

**REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

*On the right of manuscript*

**ABSTRACT**

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**LATE OF THE XIX CENTURY – EARLY IN THE XX  
CENTURY TERRITORIAL CLAIMS OF ARMENIANS TO  
THE NAKHCHIVAN AND IRAVAN REGIONS OF  
AZERBAIJAN**

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Applicant: **Zamin Gasim oglu Aliyev**

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The work was performed at cahir of “Azerbaijan history” of Nakhchivan State University.

**Scientific supervisor:**

Correspondent member of ANAS,  
doctor of sciences in history, professor

**Zahmat Abulfat oglu Shahverdiyev**

**Official opponents:**

Doctor of sciences in history, professor  
**Havva Isa kizi Mammadova**

Doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor  
**Elnur Hashim oglu Kalbizade**

Doctor of philosophy in history  
**Mehman Sarkhan oglu Shabanov**

Dissertation council ED 1.13 of Supreme Attestation Commission under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan operating at Nakhchivan Branch of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences

Chairman of the dissertation council:

Full member of the ANAS,  
doctor of sciences in history, professor

\_\_\_\_\_ **Ismail Mukhtar oglu Hajiyev**

Scientific secretary of the  
dissertation council:

Doctor of sciences in history,  
associate professor  
**Emin Arif oglu Shikhaliyev**

\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman of the  
scientific seminar:

Doctor of sciences in history  
**Fakhraddin Adil oglu Jafarov**

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## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISSERTATION

**The actuality of the theme and the degree of research.** The second half of the 19s century - the beginning of the 20s century is one of the important periods in the history of the world, including the history of the Motherland. Towards the beginning of the twentieth century, European states, which existed on a national basis, began to use national issues to break up multinational empires such as the Ottoman Empire. In the “The issue of East” raised to divide the Ottoman state, as well as in the “The issue of Armenian”, which is an integral part of it, states such as Russia, France, and Great Britain had their own interests and goals. The intensification of the influx of Armenians to the South Caucasus, as well as to the historical lands of Azerbaijan, such as Iravan and Nakhchivan, also took place against the background of these processes. Geopolitical changes in the world in the early twentieth century, the organization of Armenians under the influence of foreign countries, the intensification of the activities of Armenian terrorist-political organizations, led to a further increase in the territorial claims of Armenians. Armenians, who receive serious support from a number of countries, use terror, massacre, genocide, etc. to implement their plans have used all kinds of anti-human means. The decree signed by National Leader Heydar Aliyev “On the genocide of Azerbaijanis” in 1998 rightly stated that all the tragedies carried out by Armenians against Azerbaijanis in the XIX and XX centuries resulted in the occupation of territories.<sup>1</sup>

The study of the true nature of the baseless claims and terror of the Armenians against the Azerbaijani people for two hundred years, the scientific study of the methods and means of the seizure of historical Azerbaijani lands by Armenians is relevant in terms of predicting the future consequences of Armenian myths. In particular,

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<sup>1</sup> Azərbaycanlıların soyqırımı haqqında Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin Fərmanı: [Elektron resurs] / Azərbaycan Respublikası Ədliyyə Nazirliyinin Normativ hüquqi aktların elektron bazası. – mart 26, 1998. URL: <http://www.e-qanun.az/framework/4684>.

the identification of claims to the Iravan region, the assessment of the real ethno-demographic situation in the region in the second half of the 19s - early 20s centuries on the basis of sources can help to reveal a number of historical truths. It is no coincidence that the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan İlham Aliyev emphasized in one of his speeches: *“Our historical lands are not only the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. Iravan, Goycha, Zangazur are our historical geography, our historical lands. Armenia once established a state illegally in our lands”*.<sup>2</sup>

It should be noted that the claims of the Armenians did not end with the capture of Iravan, but continued in a more depraved form against the Karabakh and Nakhchivan regions. The capture of Nakhchivan was important for the Armenians in several ways. It was also of great importance to the Russian Empire in terms of the complete severance of ties between the Ottoman state and the Turkic peoples of the Caucasus and Central Asia. However, as a result of the determination of the people of Nakhchivan, this historical Turkish land was preserved as an integral part of Azerbaijan. Chairman of the Supreme Assembly of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic Vasif Talibov assessed the steps taken to protect Nakhchivan as following: *“Although the process of settling Armenians in Nakhchivan continued in the 19th and early 20th centuries, and Armenians committed massacres in Nakhchivan, the people of Nakhchivan never lost their will to freedom, always managed to speak their minds, gave a decent response to the enemy, and even the heroism of Nakhchivanis reflected in the historical documents of armenians”*.<sup>3</sup>

Taking into account all the above, the study of the territorial claims of Armenians to the Iravan and Nakhchivan regions in the

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<sup>2</sup>Prezident İlham Əliyev: İrəvan, Göyçə, Zəngəzur bizim tarixi coğrafiyamızdır: [Elektron resurs] / – Bakı: Yeni Azərbaycan Partiyasının rəsmi internet saytı, – dekabr 5, 2016, URL: <http://yap.org.az/az/view/news/17169/prezident-ilham-eliyev-irevan-goyche-zengezur-bizim-tarixi-cografiyamizdir>.

<sup>3</sup>Görkəmli şəxslər mart soyqırımı haqqında: [Elektron resurs] / Azərbaycan Milli Kitabxanasının rəsmi internet sahifəsi URL: <http://anl.az/soyqirim/sitatlar.php>

period from the end of the 19s century to the beginning of the 20s century, when significant changes took place in the geopolitical map of the world, is relevant in several respects. First of all, it is important to study in the historical context the reasons why the Armenians became a dangerous, destructive anti-Turkish, anti-Azerbaijani force in the South Caucasus in the second half of the XIX century due to the geopolitical goals of the great powers, especially under the auspices of the Russian Empire. Another point that needs to be clarified is the mythical claims of the Armenians about “Greater Armenia” and “Eastern Armenia”.

It is known that the 44-day Patriotic War of 2020 has created new geopolitical realities in the South Caucasus region. Along with liberating the occupied territories, Azerbaijan also raised the issue of opening the Zangazur corridor between the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic and other parts of the country, which was reflected in the trilateral statement signed by the leaders of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia on November 10, 2020. This issue is not only a legal right of the Republic of Azerbaijan, but also a historical and moral right of the Azerbaijani people. The study of how the Armenian claims to Zangazur, an integral part of the Nakhchivan and Karabakh khanates for a long time, arose, how the ethno-demographic composition was changed, and how the historical basis for its subsequent secession from Azerbaijan and its annexation to the so-called Armenia was formed is also relevant for to understand the modern geopolitical changes in the region.

As for the level of working degree of the topic, it should be noted that the territorial claims of the Armenians are one of the most important topics in the history study of Turkey and Azerbaijan. Various historians and researchers have conducted research on various topics. There are objective and subjective approaches to this topic in the works of a number of foreign authors.

“Armenian issue”, various aspects of Armenians’ territorial claims to Azerbaijan have been studied in the works of American,

European and Russian researchers such as J.McCarthy,<sup>4</sup> Y.Markwart,<sup>5</sup> J.Maleville,<sup>6</sup> S.Glinka,<sup>7</sup> I.Kanadpev,<sup>8</sup> V.Mayevski.<sup>9</sup> The above-mentioned authors paid special attention to the resettlement of Armenians in the Caucasus, the participation of Ottoman Turkey in World War I, and the events and processes taking place on the Caucasus front.

Turkish researchers such as E.Akchora,<sup>10</sup> D.Aydin,<sup>11</sup> T.Biyiklioglu,<sup>12</sup> I.E.Atnur,<sup>13</sup> Z.Eyyup,<sup>14</sup> K.Gurun,<sup>15</sup> Y.Gukche,<sup>16</sup> B.Kodaman,<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Маккарти, Д. Тюрки и армяне. Руководство по армянскому вопросу (перевод с англ.) / Д.Маккарти, К.Маккарти. – Баку: Азернешр, – 1992. – 159 с.; The Report of Niles and Sutherland an American Investigation on Eastern Anatolia after World War I // XI Türk Tarih kongresi, – Cilt V, – Ankara, – 1994, – 1860 p.

<sup>5</sup>Markwart, Y. La province de Parsahayk Revue dey etudes aremeniennes / Y.Marwarkt, 1966. – pp. 252-314.

<sup>6</sup>Малевил, Ж. Армянская трагедия 1915 года / Ж.Малевил. – Баку: Элм, – 1990. – 128 s.

<sup>7</sup>Глинка, С.Н. Описание переселения армян азербайджанских в пределы России / С.Н.Глинка. – Баку: Элм, – 1990. – 144 с.

<sup>8</sup>Канадпевь, И.К. Очерки Закавказской жизни / И.К.Канадпевь. – Баку: Главная редакция Азербайджанской Советской Энциклопедии. – 1990. – 122 с.

<sup>9</sup>Маевский, В. Армяно-татарская смута на Кавказе, как один из фазисов армянского вопроса / В.Маевский. – Москва, – 1993. – 68 с.

<sup>10</sup>Akçora, E. Van ve Çevresinde Ermeni İsyamları. (1896-1916) / E.Akçora. – İstanbul: Türk Dünyası Araştırmaları Vakfı, – 1994. – 273 s.

