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**MATERIALS OF KALBAJAR MUSEUM
AS A SOURCE OF STUDY OF AZERBAIJANI
CASTLES**

**МАТЕРІАЛИ КАЛБАДЖАРСЬКОГО
МУЗЕЮ ЯК ДЖЕРЕЛО ВИВЧЕННЯ
АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНСЬКИХ ЗАМКІВ**

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This article deals with the castles in the ancient settlement of Kelbajar in Azerbaijan. The importance of the Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum as the source for the historical conditions in which these castles arise, their purpose for constructing and the role they play. An article on Lev, Jomard, Ulukhan, Galaboynu, Mollabayramli-Zivel, Gazikan, Ganlikala (Lachinkala) and Mansim towers that have been left out of scientific studies will help to solve issues that will arouse controversy in the ancient and rich history of Azerbaijan.

Keywords: Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum, Jomard, Ulukhan, Mansim, Chiragov Baloglan.

Розглядаються замки в стародавньому поселенні Кельбаджар в Азербайджані. Важливість Кельбаджарського історико-етнографічного музею як джерела історичних умов, в яких виникають ці вежі, їх мета будівництва та роль, яку вони грають. Стаття про вежі Льва, Джомарда, Улукхана, Галабоїну, Моллабайрамлі-Зівеля, Газікана, Ганлікалі (Лачінкалі) і Мансіма, які були залишені в стороні від наукових досліджень, допоможе вирішити питання, які викличуть суперечки в древньої і багатій історії Азербайджану.

Ключові слова: Кельбаджарський історико-етнографічний музей, Джомард, Улукхан, Мансім, Чирагов Балоглан.

(стаття друкується мовою оригіналу)

Kalbajar, called the second Gobustan of Azerbaijan, is actually reminiscent of the nature museum. Human's finding here is related to the 4th geological period. Garagol, Zalkhagol, Sultanheydar, Parychinkly, Aichinkali, Tahtaduzu, Gurbagalichay and others, rich in archaeological monuments of the ancient Stone Age. The rock paintings of the yards, the residence of the III millennium before our era are part of Kalbajar's rich material culture monuments. Since 1968, rock paintings have been explored. Kalbajar was organized as administrative district in 1930. Kalbajar was occupied by the Armenian armed forces on April 2, 1993. During the occupation of the district, Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum, as well as hundreds of historical monuments, remained in Armenian captivity. Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum is an indispensable source for exploring the ancient, middle, new and modern era of Azerbaijan. The museum was founded in 1980. Since it was located in an unfamiliar building, it was impossible to create a large exposition hall and exhibit fund here. So, in 1982, the foundation of a museum that would sound a new and world-wide was laid and its solemn opening was on 23 May 1984. The museum

has 3 cabins, 9 exposition halls and 36,000 exhibit funds. The museum's desert walls were decorated with more than 2,000 colorful stones. 10 thousand colors of these stone treasures were exhibited in the museum. Beautiful paintings, photographs and drawings of the famous «Lev» (Lök) castle, carpet, rugs and saints, district map and many exhibits in the area of Qanlikand village were demonstrated in the museum corridor [3; 5].

In this article, we will talk about how Kalbajar fortresses are located in the museum, what the museum leadership has done, in short, the study of the castles [3, p. 38]. Almost the majority of Kalbajar monuments are the Kalbajar Museum and its head, Shamil Asgarov. Among these monuments, there are «Lev tower», «Jomard Fortress», «Garachanli Tower», «Castle of Galaboynu», «Zivel Tower», «Mansim Tower» etc. The towers were left out of research at the scientific center level. Standing apart for the purpose of these towers and their final status.

