

## Great literary critic, famous literary historian and theorist



*Academician Isa Akbar oghlu Habibbeyli is one of our outstanding scholars who enjoys a special place in the development of Azerbaijani literary studies and social view and has made monumental contributions to our science with his original researches. The scientific surveys of the great scholar in literary studies as well as of the well-known literary historian and theoretician proficiently serve the further development of the science about literature in Azerbaijan and the study and generalization of the key problems of social view.*

The Full Member of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Honoured scholar Isa Habibbeyli was born to a teacher's family in the village of Danzik (etymologically meaning «Dan yeri», i.e. «dawn») of the Sharur district on 16 October 1949. His father Akbar Ali Bey oghlu Habibbeyli was one of the well-known intellectuals who had taught for over 50 years in his native village.

Isa Habibbeyli got his primary education in the secondary school of the Danzik village in the district of Sharur, and finished the Oghlangala (the former Ulya Norashen) secondary village school in 1966. Back in the years at the secondary school his first article titled «The Cotton-growing Children» appeared in the newspaper «Azerbaijan Pioneri» [The Azerbaijanian Pioneer] (1964), and further his articles and poems were published in the newspapers «Azerbaijan Ganjlari» [The Azerbaijani Youth], «Sharg Gapisi» [the Door to the East], «Ishigli Yol» [The Bright Path]. He graduated with honours from the Faculty of the Azerbaijani Language and Literature of Nakhchivan Affiliate of Azerbaijan State Pedagogical Institute (1971). As a student he chaired the Students' Scientific Association, presented interesting speeches at the students' scientific conferences held in Baku, Nakhchivan and Tbilisi. He also contributed to the periodical press with his first scientific articles and poems.

Industriousness, optimism, adherence to the world encouraged Isa Habibbeyli to set his sails in a boundless ocean called «science». Isa Habibbeyli's closer familiarization with the prominent representative of literary studies, noble personality with deep intellect Academician Mammad Jafar Jafarov on «The Days of Science» held in Nakhchivan in 1970 determined his course of life once and for all. Thus, Isa Habibbeyli, who attracted the attention with his poems and articles in the public press, came to prefer the way to science back then when he was a student.

The deep respect to the personality of the giant in science Mammad Jafar Jafarov, who has left deep traces in Isa Habibbeyli's recollections and moral evolution, is vividly manifested in the latter's scientific works written later, especially in his articles dedicated to the great scholar.

The factor of Academician Mammad Jafar Jafarov did not only encourage Isa Habibbeyli to scientific creativity, but also influenced his development as a personality integrating modesty and wisdom. He accepted his *Ustad*<sup>1</sup> Mammad Jafar Jafarov as a model of great modesty. In Isa Habibbeyli's view, «The classical modesty peculiar to Academician Mammad Jafar Jafarov proved

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<sup>1</sup>A person with extensive and deep knowledge in science or trade; ace, topnotch; *fig.* a teacher, a mentor

what great spiritual wealth modesty is. Only the people who have realized themselves and are perfect as a personality can be so modest».

In 1973 Isa Habibbeyli was enrolled on the post-graduation course in the section «Theory of Literature» headed by Academician Mammad Jafar Jafarov at the Institute of Literature after Nizami. He has attracted the attention with his interesting presentations and speeches at scientific conferences since 1975 when he began teaching at the Department «Literature» of Nakhchivan State Pedagogical Institute. His presentations on «Fizuli Traditions in the XX-century Azerbaijani Romantic Lyrics», «Gori Seminary and the Intelligentsia of Nakhchivan», «The Artistic Features of Mahammad Hadi's Lyrics» at different conferences testified to his scientific competence and historical-theoretical surveys.