<sup>11</sup>Aydın, D. Ermeni Meselesinin Ortaya Çıkmasında Fransasın Rolü // Tarih Boyunca Türklerin Erməni Toplumu ile İlişkileri Sempozyumu. Atatürk Üniversitesi Rektörlüğü Yayınları, – 8-12 Ekim, – 1984, – Erzurum, – s. 286.

<sup>12</sup>Biyiklioğlu, T. Mondoros Mütarekesi'nde Elviye-i Selase ile İlgili Yeni Vesikalar // Belleten, XXI, 84, – 1957, – s. 572-573.

<sup>13</sup>Atnur, İ. E. Osmanlı yönetiminden Sovyet yönetimine kadar Nahçıvan (1918-1921) / A.İ. Ethem. – Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu, – 2001. – 488 s.

<sup>14</sup>Eyüp, Z. Kültür varlıklarının savaş sırasında korunması: Ermenistan işgali altındaki Azerbaycan topraklarında durum / Z.Eyüp, V.İbayev // KÖK Sosyal ve Stratejik Araştırmalar Dergisi. – 2000. c. II, Sayı: 2. – s. 285-297.

<sup>15</sup>Gurun, K. Ermeni dosyası / K.Gurun. – Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu Yayınları, – 1983. – 319 s.

<sup>16</sup>Gökçe, Y. Büyük Ermənistanı Kurma Projesi // Ermeni Araştırmalar, – sayı 1, – mart-nisan-mayıs, – 2001, – s.87-107.

K.S.Lachiner,<sup>18</sup> H.Metin,<sup>19</sup> S.Sertçelik,<sup>20</sup> R.Tosun<sup>21</sup> and etc. have studied the Armenian issue, the Armenian uprisings in the Ottoman Empire in 1896-1916, the bloody crimes of the Armenian committees, the role of the Church of the Uchmuezzin (Echmiadzin) in making territorial claims, and the role of France, Great Britain and Russia in the Armenian issue.

It is possible to find information on the subject in a number of fundamental publications in Azerbaijan. Among such works are the three-volume “History of Nakhchiva”,<sup>22</sup> two-volume “The Encyclopedia of Nakhchivan”,<sup>23</sup> “Historical Atlas of Nakhchivan”<sup>24</sup> and others can be noted. Discussions held at international conferences and symposia on the history of Nakhchivan on the orders of the Chairman of the Supreme Assembly of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, Vasif Talibov, have led to the emergence of new points related to the history of Nakhchivan.

The monograph “Iravan Khanate: Russian occupation and resettlement of Armenians to the lands of Northern Azerbaijan (2010)” written by a group of employees of ANAS Institute of History, is an important historiographical work in terms of studying the early periods of Armenian claims, although it is not directly related to the

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<sup>17</sup> Kodaman, B. Ermeni Meselesinin Doğuş Sebepleri // – Ankara: Türk Kültürü Dergisi, – 1981. c.19, – ss. 240-249.

<sup>18</sup> Laçiner, S. İngiltere ermenileri, lobbicilik ve erməni sorunu // – Ermeni Araşdırmaları Dergisi, – 2002, sayı 7, – s. 71-124.

<sup>19</sup> Metin, H. Türkiyenin Siyasi Tarihinde Ermeniler ve Ermeni Olayları / – İstanbul: Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı Yayınları, – 1992. – 192 s.

<sup>20</sup> Sertçelik, S. Rus və erməni kaynakları ışığında erməni problemi 1915-1923. Sömürge savaşı / S.Sertçelik. – Ankara: SRT Yayınları, – 2017. – 650 s.

<sup>21</sup> Tosun, R. Ermeni meselesinin ortaya çıkışı ve mahiyeti// R.Tosun. – Ankara: Selçuk Üniversitesi Türkiyat Araşdırmaları Dergisi. – 2003. Sayı 14. – s.143 – 163.

<sup>22</sup> Naxçıvan tarixi: [Üç cilddə] / Red. hey. İ.M.Hacıyev, İ.Ə.Həbibbəyli [və b.] / c.1, – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2013, – 452 s.; c. 2, – 2014. – 528 s.; c.3, – 2015. – 560 s.

<sup>23</sup> Naxçıvan ensiklopediyası: [2 cilddə] / – İstanbul, – 2005, c. 1. – 356 s.

<sup>24</sup> Naxçıvanın tarixi atlası / – Bakı: Adiloğlu, – 2010. – 182 s..

period involved in the research.<sup>25</sup> In the work, after the occupation of the territory of the Iravan Khanate, the mass transfer of Armenians from the Qajar and Ottoman empires, Armenianization of toponyms of Turkish origin, Armenian vandalism against historical names, and genocide were studied.

A group of Azerbaijani researchers studied the essence of the Armenian dream of “Greater Armenia” and “Eastern Armenia”, the essence of the Armenian policy of Britain and Tsarist Russia, their claims to Iravan and Nakhchivan, the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict in these regions, the impact of historical and political processes on the historical geography of Azerbaijan. In the second half of the 20s century and the beginning of the 30s century, they wrote works on the basis of reliable sources on various aspects of the Armenians’ claims to the Nakhchivan and Iravan regions. We can specially note the names among the authors who has written more important scientific works in the noted directions as academician Ismail Hacıyev,<sup>26</sup> academician T.Kocharli,<sup>27</sup> corresponding member of ANAS Zahmat Şahverdiyev,<sup>28</sup> corresponding member of ANAS Hacıfakhraddin Safarli,<sup>29</sup> corresponding member of ANAS Musa Gasimli,<sup>30</sup> professor A.İsgenderli,<sup>31</sup> doctor of science in history, professor

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<sup>25</sup> İrəvan xanlığı: Rusiya işğalı və ermənilərin Şimali Azərbaycan torpaqlarına köçürülməsi / Y.Mahmudov, T.Mustafazadə, T.Məmmədov [və b.]. – Bakı: CBC, – 2010. – 616 s.

<sup>26</sup> Hacıyev, İ. Böyük güclərin Azərbaycanla bağlı geosiyasi maraqlarında Naxçıvanın yeri / İ.Hacıyev, E.Şıxəliyev, E.Cəfərli [və b.] / – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2017. – 223 s.

<sup>27</sup> Köçərli, T.Q. Naxçıvan: uydurmalar və tarixi həqiqətlər /T.Q.Köçərli. – Bakı:Təknur, – 2005. 153 s.

<sup>28</sup>Şahverdiyev, Z.Ə. Xanlıqlar dövründə Naxçıvan // Naxçıvan tarixinin səhifələri. – Bakı, – 1996. – s.103-114.

<sup>29</sup> Səfərli, H.Y. Qondarma erməni soyqırımı və tarixi həqiqətlər / H.Səfərli. - Naxçıvan: Əcəmi NPB, – 2018. – 208 s.

<sup>30</sup> Qasımlı, M. “Erməni məsələsi”ndən “erməni soyqırımı”na: gerçək tarix axtarışında (1724-1920) / M.Qasımlı. – Bakı: Mütərcim, 2014. – 464 s.

<sup>31</sup>İsgenderli, A. Realities of Azerbaijan. 1917-1920 / A.C.İsgenderli. – Ioomington: Xlibris Corporation, – 2011. – 234 p.



K.Shukurov,<sup>32</sup> doctor of sciences in history, associate professor E.Shikhaliyev,<sup>33</sup> doctor of sciences in history, professor I.Musayev,<sup>34</sup> doctor of sciences in history, associate professor I.Kazımbəyli,<sup>35</sup> doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor Nazim Mustafa,<sup>36</sup> doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor Ziyad Əmrahov,<sup>37</sup> doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor Elman Jafarlı,<sup>38</sup> doctor of philosophy in history Musa Guliyev,<sup>39</sup> doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor Elnur Kalbizadə,<sup>40</sup> doctor

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<sup>32</sup> Шукюров, К. Азербайджан в системе международных отношений: 1648-1991. Документы и материалы / К.Шукюров. – Баку: Элм, -2020. -736 с.

<sup>33</sup> Şıxəliyev, E.A. Erməni alimlərinin Naxçıvanla bağlı iddiaları // – Naxçıvan: AMEA Naxçıvan Bölməsinin Xəbərləri. İctimai və humanitar elmlər seriyası. – 2009. №1. – s.34-39.; Geosiyasi maraqların toqquşması kontekstində Ermənistan-Azərbaycan, Dağlıq Qarabağ münaqişəsi / – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi NPB, – 2018. – 384 s.; İngiltərənin geosiyasi maraqlarında “erməni məsələsinin” yeri və Azərbaycana təsiri (1917-1920) (Böyük Britaniyanın arxiv materialları əsasında) / E.A.Şıxəliyev. – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, 2016. – 144 s.; Ermənilərin “din” strategiyasının əsas istiqamətləri // – Bakı: Strateji təhlil. SAM, Azərbaycan Respublikasının daxili və xarici siyasəti, beynəlxalq münasibətlərə dair analitik jurnal, – 2014, say: 7-8, – s.65-81.

<sup>34</sup>Musayev, İ. Azərbaycanın Naxçıvan və Zəngəzur bölgələrində siyasi vəziyyət və xarici dövlətlərin siyasəti / İ.Musayev. – Bakı, –1998. – 385 s.

