani women's social activity by focusing her intellectual energy on the

development of the society. She has promoted the cultural heritage of Azerbaijan through reputable international organizations such as UNESCO and ISESCO. Especially at the time when young people's interest in the world turns to art and culture, Mehriban Aliyeva pays great attention to the world's cultural heritage, cultural masterpieces» [4, p. 9; 8]. Mehriban Aliyeva's broad socio-political activity has an exceptional role not only in Azerbaijan but also in shaping a positive image of women worldwide. Mehriban Aliyeva, a symbol of the Azerbaijani women's dignity, is a true example for women living in other countries as well as supporting the rise of women's role in society in the humanitarian, scientific and educational and other spheres. Particularly important part of the public initiatives proposed by Mehriban Aliyeva includes the construction of new schools, healthcare for the family and children. Schools built in the different regions of Azerbaijan through the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, adapted to the most up-to-date requirements, constitute a major educational factor in the regions and stimulate people's interest in education. Construction of schools in our regions with modern requirements and equipping them with the latest technologies are aimed at balanced development of the regions and in general the socio-economic progress of Azerbaijan [8]. As a leader of modern Azerbaijan women's movement, Mehriban Aliyeva, who is an example for Azerbaijani women for socio-political, as well as scientific and cultural activity, is distinguished by both tradition and modernity, secularism and correlation with historical roots in her activity. Concerning the role of women in the family and their attitude to the family, Mehriban Aliyeva thinks that for every woman, her family and children are the most important part of her life. Mrs. Aliyeva, who was awarded with numerous awards, was also awarded with Order of Ruby Cross by the Russian International Charity Foundation «Philanthropists of the Century». She became «The Woman of the Year» (2005), was awarded with the international prize «Golden Heart» (2007) for her services and outstanding achievements in the field of charity. Being awarded with «Heydar Aliyev Order» by President Ilham Aliyev's decree dated May 5, 2009 is a worthy assessment of her perseverance. Mehriban Aliyeva was awarded with the Grand Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Polish Republic in 2009. In 2010 Legion of Honour of France and UNESCO Mozart Medal were given to Mrs. Aliyeva.

Mehriban Aliyeva was awarded with the «Turkish World Service Award» by Turkish World Writers and Artists Foundation (TÜRKSAY) for the great contribution to the protection and promotion of material and non-material cultural monuments of Azerbaijani Turks which is a rich part of the Turkic world cultural heritage. Meanwhile, the Honorary Professor of the Moscow State Medical University named after I. M. Sechenov (2012), «Union Stars» award by the CIS Interstate Council for Humanitarian Cooperation and CIS Interstate Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation, and «Prix de la Fondation» award (2011) by Crans Montana Forum are also in the list. Pakistan's prestigious Daily Times newspaper and Women's Volunteers Organization named Mehriban Aliyeva «Humanity Symbol – Person of 2012». According to the results of the poll conducted by the French Cultural Center in France and «Nefertiti Media Productions» in Egypt, Mehriban Aliyeva was given the title

of «The most influential woman of 2014» for her services as UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, as well as promotion of culture and contribution to international cultural exchanges, science, health, sports, education, technology and environmental development. As the chairman of the Baku 2015 Organizing Committee of the First European Games Mehriban Aliyeva demonstrated the ability of the Azerbaijani woman to succeed. Mehriban Aliyeva's activities on women's rights enabled the international community to focus on our country. She was given awards and honorary names of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as various state and international organizations for significant contributions to the dynamic development of the country, for her valuable services in the field of promotion of our culture throughout the world, as well as her commitment to the preservation of the world cultural heritage, to social justice and humanism principles. Mehriban Aliyeva, who serves a great deal of charity and serves the highest ideals of humanity, embodies the image of the modern Azerbaijani woman all over the world. The basis of multifaceted activities of Mehriban Aliyeva is serving the nation. She smashed the stereotype in public saying «some sets of social problems should solely be solved by the state» and made it possible for all sections of the society to switch their role from being an outsider into an active participant. Politician Yevgeny Krishtaliyov describes Mrs. Mehriban Aliyeva this way: «she is the leading woman by nature, she has a clear position, a civic and a public position». In this sense, Mehriban Aliyeva, with her work, revived the women's movement in Azerbaijan and opened a new era in its history. «Mehriban Aliyeva is known as a worthy representative of Azerbaijan, a philanthropist both in the country and around the world, and as someone who has done a great deal of work in science, education, health, and cares about culture and sports» [5]. Mehriban Aliyeva has greatly contributed to the development of Azerbaijan's relations with UNESCO. She has been awarded with the Goodwill Ambassador (2004) of the organization for her contribution to the development of traditional music, literature, poetry and musical education and world cultural exchanges in the field of oral traditions and music traditions [5]. Mehriban Aliyeva has historical services in the development of the Azerbaijani state and people, as well as women policy. She has confirmed with her deeds that as a formal person, both a carrier of national values of Azerbaijan and a philanthropist, she is in the service of sacred motherhood in all of her projects. As a result of Mehriban Aliyeva's efforts, reflecting all the noble features inherent in Azerbaijan's lady, women's movement in Azerbaijan has risen to a new level today, and a strong «First Lady» institution has been established in the country's political system. «Her multifaceted activities in the scope of the protection of the country's tangible and intangible heritage, revealing the reality of Azerbaijan, the truth about the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the promotion of charity and humanitarian initiatives demonstrate the inexhaustible power of the Azerbaijani lady» [3]. All this shows that the contemporary Azerbaijan lady continues to dignify her historical mission and is courageous enough in guarding our national-moral values. The social and political views of Mehriban Aliyeva are dominated by such thoughts that compassion, humanism and care are essential in every society. «A society, where both public institutions and

civil society operate on the basis of these principles, is a developed and successful one. Mercy is not just to extend the hand of help to people in trouble. Mercy sometimes requires a difficult and responsible decision making» [6]. For her activities in the pursuit of national and universal cultural progress and such high qualities, the public interest in Mehriban Aliyeva's personality in the Azerbaijani society and in the world community is at the high level» [4, p. 9]. All these achievements confirm that in terms of the implementation of state-run women policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan, democratic development of society, protection of women's rights, the promotion of women's movement and gender equality, First Vice President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mehriban Aliyeva makes invaluable contribution to the development of modern society. Due to such state policy on women today Azerbaijani woman besides being a mother is also a competent politician, businesswoman, civil servant, and MP. This activity, which is observed in the promotion of women's socio-political status, also reveals the essence of gender policy in Azerbaijan, along with traditional values, and opens new perspectives for equal access to all opportunities.

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Соціально-політична діяльність Мехрібан Алієвої як доказ робочого статусу азербайджанської жінки

Згадуються джерела, пов'язані з характеристиками азербайджанської жінки, соціальним стилем життя і суспільним статусом. Вказується статус азербайджанської жінки в Азербайджанській Демократичній Республіці та Радянської влади. Розкрито сутність державної політики, що проводиться Азербайджанською Республікою в кінці ХХ – початку ХХІ століть. Наведено пояснення діючого законодавства в цій галузі. Думки і справи Гейдара Алієва і Ляхама Алієва в області державної політики по відношенню до жінок широко висвітлюються. Послуги Мехрібан Алієвої цінуються в формуванні та просуванні жіночих рухів в Азербайджані. Згадуються досягнення Мехрібан Алієвої у соціальній, громадській та політичній діяльності.

Ключові слова: азербайджанська жінка, Мехрібан Алієва, політика жінок, сім'я, громадський статус.

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