While attending the post-graduation course at Literature Institute after Nizami of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, his close contact with the classical literary critics working at this temple of science Mammad Jafar Jafarov, Mirzagha Guluzadeh, Yashar Garayev, Aziz Mirahmadov, Kamal Talibzadeh, Kamran Mammadov and others had a significant role in the formation of the young researcher's scientific world-outlook. The wisdom, depth and modesty peculiar to Mammad Jafar Jafarov, Abbas Zamanov's civic-mindedness, Aziz Mirahmadov's punctuality and responsibility are clearly manifested in Isa Habibbeyli's scientific activities. Broad scientific world-outlook, tenderness and generosity, responsibility and devotion as well as inexhaustible activity encompass the main features of Isa Habibbeyli's character.

In 1980 Isa Habibbeyli successfully defended the dissertation on «The Early XX-century Azerbaijani Romantic Lyrics» to get a candidate's degree at the Dissertation Board of the Institute of Literature after Nizami. That research dedicated to a very rich and interesting period of Azerbaijani literature attracted the attention of our outstanding literary critics Mammad Jafar Jafarov, Kamal Talibzadeh, Aziz Mirahmadov, Abbas Zamanov, Yashar Garayev and Professor Kamran Mammadov for its scientific value, theoretical originality and novelty.

Appraising the early-XX-century literary and social views with great enthusiasm and nobility, Isa Habibbeyli studied comprehensively the creative activities of the outstanding literary figures such as Husein Javid, Mahammad Hadi, Abbas Sahhat, Abdulla Shaig from the perspectives of the requirements of the period and time, and succeeded to elucidate scientifically and theoretically the literary-aesthetic essence, socio-philosophical ideal and artistic features of the romantic poem. In his view, due to the socio-political conditions generated in the early XX century, the thematic circle of Azerbaijani romantic lyrics expanded and new poetic principles started their formation. The inner world of the personality, the searches for an ideal human being and supreme social community, the appeal to the universal ideals turned into the leading themes of the romantic lyrics in the given period. Elucidating the social importance of the romantic lyrics, the researcher wrote, «In romantic aesthetics imagination, ideal principles were interpreted as abstract tendencies alienating from society. Actually, in romantic lyrics the ideas of enlightenment and democracy widely disseminated and the romantics acted as decent and creative followers of the literary traditions existing in our literature prior to them under new conditions».

The attractive art of polemics, high intellectual level, the strong generalization skill and high theoretical aptitude peculiar to Isa Habibbeyli's scientific creativity enabled the young scholar to derive important scientific outcomes in his monograph titled «The Potentials of Romantic Lyrics» (1984). Isa Habibbeyli noticed that sonnets, marches, anthems, madrigals, *turkus*<sup>2</sup> and other poetic forms were first created in our poetry in that period and spoke of the poeticism of those genres on high scientific level. Isa Habibbeyli gave preference to the issue of style in romantic lyrics and initiated the scientific classification of the individual style of different authors. He was also the first in Azerbaijani literary studies to determine that Husein Javid wrote in romantic-philosophical,

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<sup>2</sup> folksongs

Mahammad Hadi in romantic-publisistic, Abbas Sahhat in lyric-romantic, and Abdulla Shaig in romantic-realistic styles and managed to elucidate all this theoretically which is of great importance as one of the serious scientific-theoretical researches in Azerbaijani literary studies on poetic forms – genres and individual styles in general.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli is also recognized as an outstanding scholar in the study of Jalil Mammadguluzadeh in Azerbaijani literary studies and scientific-literary community. The literary scholar has long been deeply involved in the problem of this gigantic and bright figure's literary and journalistic activities, environment and contemporaries. He has devoted a great stage of his scientific activity to Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's life and literary creativity. His works «Jalil Mammadguluzadeh» (1987), «The Genius of Time» (1993), «The Distinguished Azerbaijani Writer Jalil Mammadguluzadeh» (1994) and others related to the great democrat Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's rich life and all-inclusive activities have been received with respect by the scientific community. And his monographic research «Jalil Mammadguluzadeh: His Environment and Contemporaries» defended as a doctoral dissertation (1996) is a monumental scientific work worthy to be considered as one of the important achievements of not only Isa Habibbeyli but of the entire literary studies as a science in Azerbaijan.