<sup>35</sup>Kazımbəyli, İ.F. Naxçıvan: əhalisi, sosial-iqtisadi və siyasi tarixinə dair (1828-1920-ci illər) / İ.F.Kazımbəyli. – Bakı: Elm, – 2007. – 175 s.

<sup>36</sup>Mustafa, N. İrəvan Türk-İslam varlığı nasıl yok edildi / N.Mustafa. – Ankara: Berikan Yayın evi, – 2015. – 289 s.

<sup>37</sup>Əmrahov, Z. Osmanlı imperiyasında “erməni məsələsi” problemi / Z.Əmrahov. – Bakı: Elm və Təhsil, – 2017. – 272 s.; İrəvan quberniyasının tarixi: 1850-1917-ci illər / Z. C. Əmrahov. – Bakı: Nurlar NPM, – 2022. – 368 s.

<sup>38</sup>Cəfərli, E. Naxçıvanda erməni-Azərbaycan münaqişəsi / E.Cəfərli. – Bakı: Nurlan, – 2008. – 280 s.

<sup>39</sup>Quliyev, M. Naxçıvan xanlığının Qafqazda hərbi-siyasi mövqeyi, əlaqələri / Naxçıvan: Əcəmi NPB, – 2013. – 184 s.

<sup>40</sup>Kəlbizadə, E.H. XX əsrin 20-ci illərində Naxçıvan diyarının inzibati-ərazi quruluşu (tarixi-coğrafi araşdırma) // – Naxçıvan: AMEA Naxçıvan Bölməsinin Xəbərlər jurnalı. İctimai və humanitar elmlər seriyası, – 2017. №1, – s.160-172.

of philosophy in history, associate professor Shamxal Mammadov,<sup>41</sup> doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor Elchin Zamanli<sup>42</sup> an etc.

Academician I.Hajiyev's works are directly relevant in terms of being devoted to the study of Armenian claims of Nakhchivan at the beginning of the 20th century, written on the basis of archival documents. In particular, in the author's work entitled "Armenians' Territorial Claims and Bloody Crimes against Azerbaijan", the creation of "Armenian province" and the modern state of Armenia on the lands of Azerbaijan, the groundless territorial claims of Armenians against Azerbaijan in 1918-1920, the territorial claims of Armenian Dashnaks to Nakhchivan and bloody crimes were studied, the transfer of Armenians to Nakhchivan territory, vandalism of Armenian nationalists and terrorists were thoroughly investigated..<sup>43</sup>

One of the most important works on the history of Nakhchivan in the late XIX - early XX centuries is the monograph of the corresponding member of ANAS Zahmat Shahverdiyev "Nakhchivan region in the early XIX-XX centuries".<sup>44</sup> In his work, the prominent scientist for the first time comprehensively studied the history of Nakhchivan region in the early XIX-XX centuries, proved with scientific facts that the Nakhchivan khanate, which has a special place in the history of Azerbaijani statehood, was occupied by the Russian Empire. He revealed the real essence of the changes and the system of governance, the resettlement of Armenians in Nakhchivan and the genocide against Azerbaijanis on the basis of documents and materials drawn from the archives of different countries. In a number

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<sup>41</sup>Məmmədov, Ş.Ş. Erməni kilsəsi və onun Rusiyanın Cənubi Qafqaz siyasətindəki yeri // Ş.Ş.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2017. – 202 s.

<sup>42</sup>Zamanov, E.D. Azərbaycan Xalq Cümhuriyyətinin Gürcüstan və Ermənistandakı diplomatik nümayəndəliklərinin fəaliyyəti (1918-1920-ci illər):/ tarix elmləri namizədi dis./ – Naxçıvan, – 2002. – 158 s

<sup>43</sup>Hacıyev, İ.M. Ermənilərin Azərbaycana qarşı ərazi iddiaları və qanlı cinayətləri / İ.M.Hacıyev. – Naxçıvan: "Əcəmi" NPB, – 2012. – 192 s.

<sup>44</sup> Şahverdiyev, Z.Ə. Naxçıvan bölgəsi XIX-XX əsrin əvvəllərində/ Z.Ə.Şahverdiyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 2008. – 264 s.

of other monographs and book articles, the author touches on various aspects of the problem we have studied, in particular, the claims of Armenians to Nakhchivan and Daralayaz.<sup>45</sup>

Correspondent member of ANAS Hajifakhraddin Safarli in his monograph on the so-called Armenian “genocide” and historical realities the policy of resettlement of tsarism, the settlement of Armenians in the territories of Nakhchivan, the emergence of territorial claims against Azerbaijan, the acts of massacre and genocide were systematically analyzed. The distinctive feature of this monograph of the prominent epigrapher scientist is that on the basis of the data of Muslim epigraphic monuments he brought to scientific circulation for the first time the undeniable facts about the belonging of the territory to the Azerbaijani people, the groundlessness of Armenian claims.<sup>46</sup>

Correspondent member of ANAS M.Gasimli revealed the true essence of baseless territorial claims made by Armenians in a number of works. The author’s work “From the Armenian issue” to the “Armenian genocide”: in search of true history (1724-1920) was written on the basis of archival materials of different countries, secret

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<sup>45</sup> Şahverdiyev, Z.Ə. 1948-1953-cü illər deportasiyasının əsas məqsədi və acı nəticələri // Naxçıvan Dövlət Universitetinin Elmi əsərləri, Xüsusi buraxılış, -2001. № 8, – s. 38-41; Ermənilərin Azərbaycanlılara qarşı soyqırımı tarixindən (1905-1906-cı illər Naxçıvan) // AMEA Naxçıvan Bölməsinin Xəbərlər jurnalı, -2009. № 1, -s. 40-47; Xanlıqlar dövründə Naxçıvan // Naxçıvan tarixinin səhifələri. – Bakı, – 1996. – s.103-114; XIX-XX əsrin əvvəllərində Naxçıvan bölgəsində demoqrafik vəziyyət // AMEA Tarix İnstitutunun Elmi Əsərləri, 26-cı cild, –2008.–s.96-105; Naxçıvan bölgəsi XIX-XX əsrin əvvəllərində/ Z.Ə.Şahverdiyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 2008. – 264 s.; Naxçıvan: tarixi yaddaş və müasir yüksəliş / Z.Ə.Şahverdiyev. – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2017. – 520 s.; Naxçıvanda erməni təcavüzünün güclənməsi və ona qarşı mübarizə (1914-1918-ci illər) // Naxçıvan Dövlət Universitetinin Elmi əsərləri, – 2010. № 2(34), s.18-21; Şahverdiyev, Z.Ə., Əliyev, Z.Q. “Şərqi Ermənistan” mifi və ermənilərin uydurma ərazi iddiaları// – Naxçıvan: NDU-nun Elmi əsərləri. – 2017. №6 (87).– s. 3-6; Şahverdiyev, Z.E, Çarlık Rusyasının ermənilərin Kuzey Azərbaycana göç etdirme siyasətində Naxçıvanın yeri (1828-1831) // - İstanbul: Azərbaycan panoraması, -2007, Kasım. Sayı 2, -s. 55-59

<sup>46</sup> Səfərlı, H.Y. Qondarma erməni soyqırımı və tarixi həqiqətlər / H.Səfərlı. – Naxçıvan: “Əcəmi” NPB, – 2018. – 208 s.

diplomatic documents and periodicals, It examines the factors influencing the policy of Azerbaijan in the late 19th and early 20s centuries, the use of the Armenian factor in Tsarist Russia's policy in Northern Azerbaijan, the resettlement of Armenians to Azerbaijani lands, the policy of genocide and ethnic cleansing committed by Armenian terrorists against Azerbaijanis.<sup>47</sup>

Doctor of sciences in history, professor A.Isganderli's work published in the USA on the events that took place in Azerbaijan in 1917-1920, especially the resettlement of Armenians transferred from the Ottoman Empire to the South Caucasus region, the genocide committed by Armenians against Azerbaijanis in Yerevan and Zangezur after the fall of Tsarist Russia. and massacres have been researched based on reliable sources.<sup>48</sup>

Doctor of sciences in history, professor K.Shukurov's work is important from the point of view of the study of the documents accepted regarding the regions claimed by Armenians at the beginning of the 19th-20th centuries. It also touched upon the points related to the Yerevan and Nakhchivan region in the international bilateral and multilateral agreements signed at different times.<sup>49</sup>

Doctor of sciences in history, associate professor E.Shikhaliyev's monographs "The place of the "Armenian issue" in the geopolitical interests of England and its influence on Azerbaijan (1917-1920) (based on archival materials of Great Britain)", "Armenia-Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in the context of the clash of geopolitical interests" are significant research works.<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>47</sup>Qasımlı, M. "Erməni məsələsi"ndən "erməni soyqırımı"na: gerçək tarix axtarışında (1724-1920) / M.Qasımlı. – Bakı: Mütərcim, – 2014. – 464 s.

<sup>48</sup> Isgenderli, A. Realities of Azerbaijan. 1917-1920 / A.C.İsgenderli. - Bloomington: Xlibris Corporation, -2011. -234 p.

<sup>49</sup> Шукүров, К. Азербайджан в системе международных отношений: 1648-1991. Документы и материалы / К.Шукүров. –Баку: ЭЛМ, -2020. -736 с.