Lev Castle. According to the Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum, «Lev» Castle was known as the Lok Tower. The fortress is called «Lök» because its top is like a camel neck [4, p. 16]. Kalbajarli teacher and poet Idris Verdiyev, who spoke at the fortress about the fortress, says that there is a narrow tree, a prison, a deep water and food wells: the Gala Lev River is located at the middle of the riverbed, 1850 meters above sea level and on the plains surrounded by a harsh rocks. The interior of the fortress covers about three hectares. There is a transition from the castle to the bloody village in the north east ... Here, deep wells with volcanic rocks with diameters of 1–3 meters are diameter. Some of these wells contain food and some water supplies. Pomegranate lime mortar on the walls of the wells still remains [12, p. 4]. Geologist Malik Mirzayev and research scientist Shamil Asgarov, who visited the Lev castle in the 70s of the 20th century, spoke about the necessity to carry out archaeological excavations and scientific research here. According to their initial impressions, this castle was built on a convoy and provided with a reliable guard station. So there is a 1.5 hectare area between the guard station and the central gate of the castle. Here are the ruins of homes and auxiliary buildings outside the castle walls. Various pottery samples, bones and other items are found on the soil. Deep wells are drilled next to each house. According to local residents, the water level in the well is increasing every time the Loh River flows. However, the river and the castle split 5–6 km from one another. The authors note that a guarded artificial trail at a distance of 150–200 meters from the castle gate was made so that only one person could cross the castle at the entrance to the castle. And the next person does not see the keeper's place. On the contrary, the watchman freely follows the passers-by, and, if necessary, can round them down a rock with a small push. Another interesting aspect is the fact that the person coming back does not see his comrades crossing the fortress ... Colored pottery found in the fortress is a proof of the development of pottery from ancient times in our homeland [8, p. 34–37]. The 14 colored pottery scrap found by the authors of the

article is of great importance in opening the secrets of the fortress. These findings were kept under the «Lev» castle in the corridor of the museum, some of which was preserved in the second hall and the remainder in the exhibits [14].

At the end of the 70th years of the 20th century S. Askerov reviewed the fortress. He was convinced that the «Lev» fortress was built to guard over caravan routes. However, he also reflects on the form in which the castle is protected. Sh. Asgarov writes that the castle built on the rocks consists of a narrow lane. A small guard has been set up at the turn of this trail. Here, a watchman can push those who want to cross the cliff one by one with a tree, so that the cliff can drop down the cliff. The top of the roof is surrounded by thick castle walls. In the wells there were food and water supplies [4, p. 16]. There are two rods in one of the found pottery pieces. The illustrated cuffs are face-to-face, forming a heart forming their horns to each other. Inside the heart, palms are described [8, p. 35–36].

In 1986, Teymur Bunyadov, who skipped a part of the road and climbed a pedestrian over the top, was impressed with this magnificent monument. He writes that the astonishing rocks–castles depend on the fate of human flaws. Small impotence could have resulted in disaster. The tower was raised at the height of two thousand meters above the sea level on the right bank of the river Lev. The castle, about one hectare, is surrounded by rocky cliffs on all sides. In the north–western part of the castle, the entrance to the gate was covered by a bloody village. The height of the walls of the tower, which is made of rough stones, varies according to the structure of the earth. Some of it was 4–5, sometimes 8–10 meters. There are up to eight constellations in the fortress wall. In the residential area of the tower and the water and food wells, 4–7 meters high, in flat rocks are very thoroughly painted with white plaster. Starting at the foot of the mountain, several points were laid, which was intended to protect the safety of the castle. The tower was somewhere in the right place, from which it seemed clear that all the surrounding Seyidades, Lev, Yanshak, Kanlikand and other villages. Looking at the height from the monument, it seems that the sky has dropped off [2, p. 65].

Teymur Bunyadov compared this fortress with the Egyptian pilgrims, stressing that Lev's fort was formed in more difficult conditions and hard work: «The watchdog in the fortress has been set up to inform the dangers ahead of time. Do you think, how great our grandfathers did in such a terrible place? ... We strongly suggest that the «Lev» fortress is perhaps the result of hard work and hard work of the Egyptians. Those who see this comparison are only those who see the monument and those who believe me [2, p. 65]. The legend of «7 girls» about the castle is also part of the museum's information.

One of the facts is that the caravans from Iran and other countries crossed the Goycha Zod Pass in the Middle Ages. The distance between the Zod extreme and the Lev Tower is about 10 kilometers. According to the local population, trade, pasture, and even the

automobile routes passing through it were close. The fact that the facts confirm each other gives rise to the fact that «Lev» fortress is a fortress on the famous caravan road. The famous caravan route, of course, means silk road. According to sources, the silk road was erected in the twentieth century. Taking into account the fact that the construction of the guard stations on the Caravan roads has been completed for four to five centuries, we can say that the Lev Tower and the construction of these towers coincide with the V–VI centuries.