The main originality of Isa Habibbeyli's research lies in his new approach to Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's literary creativity as well as his being a pioneer in the study of the obtained rich facts, rare and numerous archival materials together with their deep scientific comments. This research of the literary scholar manifested "A Generalized New Vision of the Late-XIX-century and Early-XX-century Literary Process in Azerbaijan" (Yusif Seyidov). By writing this monumental scientific work, Isa Habibbeyli has honorably fulfilled an important task to create a broad and clear vision of the founder of the literary movement of critical realism Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's insightful and exemplary life, all-inclusive literary-social activities, rich and unparalleled literary legacy and relations with his numerous contemporaries, referring to new materials and documents obtained from the archives, museums and libraries in Baku, Tiflis, Tabriz, Kiev, Erzurum, Odessa, Iravan, Nakhchivan, Gori and Yasnaya Polyana. Noting that this course of life started from the writer's family environment and the realm of studies, he wrote that Jalil Mammadguluzadeh learnt the Arabian and Persian languages in the years of primary education, closely familiarized himself with Islamic and Oriental history and literature, Russian culture, acquired the reading skills owing to which his own aesthetic and moral attitudes were determined. Isa Habibbeyli is right to think that the environment at Gori Teachers Seminary played a special part in the formation of Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's personality and world-outlook, became a factor affecting his future socio-political, literary-pedagogical activities.

Investigating the role of the schools of the 1870s-1890s and the early XX century in the development of literature Isa Habibbeyli, who characterized this period as a special development stage of Azerbaijani enlightenment, came to a true conclusion that «School encompasses the soul and essence of national enlightenment and teaching constitutes its main locomotive. And theatre, press and literature were the fields of enlightenment activities coming forth from school, pedagogical work and accomplishing them». In his research Isa Habibbeyli presented to the scientific community his new studies about Eynalibey Sultanov (1866-1935), Mahammad Taghi Sidgi (1854-1903), Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli (1846-1931), Alimammad Khalilov (1862-1896), Mirza Abulgasim Sultanov (1866-1916), Mirza Alakbar Suleymanov (1862-1921), Pasha Agha Sultanov (1849-1902), Mirza Jalil Surbi (1874-1915), Sadig Khalilov (1864-1905), Taghi Bey Safiyev (1878-1939), Mammadgulu Bey Kangarli (1854-1905) and others who were leading the movement of enlightenment of the period from this perspective. The rich material accumulated from different archives for many years to create profound portraits of these intelligentsia of enlightenment, who enjoyed particular places and roles in Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's life, all-inclusive activities, also enabled the scholar to animate the course and picture of the literary-social scene of the period. The initiation of the publication of the magazine *Molla Nasraddin* (1906) in the wave of the development of the Tiflis literary-social scene and the change of socio-political processes in the world is appraised

as a progressive historical event not only in Azerbaijan, but also in the scale of the Middle East. In Isa Habibbeyli's view, the new literary-social scene generated by the period preconditioned not only the appearance of the above-mentioned magazine, but also the formation of a new type of literary school – the school of *Molla Nasraddin*. Isa Habibbeyli's investigations and theses on *Molla Nasraddin* literary school and the doctrine *mollanasraddinism* manifest the systematic theoretical views appearing in this line.

As it is known, in our history of literary-social view of the Soviet period *Molla Nasraddin* and *Fuyuzat* were set against each other as the bearers of contradicting ideologies, their leaders Jalil Mammadguluzadeh and Alibey Huseinzadeh were introduced as the personalities representing opposite poles, distinct and even antagonistically contradictory ideologies. Isa Habibbeyli was the first to approach this problem from the spectrum of the realities of literary and historical processes and pointed out the great importance of both the movements for the national awakening and progress, the development of literature and press in the country. Relying on the realities of the literary-social activities of these great personalities of the period, the researcher rightly noted that although their courses varied and differed in their struggle for the future development of the nation and country, for the independent and democratic statehood, they were never hostile fronts at all, their conclusions were very close and significant.