<sup>50</sup>Şixəliyev, E.A. İngiltərənin geosiyasi maraqlarında "erməni məsələsinin" yeri və Azərbaycanın təsiri (1917-1920) (Böyük Britaniyanın arxiv materialları əsasında) / E.A.Şixəliyev. – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, 2016. – 144 s.; Şixəliyev, E.A. Geosiyasi maraqların toqquşması kontekstində Ermənistan-Azərbaycan, Dağlıq Qarabağ münasirələri

Doctor of philosophy in history Ziyad Amrahov in his book “The problem of Armenian issue in the Ottoman Empire” studied the history of the “Armenian issue”, the reasons for its emergence, the role of major powers, especially Russia, England, France and the Armenian church in the problem.<sup>51</sup> The author’s work dedicated to the history of Yerevan governorate in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century is also noteworthy. In the work, the creation of the governorate, the changes in the number dynamics and ethnic composition of the population, the state of economy, culture, and administrative management in the governorate were analyzed, and attention was paid to the settlement process of Armenians in the region and the corresponding administrative structures here.<sup>52</sup>

Doctor of philosophy in history Nazim Mustafa’s research on the destruction of the Turkish-Islamic presence in Iravan is rich in valuable facts.<sup>53</sup>

Doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor Sh. Mammadov’s researches touched on issues related to the role of tsarist Russia in the resettlement of Armenians to Iravan and Nakhchivan regions, the intentions of using the Armenian church as a tool,<sup>54</sup> and the historical roots of the emergence of Armenian terrorism.<sup>55</sup>

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qişəsi / E.A.Şixəliyev. – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2018. – 384 s.

<sup>51</sup>Əmrahov, Z. Osmanlı imperiyasında “erməni məsələsi” problemi / Z.Əmrahov. – Bakı: Elm və Təhsil, – 2017. – 272 s.

<sup>52</sup>Əmrahov, Z.C. İrəvan quberniyasının tarixi: 1850-1917-ci illər / Z. C. Əmrahov. – Bakı: Nurlar NPM, – 2022. – 368 s

<sup>53</sup>Mustafa, N. İrəvan Türk-İslam varlığı nasıl yok edildi / N.Mustafa. – Ankara: Berikan Yayın evi, – 2015. – 289 s.

<sup>54</sup>Məmmədov, Ş.Ş. Erməni kilsəsi və onun Rusiyanın Cənubi Qafqaz siyasətindəki yeri // Ş.Ş.Məmmədov. – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2017. – 202 s.

<sup>55</sup>Məmmədov, Ş.Ş. Erməni terroru və böyük dövlətlərin ikili standartlar siyasəti: (XIX əsr - XXI əsrin əvvəli): /tarix üzrə fəlsəfə doktoru dis. / Naxçıvan, – 2010. – 169 s.

Doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor E.Jafarli's monograph dedicated to the "Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict in Nakhchivan" clarifies how Armenians organized themselves in the period before the establishment of the so-called "Armenian state" and what terrorist-political activities they carried out in order to realize their territorial claims. It is one of the most fact-rich studies.<sup>56</sup>

The works of doctor of philosophy in history, associate professor E.Zamanov are important in terms of studying the claims of Armenians to seize new territories in the region in 1918-1920, the activities of Azerbaijani diplomats to prevent these claims and aggression.<sup>57</sup>

The effects of historical and political processes on the historical geography of Nakhchivan in the mentioned period have been touched upon in a number of works by S.Budagova<sup>58</sup> and E.Kalbizade.<sup>59</sup>

In addition, doctor of sciences in history, professor O.Sultanov,<sup>60</sup> correspondent member of ANAS, doctor of sciences in history, professor G. Madatov,<sup>61</sup> correspondent member of ANAS, doctor of

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<sup>56</sup>Cəfərli, E. Naxçıvanda erməni-Azərbaycan münaqişəsi / E.Cəfərli. – Bakı: Nurlan, – 2008. – 280 s.

<sup>57</sup>Zamanov, E.D. Azərbaycan Xalq Cümhuriyyətinin Gürcüstan və Ermənistandakı diplomatik nümayəndəliklərinin fəaliyyəti (1918-1920-ci illər):/ tarix elmləri namizədi dis./ – Naxçıvan, – 2002. – 158 s.

<sup>58</sup>Budaqova, S. Naxçıvan diyarının tarixi coğrafiyası (XVIII əsrin ikinci yarısı – XIX əsrin birinci qərinası) / S.Budaqova. – Bakı: Elm, – 1995. – 96 s.

<sup>59</sup>Kəlbizadə, E.H. Qərb dövlətlərinin siyasi maraqlarında Naxçıvan (1918-1920) // – Naxçıvan: Magistrantların regional elmi konfransının materialları. – 2012. № 3, – s. 31-33; XX əsrin 20-ci illərində Naxçıvan diyarının inzibati-ərazi quruluşu (tarixi-coğrafi araşdırma) // – Naxçıvan: AMEA Naxçıvan Bölməsinin Xəbərlər jurnalı. İctimai və humanitar elmlər seriyası, – 2017. №1, – s. 160-172; Armenian community and diaspora factor in Iran-Armenian relations // – Bakı: Caucasus Studies scientific-theoretical journal. – 2020, № 1. – pp. 16-26.

<sup>60</sup>Sultanov, O. B. XX əsrin 80-ci illərinin sonu – 90-cı illərin əvvəllərində Azərbaycanda siyasi mübarizə: tarix elmləri doktoru dis. / – Bakı, – 1996. – 345 s.

<sup>61</sup>Mədətov, Q.Ə. Naxçıvanda Sovet hakimiyyətinin qələbəsi və Naxçıvan MSSR-in təşkili / Q.Ə.Mədətov. – Bakı: Azər nəşr, – 1958. – 163 s.

sciences in history, professor V.Bakhshaliyev,<sup>62</sup> doctor of sciences in history, professor I.Musayev,<sup>63</sup> doctor of sciences in history, professor Havva Mammadova,<sup>64</sup> doctor of sciences in history, professor Solmaz Rustamova-Tohidi,<sup>65</sup> doctor of sciences in history, professor Sevinj Aliyeva,<sup>66</sup> doctor of philosophy in history, associate A.Aliyev<sup>67</sup> also touched on a number of issues related to the topic.

It is necessary to pay special attention to the fact that Armenians turn science into a means of ideological propaganda in order to expose the claims of Nakhchivan and Iravan. From this point of view, works of Armenian authors full of mythical and absurd claims were involved in research in the dissertation work. The non-objective points here have been analyzed, scientific facts and counter-arguments have been presented.

Thus, although separate aspects of the problem are investigated, there is a need for a comprehensive and systematic historiographical study of Armenian territorial claims to Yerevan and Nakhchivan regions as a whole. Archive materials and periodicals were used in the dissertation as a source base. Documents of the State Historical Archive of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Archive of Political Docu-

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<sup>62</sup> Baxşəliyev, V. və b. Naxçıvanda arxeoloji tədqiqatlar (II Kültərə, I Maxta Kültərəsi, Oğlanqala və digər abidələrdə aparılan tədqiqatların ilkin nəticələri) / V. Baxşəliyev, L. Ristvet, H. Gopnik, S. Aşurov. – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2010. – 119 s. s.76-77.

<sup>63</sup> Musayev, İ. Azərbaycanın Naxçıvan və Zəngəzur bölgələrində siyasi vəziyyət və xarici dövlətlərin siyasəti / İ. Musayev. – Bakı, – 1998. – 385 s.

<sup>64</sup> Məmmədova, H.İ. Azərbaycan xalq Cümhuriyyəti dövründə Yuxarı Qarabağda siyasi vəziyyət: Erməni terrorizminin güclənməsi (1918-1920) / H.İ. Məmmədova. – Bakı: Nağıl Evi, – 2006. – 150 s.

<sup>65</sup> Рустамова-Тогиди, С. А. Март 1918 г. Баку. Азербайджанские погромы в документах / С. А. Рустамова-Тогиди. – Баку, – 2009. – 864 с..

<sup>66</sup> Алиева, С., Аскер, А. Соперничество за Северный Кавказ: приоритеты внешней политики Османской империи накануне и после 1813 года // Материалы международной научной конференции «Гюлистанский мирный договор 1813 г.: основные итоги и последствия для судеб народов Кавказа». – 2013, 24 сентябр. – Махачкала, -2013. -с. 30-35.

<sup>67</sup> Əliyev, Ə. Əlinəcə yaddaşı / Ə. Əliyev. – Bakı: Gənclik, – 1997. – 304 s.

ments of the Office of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the State Archive of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic were involved in the research. In particular, many documents, copies of which were once brought to the State Archives of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic from the State Archives of the Armenian SSR, were brought into scientific circulation for the first time. Official documents, newspaper and magazine materials published at different times were used.

**Object and predmet of research.** The object of the research is the primary sources (sources, archival documents, written for the purpose of ideological substantiation, exposed to political conjuncture, reflecting the claims of Armenians to the historical regions of Azerbaijan Iravan and Nakhchivan, the tactics, methods and means used by them to realize these baseless claims) studies.” The study of historical and political processes in the second half of the XIX - early XX centuries in Iravan and Nakhchivan regions of Azerbaijan, ethno-demographic changes, their impact on the future of Iravan and Nakhchivan, the reasons for the claims of Armenians and the activities carried out for their implementation are the subject of research.