Galaboynu Castle. There are two castles in the village of Qalaboynu. One is on the right hand side of the village, another is on the left. The tower on the right was built on the southern side of the tower and on the left side. The cave and the altar surrounding the fortress on the south coast confirm that there is an ancient settlement here. There is also a horse carriage along the pedestrian walkway. It is obvious that these roads, especially with the help of human labor, cost the hard work. Both castles are very large, majestic, tall and old, and have a defensive structure. It is undoubtedly built to protect the fortress. Because the towers have their own specific defense paths. Rovshan Chiragov, a historian who grew up in the village of Galaboynu, says that the diameter of the castle is about 5–6 meters (holes, wells). The walls of that gap are twisted. From the deficit, some of these roofed walls were to fly and close the entrance. It was felt that a stone had been thrown into that space for a long time, and it was sounding. The spaces inside the tall and magnificent fortress located in the queue were designed to protect and where there was a secret road. They were hiding here to protect people during the peoples. At the bottom of the castle there were Albanian temples and graves. The museum is full of information about the fort of Qalaboynu. It was noted in more detail that more than 200 remains of the fortress remained in the fort of Galabaynu [15]. Also, the museum's management is providing accurate information about its historical monuments and fortresses [4, p. 19]. Galaboynutoponym was misplaced in some official documents and literature as Kalaboyun. Researcher Nazim Tapdigoglu writes that the settlement of Galaboynu was named after Shishkala and Deyirman, which is situated on the neck of the castles [10, p. 20].

Jomard Castle. There are two castles in the village of Jomard, which is located on the coast of Tutgunchay, branch of Tartar hay river: The Big and Small Fortress. The towers were in a 50–60 meter interval and were raised at a distance of about 3 kilometers from the village. Excluding the work of the Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum in the Jomard Castle, no scientific research has been carried out. Different information circulates about how the tower is built for what purpose. However, information that is intended to control and protect the caravan routes seems to be more prominent. Village resident Fuzat Shadmanov, who spent his childhood years here, says the underground tunnel from the Jomard Castle to the Tutqu River. It is impossible to go through the tunnel in the dark over 50–60 meters. There is an ancient graveyard at one kilometer of the

fort. Villagers say this is Albanian cemetery. In the surrounding area is a forest consisting of precious iron and other trees suitable for building materials and crafts. Generous, Galabaynu and Lok castles pointed to each other. The castle of Lok is in the north, and the castle of Galabaynu is in the south. The guards used to do this with a bonfire at the head of the castle. They also talked about threats and some measures. Leader Fırgat Shadmanov says that everyone could not get out of this magnificent castle. The small fortress was built in the direction of Najafali village. Located at a distance of one kilometer from Tuneldine to the village of Jomard, the cave tells us that this place is an ancient settlement. Commenting on the magnificence of this historic monument, Chiragov Baloglan Jumshudoglu, born in Lachin village in 1938, who lived in the village of Jomard, who was part of an expedition organized by Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum, said that the stones were fastened to each other was used. Generally, most Kalbajar fortresses, including stone bridges and these fortress walls, were made of small stones, but it was impossible to remove a stone from it. The expedition of Kalbajar Museum found a water well with a diameter of 2 meters at the head of the castle. Residents of the village and the museum's expedition group, who were the primary researchers of the tower, found potshards and arrowheads here. The fact that these findings are inaccurate, very primitive leads them to the far-flung period. Member of the expeditionary museum, B. Chiragov also expresses the attitude of other castles from Jomard Castle: «From the beginning of the fortress to the castle, the Lok Castle and the Fortress of Galabae are easily visible. When the fire blew up at the top of the fortress, Ulukhan Castle, Zivel Tower and even the guard of Mansim Castle in Zeylik, saw security measures». There is also a village in West Azerbaijan, located on the same border with Kelbajar as the generous name. Located in the Zangazur district of Yelizavetpol (Ganja) province, local village language was Jomartli. It was originally created as a result of the settlement of families belonging to the Cengizli tribe. In 1988 the population of the village was deported by the Armenians [1, p. 433].

Mollabayramli-Zivel castles. This historic monument is known as Mollabayramli. Located 2200 meters above sea level. Although not widely mentioned in the written sources, some information is given after the 60s of the 20th century. The castle is surrounded by steep cliffs on three sides. Idris Verdiyev mentioned this monument as «Zivel Tower» in an article published in Science and Life magazine in 1969 [12, p. 30–31]. It does not matter to what extent the tower belongs to or Zivel village. Because the settlement of these villages took place 8–9 centuries after the rest of the fortress was built. The main issue is that they are Kalbajar fortresses. The castle, located on the volcanic plateau of the 4th century, has a journey from the south and south to the east. The total area of the tower is greater than the area of each of the three remaining castles. The remains of the Zivel fortress remained until Kalbajar was occupied by Armenian military forces. It should be noted that there were places of worship at

the Zivel fortress and in the nearby Zar village, near the Zeylik River.