**The goal and duties of the research.** The goal of the study is to study the territorial claims of Armenians to the Nakhchivan and Iravan regions of Azerbaijan in the second half of the XIX century - the first quarter of the XX century. From this point of view, 1850-1925 is defined as the main chronological framework. In accordance with the purpose of the study, a number of tasks were set during the research. They consist of following:

- Research by scientific methods on when and why the claims of “Eastern Armenia” were made, whether there is any historical basis for this;
- Studying the steps taken by the Armenians to justify their territorial claims to the Yerevan and Nakhchivan regions and the principles of formation and operation of the false propaganda they built in the historical context;



- In contrast to Iravan, evaluation of the factors that led to the preservation of Nakhchivan as an integral part of Azerbaijan, etc.

**The methods of the research.** In the study of the topic, the topic-analysis approach was preferred to the chronological-descriptive. Cause and effect analysis of events and processes was conducted. An attempt was made to reveal the scientific truth by making mutual comparisons between the events. Structural-functional analysis of some processes was carried out. In particular, the study of the process of resettlement of Armenians made it necessary to apply this method. In addition, comparative analysis, scientific historical generalization, content and event-analysis methods were the main methods used in the dissertation.

**The main provisions of the defense.** Some of the findings of the research are important in terms of substantiating scientific innovations. For this purpose, the following provisions are defended in the dissertation:

1. The geopolitical goals of Tsarist Russia played a more fundamental role in the emergence of the Armenians' claims to "Eastern Armenia" than in European countries;
2. As in the first half of the 19th century, in the second half of the 19th century, the migration of Armenians was carried out in a planned and purposeful manner, simply changing the forms and methods of resettlement;
3. The first stage of the Armenianization of the region was completed with the establishment of the Armenian state in the Iravan region;
4. The Nakhchivan claims of the Armenians have no scientific or historical basis, they are simply the product of ideological propaganda.

**Scientific novelty of the research.** For the first time in the dissertation, territorial claims against the territories of Western Azerbaijan - Nakhchivan and Iravan - were involved in a comprehensive study. As a result of research, a number of other scientific innovations have been obtained, which include:

- The sources suggest that the interests of the great powers (USA, England, Germany, Russia, etc.) differed from each other in the process of settlement of Armenians in the South Caucasus. For the first time, similar and different aspects of the policies of the states in this direction have been identified

- For the first time in historiography, the goals and reasons for the emergence of the concept of “Eastern Armenia” were studied, and it was proved based on the facts brought from sources of ideological essence.

- The natural, demographic consequences of the creation of the Armenian state at the expense of the territories of Azerbaijan have been evaluated based on facts.

- In the process of moving Armenians to Nakhchivan and Iravan, the goals of immigrant and immigrant empires were analyzed based on comparative methods, and their similarities and differences were determined.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research.** The main provisions put forward during the research and the scientific results obtained are important both from a theoretical and practical point of view. The scientific results obtained in the dissertation can be used not only in the history of Azerbaijan, but also in the writing of the general history of the Caucasus region, the study of the history of genocide, ethno-demographic research and the writing of generalized works. From a practical point of view, research can be used in the teaching of special courses at the bachelor’s and master’s levels of higher education.

**Approbation and application of the research.** The topic of the dissertation was approved at the meeting of the Scientific Council of Nakhchivan State University on January 31, 2017 (protocol № 05), and at the meeting on February 25, 2021 (protocol № 07) the title of the work was partially changed. At the same time, the topic of the dissertation was approved at the meeting of the Scientific Council on Historical Problems of the Republican Council for Coordination of Scientific Research on December 08, 2017 (protocol № 4/12), but at the meeting of the Scientific Council of Nakhchivan State University

on February 25, 2021 of the Scientific Council on the History of Azerbaijan of the Republican Council for Coordination of Scientific Research dated December 29, 2020 re-discussed and approved at the meeting (protocol №3). The main provisions of the work have been presented by us at various local and international conferences on research conducted on the basis of archival documents and reliable sources. The obtained scientific results are reflected in articles and theses published in various journals and collections.

The dissertation was discussed and submitted for defense with the participation of employees of the relevant departments and divisions of Nakhchivan State University, Institute of History, Ethnography and Archeology of Nakhchivan Branch of ANAS.

**Name of the organization where the dissertation work is performed.** The dissertation work was carried out at the “History of Azerbaijan” department of Nakhchivan State University.

**The structure and volume of the dissertation.** The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, 8 paragraphs, a conclusion and a list of references, a total of 264,571 characters.

The introductory part consists of a total of 22,512 characters. The first chapter, entitled “Armenian issue” and “territorial claims of Armenians”, consists of a total of 66,281 characters. The second chapter of the dissertation is entitled “Iravan in the territorial claims of Armenians” and consists of 68,487 characters. Chapter III is entitled “Armenians’ claims to Nakhchivan and the preservation of the region as an integral part of Azerbaijan” and consists of 96,404 characters. The results obtained in the final part of the work are summarized. This part consists of 10,887 characters.

## MAIN CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION

The **“Introduction”** provides information on the relevance and degree of development of the topic, substantiated, the degree of its development, the goals and objectives of the research, object and subject, scientific innovation, theoretical and methodological bases, theoretical and practical significance, approbation and application opportunities.

The first chapter of the dissertation is named **“The issue of Armenian” and territorial claims of Armenians”** and consists of three paragraphs. In the first paragraph entitled **“Reasons for the emergence of the “the issue of Armenian” territorial claims”** of the first chapter the resettlement of Armenians in the Nakhchivan and Iravan regions of Azerbaijan, the strengthening of claims to these territories, and the intensification of these claims in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were studied as the “the issue of Armenian” that arose directly as a result of imperialist goals. It has been established that in the 19th century, with the encouragement and support of the states that authored the “the issue of East”, especially Britain and Tsarist Russia, the Armenians began destructive anti-Turkish, anti-Ottoman activities to “revive the traditions of statehood” that never existed. European states tried to secure their geopolitical interests by bringing this issue to the international level, propagating the idea of nationalism, freedom and autonomous state to Armenians.

Paragraph II of the first chapter of the study, entitled **“Causes and Consequences of the Armenian Migration from the Ottoman Empire to the Caucasus in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries”** notes that They hoped that they would break up and use it to gain independence. Therefore, the “Armenian issue” was included in the “The problem of East”.

Gradually, the role of Russia and Great Britain in the “Armenian issue” came to the fore, and the Armenians who were punished for betraying the Ottoman state turned mainly to Tsarist Russia. Russian Armenians, who were trying to establish a “buffer zone” between themselves and the Ottoman state and the Muslim and Turkic peoples

of the Caucasus in the Caucasus, were interested in settling them in the territories bordering the Ottoman Empire in the Caucasus. During the Crimean War of 1853-1856 between Russia and the Ottoman Empire, the work of bringing Armenians to the South Caucasus after the war, which helped the tsarism, was especially intensified. The settlement of Armenians had serious ethno-demographic, social and economic consequences for Azerbaijanis and other Muslim nations.

Armenians settled in the Russian colonies in the Caucasus could be used as a reconnaissance and punitive expedition in the tsarist army on the Caucasus front. It was enough to give them the promise of seven Ottoman provinces and Cilicia.<sup>68</sup>

The analysis allows us to identify several reasons for the resettlement of Armenians in the Caucasus in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is clear that one of the main reasons for the migration of Ottoman Armenians to the Caucasus in the 19th century was their intention to settle in fertile lands under the auspices of Tsarist Russia. The Ottoman government's punitive measures led to the departure of members of such terrorist groups and insurgents from the Ottoman Empire to the Caucasus.

In paragraph III of chapter I, entitled **“Myths and historical facts of “Eastern Armenia”, “Caucasian Armenia”**, the armenians coined various terms to substantiate their land claims, first bringing them into public, then scientific, and then political circulation. The Armenians, who declared the 6 eastern provinces of the Ottoman Empire the so-called “Western and Southern Armenia”, were unable to realize their intentions here in the early 20s century. The new target was the Caucasus, especially the historical Azerbaijani lands where Armenians were once resettled - Iravan, Nakhchivan and Karabakh. In order to appropriate the Azerbaijani lands, they brought up several mythological fictional terms: “Eastern Armenia”, “Russian Armenia”, “Caucasian Armenia” and so on.

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<sup>68</sup>Лалаян А. «Контрреволюционный» «Дашнакцутюн» и империалистическая война 1914-1918// Революционный Восток «Орган НИА по изучению национальных и колониальных проблем. – М., – 1936. № 2-3 (36-37), – с. 97-98.

After the Russo-Gajar war of 1826-1828, the formalization of the occupation of Azerbaijan, first by Iravan and then by the Tsarist Russia of the Nakhchivan khanates, is presented as the occupation or annexation of “Eastern Armenia” to Russia. However, in the text of the agreement, such a conversation is not about any “Eastern Armenia”, but about the occupation of two Azerbaijani khanates - Nakhchivan and Iravan by Russia.

After Russia completed its occupation of the South Caucasus, it began mass resettlement of Armenians in the Caucasus in accordance with its imperial goals. According to the decree issued by Tsar Nicholas I on March 21, 1828, the “Armenian province” was established in the territory of the former Iravan and Nakhchivan khanates.<sup>69</sup> A number of authors have unreasonably tried to describe this process as the return of “ancient lands” to the Armenians.<sup>70</sup> However, the text of the decree did not refer to any “return” or “restoration”, but to the “creation” of the province. It was noted that an “Armenian province” should be established in the territories of the Iravan and Nakhchivan khanates.<sup>71</sup> As a result of administrative reform, the province was abolished by an imperial decree dated April 10, 1840.<sup>72</sup>

Armenians, who lost their “habitats” in Anatolia due to their betrayals, suffered material losses and psychological blows, declared

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<sup>69</sup> Акты собранные Кавказкою Археологическою Коммиссиею. Архив Главного Управления Наместника Кавказскаго / Издан под редакциею председателя комиссии д.с.с. Ад.Берже. -Тифлис. Типография Главного Управления Наместника Кавказскаго. – Т. 7. – 1878, – с. 503.

<sup>70</sup>Святоховски Т. Russia and Azerbaijan: in the transition period of border // – Вак: XUN, – 2000. – s.17.

<sup>71</sup> Акты собранные Кавказкою Археологическою Коммиссиею. Архив Главного Управления Наместника Кавказскаго. / Издан под редакциею председателя комиссии д.с.с. Ад.Берже. – Тифлис. Типография Главного Управления Наместника Кавказскаго. Т. 7. – 1878, – с. 487.

<sup>72</sup>Полное собрание законов Российской империи, собрание 2-е, Т.XV, – СПб. – 1841. – с. 237.

1918-1920 the beginning of the period of revival of “long-lost independent state life”.<sup>73</sup>

After the Sovietization - in March 1921, as a result of Soviet-Turkish negotiations in Moscow, the fate of a number of regions in the Caucasus was decided. In particular, these talks played an important role in preserving Nakhchivan as an integral part of Azerbaijan. Thus, the mythical “Eastern Armenia” of the Armenians, which was part of the idea of “Greater Armenia”, was a concept with a “broad meaning” from the modern Republic of Armenia, created as a Christian state with the help of Russia in the territory of Zangazur, Daralayaz is a conventional, fictional term that justifies substantiation.

Chapter II entitled “**Iravan in the groundless territorial claims of Armenians**” consists of three paragraphs. The first paragraph, entitled “**Reasons for the settlement of Armenians in the Iravan region**”, states that after the death of Nadir Shah Afshar in 1747, khanates emerged as a form of state organization in the territory of Azerbaijan. The territory of the Iravan Khanate, which was formed in the territories of the Iravan Khanate, included modern Armenia, except for the Zangezur region, the Sharur and Saderak regions of the present-day Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, and the present Republic of Turkey. covered Iqdir el of It is an undeniable fact that the population of the Iravan Khanate consists mainly of Turkic-speaking Azerbaijanis and that they are aborigines.<sup>74</sup> Various generals of the Russian troops also acknowledged this fact in their reports to the imperial center. General Paskevich, the commander-in-chief of the Russian troops in the Caucasus, after capturing this place with great difficulty, stated the number of Azerbaijani families in the khanate as 10,000 families, and the number of Armenian families as 3,000.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>73</sup>Качазнуни Ов. Дашнакцутюн больше нечего делать! – Баку: Елм, – 1990. – с. 29.

<sup>74</sup>Əliyeva, F. İrəvan xanlığı // Azərbaycan. – 2009, 18 mart. – s.6.

<sup>75</sup>Əliyeva, F. İrəvan xanlığı // Azərbaycan. – 2009, 18 mart. – s.6.

Then, by the decree of Nicholas I dated March 21, 1828, the Iravan and Nakhchivan khanates were abolished, united with Russia and the “Armenian province” was created. Numerous armenians were relocated from the Ottoman and Gajar states to Nakhchivan and Iravan to secure armenian supremacy in the region, and the region’s indigenous Azerbaijani population was forced to migrate to present-day Turkey and Iran. The “Armenian province” was divided into Iravan, Nakhchivan provinces and Ordubad region.

Tsarist Russia had extensive plans to use armenians against the Ottoman Empire, which it considered an eternal enemy. The reason why armenians were chosen against the Ottomans was that armenians, who for many years were known in the Ottoman Empire as “millet-sadika” (loyal nation) and well acquainted with the Ottoman state system, could play an important role in organizing the struggle against the Ottoman state. The location of the province of Iravan on the road from Anatolia to the Caucasus played a special role in the settlement of armenians here.

As in the whole Caucasus, the migration of Armenians to the Iravan region continued in the second half of the 19th century, and as a result of mass resettlement, the Russian Empire was able to fundamentally change the ethno-demographic conditions. Paragraph II, entitled “**Current situation and changes in the Iravan region at the end of the XIX century**”, states that on June 9, 1849, the Iravan province was established. The center of the province was the city of Iravan. Despite the resettlement process, Azerbaijanis were still in the majority in the 27,830 km<sup>2</sup> Iravan province. The territory of the Iravan province, which existed in 1849-1917, included the entire territory of the so-called “Armenian province” created after the Russian occupation, including the Alexandropol district and part of the Migri area. The province was administratively divided into five districts: Iravan, Alexandropol, Yeni Bayazid, Nakhchivan and Ordubad. Areas were created as part of the accidents. Zangibasar, Surmali, Sardarabad and Sharur areas were included in the administrative division of Iravan district.



Although the Russian Empire abolished the “Armenian province” it had created without any historical or legal basis, social or economic necessity, it tried to Armenianize the Iravan region and realize the territorial claims of the Armenians.

After the victory of the tsarist army in the Russian-Ottoman war of 1877-1878 and the annexation of a number of Ottoman provinces to Russia, the process of mass settlement of Armenians in the Iravan province, as well as in a number of regions of the South Caucasus intensified.

The results of the resettlement of armenians in the region were reflected in the census that began in May 1886. Thus, there were only 2968 houses (dim) in the city of Iravan, Iravan province. The city had a population of 14,738. The number of houses belonging to armenians was 1481, the number of houses belonging to Azerbaijanis was 1385. There were 3827 men, 3315 armenian women, 3797 men and 3431 Azerbaijani women living in the city. 19712 men and 16714 women lived in 5216 houses belonging to armenians in Iravan district. 29,719 men and 23,161 women lived in 7,383 houses belonging to Azerbaijanis.<sup>76</sup>

The aim of the Armenians, who had insidious plans, was first to cleanse Iravan and its surrounding villages of Muslims, then to destroy the settlements inhabited by Azerbaijanis on the road from Iravan to Nakhchivan, and then to carry out ethnic cleansing in Zangazur.<sup>77</sup>

Historical sources confirm that Armenians organized massacres covering four stages in Iravan governorate. Armenian ideologues, church and political parties, terrorist organizations began to lay the first foundation of “Great Armenia” in the former Iravan Khanate, which is the ancient land of Azerbaijan.

Georgian researcher Guram Markhulia shows that the ethnic and toponymic reforms of the armenians are not able to hide the historical

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<sup>76</sup> Гасымлы, М. Анатолия и Южный Кавказ в 1724-1920-е гг.: в поисках исторической истины / М.Гасымлы. – Москва: Инсан, – 2014. – с. 40.

<sup>77</sup> Ordubadi, M.S. Qanlı illər / M.S.Ordubadi. – Bakı: Qafqaz, – 2007. – s.96

truth. They tried to armenianize the historical Azerbaijani and Georgian provinces by changing toponyms.<sup>78</sup>

Thus, historical facts and various sources prove that the ancient Azerbaijani territory of Iravan, after the collapse of the idea of Armenian autonomy in Turkey, began to realize its territorial claims and insidious ideas of statehood in the South Caucasus, especially in Azerbaijan and its Iravan region.

The third paragraph of Chapter II, entitled **“Establishment of the Armenian state in the Iravan region and the first stage of Armenianization of the region”** states that the betrayal of the Armenians to Ottoman Turkey during the First World War and the failure of the idea of creating an autonomous “Turkish Armenia” in the South Caucasus. He accelerated his plan to create a state, especially in the Iravan region, and to realize his territorial claims. The Armenians, who escaped retaliation and fair punishment for their betrayals from the eastern part of Asia Minor, including Van, to the lands of ancient Azerbaijan, not only found refuge in the Iravan region, but also made territorial claims and realized their dream of establishing an Armenian state.

100,000 of the 500,000 Armenians who fled the Ottoman Empire in 1915-1916, settled in the South Caucasus, and the vast majority in the lands of historical Azerbaijan.

At the end of World War I in 1918, the Dashnak Prime Minister of the first Armenian government O. Kachaznuni wrote about how the first state of Armenia was established in the Iravan region, that in late May 1918 it was impossible to choose a place or time. History has led us to a certain situation. We had to muster up the courage to deal with it because we did not want to be doomed. We should have owned Armenia, or we could have lost it forever.<sup>79</sup> It is known that

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<sup>78</sup> Мархулия, Г. Столица Армении-Азербайджанский город Иреван: [Электронный ресурс] // URL: <https://www/1905az/ru/%D0%D1%83%D1%80%D0%B0%>.

<sup>79</sup> Качазнуни, Ов. Дашнакцутюн больше нечего делать / Ов.Качазнуни. – Баку: Элм, – 1990. – 29 с

Kachaznuni was involved in political manipulation here. There has never been Armenia in the Caucasus. They tried to own the lands of others, not Armenia.