Gazikhan castle. Gazikan tower is near the village of the same name. This village is 45 km south-east from the district center. Representatives of the elderly generation say they came here from the Lachin region. Researcher Parviz Ismayilov writes that Gazikhanli settlement was populated in the nineteenth century from the village of Gazikanli in the present Lachin district [7, p. 78]. The castle was located on the left bank of the river Gazikan. Being surrounded by magnificent cliffs gives Ghazan fortress even more magnificence. The tower is located 2308 meters above sea level. A water pipe was pulled from Mendil Mountains, south of Gazikhan tower. The observations that have been made have proven it. A collection of stories about the Ghazikhan fortress in the Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum provide a brief overview of the area and population of the fortress. According to information, residents of the village where this fortress is located are settled here in the XVIII century. It is said that the name of the village is related to the name of Ghazki, the head of the tribal here [17]. There are tunnels for water from the castle to the east, to the Gazikhan River and to the West to the Kalafalik River [11, p. 9].

Mansim Castle. The Mansim castle is one of the most devastating historical monuments in Kalbajar fortresses. The castle has almost destroyed the ground. In recent centuries, even the stones have been used to build livestock dams on the plateau. Mansim fortress is located in Zeylik village. The distance between the village and the castle is about 6 km. The fortress is located in the right part of the Gungur Mountains near Yal Yurdun, near the Garayci valley, near the border with the Upper Sorca village of Basarkeçar, our western Azerbaijani land. There is 700–800 meters between Mansim and Gongur castle. As for the water supply of the tower, springs of the Yal dwelling, Gungor spring and Garaychi Creek were used. From here to the village of Yellica Kalbajar, to the south and south west of the castle, to the village of Zeylik, to the Golan Building, which is a winter grove like a winter village. Until recent times, the use of the population as a pasture, and the passing of the flock to the barracks, have great impact on the castle. As well as in April 1918, the Armenian bases in Bascarkechar and surrounding areas did not have an impact on the destruction of the fortress. We have mentioned this in an article in which an explicit mention of the Armenians attacking the village of Zeylik from the Basarkeçar direction and arriving near the Dzorurdu plain [9, p. 803; 18]. However, despite the devastation, the fortresses inside the fortress that had been telling about thousands of years were still in Kalbajar's occupation. My Fortress of Myth is among the most unexplored historic monuments. When it comes to the meaning of this name, it is a changed form of myme, the word masum. Its meaning is innocent, clean, pure.

As a matter of fact (**Lachinkala**) – This monument has been known as Galikli among the local population a few hundred years after it was founded. The first name was Lachinkala. Lachin – lightning means tall.

According to the History Foundation of the Kalbajar History and Ethnography Museum, it was named Lachinkala because it was built on a rocky rocks in the basement of the Tartar River. [20] Archeologist Rashid Goyushov says while speaking about this story, the first information about this is in the work of Ganjali Kirakos: «This castle on the left bank of the Tartar River, on the left of the present Agdere–Kalbajar highway, tells the locals «Kushqonmaz». The first information about Lachinkala dates back to the 13th century by the historian Ganjali Kirakos. As a matter of fact, during the 12th century, when the rule of the Cross was strengthened, it was built not only to protect the neighboring feudal lords, but also to protect the alien invaders [5, p. 38–39]. Baloglan Chiragov, a member of the Kalbajar Museum Expedition Board, says Rashid Goyushov was involved in the study of Lachinkala monument [21]. As for the origin of his name, R. Goyushov links it with the massacres in the region. Thus, when the Mongols attacked the Terter valley, the population took refuge in the fortress of Lachin. Indigenous people also agree. R. Goyushov wrote that Kirakos was the guardian of the fortress, the mother of Hasan Calal, the mother of Khachin ruler, Zechariah and the sister of Ivana, Arzu Khatun, who had a high state position beside the Georgian king Tamara. Although the defense was well–organized in the first place, many of the 12,400 Mongols were not able to overcome the clutches of the Mongols. There are so many claws that tea is full of blood. The title of the monument is also related to this event [5, p. 39].

Finally, it should be noted that exploring the Kalbajar peaks surrounded by inaccessible cliffs is not an easy task. Thus, more locations have been explored in these areas. Here are the memories of our great people, who need thousands of researchers who are not the feet of modern man.

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