The majority of the population of the Republic of Ararat, which was established in the lands of ancient Azerbaijan, consisted of Azerbaijanis and other Muslims. At the end of the First World War, the British used the Dashnaks in accordance with their expansionist policies. S.Yusifzadeh writes that the action plans and scenarios of the Dashnaks were drawn up in London.<sup>80</sup> In fact, if the British state did not support and encourage the Armenian state, it would be impossible for the Dashnaks to carry out their aggressive plans for Nakhchivan and Zangazur on such a scale.

By helping to strengthen the Armenian state in order to prevent the formation of an all-Turkic union, Great Britain blocked the establishment of the Turkish union in accordance with its national and geopolitical interests. E. Shikhaliyev rightly points out that the establishment of the Armenian state was one of the goals of Great Britain and the Entente in general.<sup>81</sup>

According to the Batumi agreement, the territory of the Armenian state was limited to the territories inhabited by Armenians in the Iravan region before the First World War. After the massacres in Eastern Anatolia in 1918, the Armenian detachments, led by the bandit Andranik, fled from Gyumri to Garakilsa, then to the Dilijan gorge, Goychay, then to Nakhchivan and Zangazur, destroying Azerbaijani villages.

E.Shikhaliyev writes that the main intention of Britain was to use Armenians against the Turks among the many ethnic groups and religions living in the Caucasus, the Armenians were the most suitable ethnic group. The English tried to determine which of these groups could seriously resist the Turks. Then he writes: *“It was clear*

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<sup>80</sup>Yusifzadə, S. Ermənistan-Azərbaycan münaqişəsi və İngiltərənin mövqeyi (1918-1920-ci illər) // – Bakı: Dırçəliş – XXI əsr, – 2004. № 76-77, – s. 256.

<sup>81</sup>Şixəliyev, E.A. İngiltərənin geosiyasi maraqlarında “erməni məsələsinin” yeri və Azərbaycanı təsiri (1917-1920), – s. 55.

*that the Azerbaijani turks, who sympathized with the Ottomans in terms of being Turkic, would not be trusted. In turn, the Azerbaijani turks were very worried about the British assistance to the Armenians. This aid was even used by Armenians as a method of irritating Azerbaijanis”.*<sup>82</sup>

Historian M.Gasimli, based on the authoritative archival documents of the United States and other foreign countries, writes about the transfer of the city of Iravan of the Azerbaijan People Republic to Armenia that there was no capital of the Ararat Republic established on Turkish lands. Because until 1918, there was no state called Armenia in the South Caucasus. The National Council of Armenia appealed to Azerbaijan to transfer the city of Iravan as the capital to the newly established Republic of Ararat. This issue was discussed by representatives of both national councils. Explaining the reasons for Azerbaijan’s concessions to Armenia, professor Musa Gasimli shows that, first of all, Azerbaijan was under serious pressure from foreign countries.

Analysis of historical processes shows that the Dashnaks first demanded Alexandropol as a political center. The Ottoman troops who took control of the city did not want to give it up. Musa Gasimli writes about another reason: *“The National Council of Azerbaijan believed that after the transfer of Iravan as the capital, there would be peace between the two peoples, and the Armenians would put an end to their baseless claims.”*<sup>83</sup>

The analysis proves that the process of establishing the Armenian state in the historical lands of Azerbaijan, the gradual expansion of its territories at the expense of other lands was carried out in stages on the basis of special plans.

First of all, cleansing, genocide and policy against local Azerbaijanis were carried out in the lands of Azerbaijan, and the ground was laid for the establishment of the Armenian state.

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<sup>82</sup>Again there, - p. 21.

<sup>83</sup>Гасымлы, М. Анатолия и Южный Кавказ в 1724-1920-е гг.: в поисках исторической истины. – с. 466.

Thus, in the early twentieth century, the Armenians established the Dashnak Ararat Republic for the first time in the territories they never existed, especially in the Iravan region of Azerbaijan - in the territory of Western Azerbaijan. In the First World War, the Armenians, who wanted to realize the idea of an imaginary “Greater Armenia”, betrayed the Ottoman Empire at the instigation of the Entente, including Russia, and suffered a heavy defeat. In order to realize the claim of Caucasian Armenia, the indigenous Azerbaijanis in the Iravan region of Azerbaijan were subjected to massacres and created an independent state.

The chapter entitled **“Armenians’ claims to Nakhchivan and the preservation of the region as an integral part of Azerbaijan”** consists of two paragraphs. Paragraph I, entitled **“The place and historical realities of Nakhchivan in the imaginary claims of Armenians to”Greater Armenia”**, states that the territorial claims of Armenians against the Iravan region of Azerbaijan in the 19s century resulted in the establishment of the Armenian state in this area in the early 20st century. They could not realize their insidious intentions regarding Nakhchivan. They unreasonably use the phrase “Armenian Nakhchivan”, falsify the history and toponyms of Nakhchivan, or rather, Armenianize it. In fact, all the facts prove that Armenians have never been local residents of Nakhchivan and have never come to this area.

As a result of the betrayal of the Armenians, assistance and guidance to the Russian troops, Nakhchivan was occupied on June 27, 1827. In March 1828, Tsar Nicholas I fulfilled his promise to the Armenians. He abolished the Iravan and Nakhchivan khanates and created a so-called “Armenian province”. An examination of the sources revealed the following fact: *“A telegram sent by Tsar Nicholas I to Count Paskevich immediately after the Turkmenchay Treaty read: “Congratulations! Finally, Greater Armenia was created!”*<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>84</sup> Quliyev, M. Naxçıvan xanlığının Qafqazda hərbi-siyasi mövqeyi, əlaqələri / Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2013. – s. 145

M. Guliyev writes that there is an interesting nuance here. He shows: *“Tsar Nicholas I does not write that Greater Armenia was restored. He writes that it was created. This is a fact that refutes the claims of Armenians to Greater Armenia”*.<sup>85</sup>

The resettlement of Armenians from present-day Iran and Turkey in the 19th century played a key role in the Armenians' claim to Nakhchivan and other Azerbaijani lands. The successful completion of the Russian-Gajar (1826-1828) and Russian-Turkish (1828-1829) wars for Russia created favorable conditions for the resettlement of Armenians to Northern Azerbaijan and its integral part, Nakhchivan.

The study of documents kept in the State Archives of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic showed that 90397 (66.3 percent) of the 136,536 people living in Nakhchivan province in 1897 were Azerbaijanis and 44,604 (32.7 percent) were Armenians as a result of resettlements during the 19th century. Although the number of Armenians increased more than 17 times due to resettlement, the number of Azerbaijanis was still more than twice as high as that of Armenians.<sup>86</sup>

At the present stage, with the help of patrons, diaspora forces, lobbies, and strong financially-minded Armenian organizations, Armenians, who distort the public opinion that Nakhchivan is Armenian territory and try to confuse public opinion, are trying to “spread” false territorial claims to the international community. They spread false information in the world media, try to cancel the Kars agreement, at least try to turn Nakhchivan into a disputed territory.

Paragraph II, entitled **“Claims to Nakhchivan in the early 20th century and the preservation of the region as an integral part of Azerbaijan,”** states that the Dashnaks, who fought for “Turkish Armenia” until 1917, and the Armenian state in the ancient Azer-

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<sup>85</sup>Guliyev, M. Naxçıvan xanlığının Qafqazda hərbi-siyasi mövqeyi, əlaqələri, – s. 145

<sup>86</sup>Hacıyev, İ. Böyük güclərin Azərbaycanla bağlı geosiyasi maraqlarında Naxçıvanın yeri / İ.Hacıyev, E.Şixəliyev, E.Cəfərli [və b.] / – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2017. – s. 33.

baijani lands they were planning to build. After that, the Armenians' claims to Nakhchivan increased even more. Zangazur district, whose historical destiny was connected with Nakhchivan for many centuries, had a special place among the territories claimed by Armenians. But here, too, the composition of the population was not in favor of the Armenians. At that time, 123,095 people living here were Azerbaijanis and 99,275 people were Armenians.<sup>87</sup>

Archival documents confirm that the weakening of governance in Zangazur during the First World War, after the overthrow of the tsar in Russia,<sup>88</sup> increased the aggression of Armenians against Azerbaijanis.

After the withdrawal of Ottoman troops from the region, the Armenians began to rely more on the Entente states, especially the British, to carry out their intentions. In early 1919, the British took control of Nakhchivan, and the local government of the Araz-Turkish Republic and the Nakhchivan National Committee were abolished. The British were looking for ways and means to annex Nakhchivan to Armenia.

The head of the diplomatic mission of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic in Irvan, Mahammad khan Takinski, in a telegram sent to the Foreign Ministry in April 1919, reported that the British had given Kars, Sharur and Nakhchivan to the Armenians.<sup>89</sup> However, the local population of Nakhchivan resisted heroically.

The People's Republic of Azerbaijan strongly and unequivocally objected to the temporary transfer of control of Nakhchivan from the General Command of the Allied Powers to the Armenian government. It was clearly stated that Nakhchivan, Ordubad, Sharur-

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<sup>87</sup>Zaqafqaziya Respublikaları arasında mübahisəli olan ərazilər haqqında (01 mart 1921-ci il) // RDSSTA, Fond № 5, siyahı № 1, iş № 2796, – v. 4.

<sup>88</sup>Краткий летучий обзор управления, истории Зангезура с 14-го по 21-й год / Нахчіван Мухтар Республікасі Дöвлət Архиви, Fond 314, siyahı 5a, iş. 17, – v. 11-12.

<sup>89</sup>Zamanov, E.D. Azərbaјcan Xalq Cümhuriyyətinin Gürcüstan və Ermənistandakı diplomatik nümayəndəliklərinin fəaliyyəti, – s. 61.

Daralayaz are the lands of ancient Azerbaijan.<sup>90</sup> However, all these protests were not accepted by the British command. Armenian Gevorg Varshamyan has been appointed governor of Nakhchivan. A few days later, under the guise of returning Armenian refugees, the migration of the Armenian population from other areas to Nakhchivan was organized.<sup>91</sup>

The United Kingdom has fulfilled some of its obligations to Armenians. Thinking that they had solved the problem, the British troops had to leave the area.<sup>92</sup> In early July, British forces left Nakhchivan.<sup>93</sup> However, it was unexpected for the Armenians that the British left the region in this way. It was well known to the Armenian government that it was impossible to maintain the “gifted” territories without the support of the British.

In 1918-1921, Dashnak Armenia, which benefited from the support of external forces such as Great Britain and the United States, continued its claims to Nakhchivan, but the Nakhchivanis rejected these claims of the Armenian government and formed resistance groups with the support of the Turkish military. As a result, the intention of the Armenians to occupy Nakhchivan by force and military means did not materialize. In early 1921, a referendum was held in Nakhchivan, where more than 90 percent of the population voted for Nakhchivan to remain part of Azerbaijan as an autonomous republic.<sup>94</sup>

The agreement was signed on March 16, 1921 in Moscow after negotiations with the participation of delegations from Bolshevik

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<sup>90</sup> Xarici İşlər naziri M.Y.Cəfərovun Bakıda müttəfiq ordularının komandanı V.Tomsonla danışıqların yekunları barədə Nazirlər Şurasının sədri N.Usubbəyova məlumatı (07 may 1991-ci il) //ARDA, fond № 970, siyahı № 1, iş № 60, – v. 3.

<sup>91</sup> Hacıyev, A. Qars və Araz-Türk Respublikalarının tarixindən / A.Hacıyev. – Bakı: Elm, – 1994, – s. 123.

<sup>92</sup> Hovannisian, R.G. The Republic of Armenia, the first year, 1918-1919 // – Los Angeles: – University of California Press, Volume I, Berkeley, – 1971. – p.237.

<sup>93</sup> Azərbaycan Xalq Cümhuriyyəti və Naxçıvan. - Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2010. – s.14.

<sup>94</sup> Начальнику Дарашамского участника // Naxçıvan Muxtar Respublikası Dövlət Arxivi, Fond №1, siyahı № 3, iş № 13, 93 v., vərəq – 79.



Russia and the Turkish Grand National Assembly. The Moscow Treaty established the existing territorial status of Nakhchivan and defined the granting of autonomy to Nakhchivan under the Azerbaijani protectorate.<sup>95</sup>

The “**Conclusion**” part of the dissertation summarizes the results of the study of “The territorial claims of Armenians to the Nakhchivan and Iravan regions of Azerbaijan in the late 19s and early 20s centuries.”

**The following conclusions are drawn from the study:**

1. The emergence of the Armenian claims to Nakhchivan and Iravan was directly related to the “The issue of East” and the “The issue of Armenian” raised by the imperialist states to divide the Ottoman state [12].

2. The emergence of the “The issue of Armenian” was the result of the imperialist goals of the great powers, especially Britain, France and Tsarist Russia, rather than the process of natural national development. In this sense, the aim was to use the Armenians against the Ottoman state [5].

3. Armenians displaced and coming to the Caucasus from the territories of neighboring empires brought not only new social and economic problems to the region, but also terrorism and crime. As a result, Armenian migrations to the Nakhchivan and Iravan regions, as well as to the whole Caucasus, continued throughout the 19s and early 20s centuries, and as a result of mass resettlement, the Russian Empire was able to fundamentally change the ethno-demographic conditions [15].

4. Analyzes and historical sources confirm that Armenians were resettled in the Caucasus Azerbaijan from present-day Iran and Turkey, temporarily housed in the “Armenian province” of the Iravan and Nakhchivan khanates, and soon conquered ancient Azerbaijani lands. created non-existent states. At the beginning of the 20s

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<sup>95</sup>Документы внешней политики СССР / – Москва: Политиздат, – 1959, т.3. – с. 598-599.

century, Armenians had already gained a numerical advantage in the Iravan region and were looking for an opportunity to realize their territorial claims and ideas of statehood. Thus, in the early twentieth century, the Armenians established the Dashnak Ararat Republic for the first time in the territories where they never existed, especially in the Iravan region of Azerbaijan - historically, in the territory of Western Azerbaijan [18].

5. Nakhchivan, which Armenians want to see as part of the imaginary “Greater Armenia” that is the product of their sick minds, has never been Armenian territory. After the occupation of Northern Azerbaijan in the early 19th century, Russia took the next steps to implement the “Greater Armenia” plan in the Caucasus and Azerbaijan by mass resettlement of Armenians in these regions, especially in Nakhchivan [14].

6. Armenians, who prefer separatist activities in their territories around the world, use all insidious and disgusting means to unite Nakhchivan with Armenia. Armenian “researchers” and ideologues engaged in the creation of fake history, creating new fake sources based on false Armenian sources in their works, present Nakhchivan as Armenian territory, spread false information in the world media, try to annul the Kars agreement, at least try to turn Nakhchivan into a disputed territory [16].

7. Despite all the propaganda activities, unlike the Iravan region, unfounded territorial claims to Nakhchivan and surrounding areas have not materialized. Armenians could not claim Nakhchivan in World War I, because during the war Nakhchivan was under the control of Ottoman Turkey. The Armenians continued their attacks on Nakhchivan, taking advantage of the favorable conditions created by the defeat of the Ottomans and their allies in World War I. The Dashnak Republic of Ararat, the first Armenian state in history to attempt to take control of Nakhchivan with the help of the British and Americans, sought to expand its territory using ethnic cleansing, genocide and deportation and other vandal methods. However, the heroism of the people of Nakhchivan, with the political-military, economic and moral support the government of the People Republic

of Azerbaijan, succeeded in expelling the Dashnak bandits from the country, remained an eternal, eternal, integral part of Azerbaijan and still exists [17].

**The following scientific articles covering the content of the dissertation were published:**

1. Birinci Dünya harbi zamanı Almanya'nın Kafkasya politikalarında Bakü meselesi // Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen Üniversitesi, Nahçıvan ve doğu Anadolu Abideleri Uluslararası Sempozyumu (Dünü, Bugünü ve Yarını). – SAGE yayıncılık ve Tic.Ltd. Şti, – 2016. – s. 306-312.

2. XX əsrin əvvəllərində ABŞ, İngiltərə, Almaniya və Rusiyanın Azərbaycanda möhkəmlənmək uğrunda mübarizəsi // NDU-nun Elmi əsərləri, – Naxçıvan: Qeyrət, – 2016. №6 (75), – s. 27-32.

3. “Şərqi Ermənistan” mifi və ermənilərin uydurma ərazi iddiaları // NDU-nun Elmi əsərləri, – Naxçıvan: Qeyrət, – 2017. №6 (87), – s. 3-7.

4. Qərbi Azərbaycan, yoxsa “şərqi Ermənistan” // Tarix və onun problemləri, – Bakı: Bakı Universitetinin nəşriyyatı, – 2018. № 1, – s. 80-85.

5. XIX əsrin sonu XX əsrin əvvəllərində ermənilərin əsassız “Türkiyə Ermənistanı” ərazi iddialarının iflası // NU-nun Elmi əsərləri, – Naxçıvan, – 2018. № 1(6), – s. 236-244.

6. Попытка армян создать государство в Западном Азербайджане в начале XX века // Бюллетень науки и практики, Нижневартговск – 2018. № 7 (июль), – с. 528-534.

7. XX əsrin əvvəllərində ermənilərin uydurma ərazi iddiaları və onun mahiyyəti // NDU-nun Elmi əsərləri, – Naxçıvan: Qeyrət, – 2018. №2 (75) (I cild), – s. 23-30.

8. Heydər Əliyevin Azərbaycanın ərazi bütövlüyü uğrunda mübarizəsi // Ümummilli Lider Heydər Əliyevin 95 illik yubileyinə həsr olunmuş beynəlxalq konfransın materialları, – Naxçıvan, – 2018. – s. 14-17.

9. “Территориальная политика Чарской России и советской власти на Южном Кавказе в начале XX века” // Научный Вестник, – Одесса, – 2018. №11 (263), – с. 231-239.

10. XX əsrin əvvəllərində ermənilərin Naxçıvanla bağlı iddiaları və bu iddiaların iflasa uğraması // NDU-nun Elmi əsərləri, – Naxçıvan, – 2019. №2 (99) (I cild), – s. 9-12.

11. Erməni əyalətinin yaradılması ermənilərin Azərbaycana əsassız ərazi iddiaları layihəsinin tərkib hissəsi kimi // Qafqazşünasların II beynəlxalq forumu, – Bakı, – 2019. – s. 378-384.

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