It is known that Alibey Huseinzadeh advocated the thought of Turanism, the idea of the Common Turkic language. Whereas, Jalil Mammadguluzadeh accepted the ideology of Azerbaijanism as a basis. And the magazine *Molla Nasraddin* was the periodical of the Turkic-Moslem realm in the broadest sense of the word. Academician Isa Habibbeyli is right to state that these great personalities were ideologically very close to each other in their views against colonialism, about democracy and the establishment of an independent state, the liberation movement against monarchy, their attitude to world and Russian literature and culture and other issues. In Azerbaijani literary criticism Isa Habibbeyli was the first to investigate the common features of the movements of *mollanasraddinism* and *fuyuzatism* from the scientific and theoretical perspectives.

Isa Habibbeyli, who conducted surveys on Mirza Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's movement to the south in 1920 and his printing the magazine *Molla Nasraddin* in Tabriz, also substantiated the importance of this event in the development of realistic-satirical press in Iran. The work adds new pages to the information hitherto known to the public about Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's relations with his contemporaries living in Iran, provides the precise list of the subscribers of the magazine *Molla Nasraddin* in Tabriz and neighbouring cities.

The researcher divided Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's activities in the Soviet period into two stages: 1) the period of hope and belief (1921-1928); 2) the period of suspicion and shock (1929-1932). The first stage was characterized as the hot period of the great writer's creative activities as Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's notion «everyman» – common people corresponded to the statements of the Soviet government which pretended to be the government of workers and peasants. Isa Habibbeyli characterized Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's life and activities in the years under the Soviet regime as the years of injustice, confusion, negligence, loneliness, and the impact of all this on his creative activities, and in general, on the development of literature is elucidated on the basis of newly-obtained facts and documents. In fact, that was the process our other writers also went through in the early XX century, thus the research conducted in this aspect has potentials of broad scientific generalization.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli was the first to study Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's family tree and presented it to the literary-scientific community. Following the long searches and the survey-natured contributions to the press, on 25 January 1992 he went to Tehran to meet Mirza Jalil's offspring and established contacts with them. Isa Habibbeyli identified that the great writer's eldest son Anvar Mammadguluzadeh went to Iran as a doctor within the Soviet army during the World War II and remained in that country forever by the dictate of fate. The Academician obtained rich information on the successors of the writer's family there. The subsequent fate of Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's offspring was first presented to the general public by Isa Habibbeyli. Moreover, the researches on the

successors of Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's family in France and Poland also belong to Isa Habibbeyli. In 1992 he met Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's grandchildren - the Polish resident Midhat Javanshiri along with Teymur Javanshiri and Irena Suleymani in Tehran. Isa Habibbeyli's meeting with Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's granddaughter Mehri Khanum Saggatchiya in Paris (1998) enabled him to further elucidate the family tree. The research «Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's Family Tree» published by Isa Habibbeyli following all this was welcomed by the literary community with sympathy. This is of great importance also as the first scientific research dedicated to the family tree of the writers in Azerbaijani literary studies.

The most monumental and informative publication of the collection of Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's works in the period of state independence is associated with Isa Habibbeyli's name. After long searches he discovered the writer's four-act play «The Husband», his small scenes «The Curse» and «The Muggers» and delivered to the readers his 16 satirical poems, 35 articles, 170 topical satires for the first time including them in the outstanding writer's 4-volume collection published in 2004. His multi-volume book also includes 50 letters by the great writer and his family members, 44 letters by the famous personalities as well as his scientific-literary and journalistic documents and writings hitherto unknown to the scientific community. As a whole, Isa Habibbeyli's several publications of the great democratic writer Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's works and his writing to them monumental prefaces, interpretations have turned those publications into sources enriching literary studies as a science.

At his own initiative Isa Habibbeyli has Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's works translated and published as books in Egypt (in Arabic), Pakistan (in Urdu) as well as in Hungary, Lithuania, Georgia and Uzbekistan together with the Introductions about the writer.

Besides, Isa Habibbeyli studied the life and legacy of Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's several prominent contemporaries more extensively and profoundly and was the first to collect their works which he published as a book. The book «Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli. The Selected Works» (2006) introduced by I.Habibbeyli presents to the readers for the first time this bright personality's all-inclusive activities on the basis of new researches and rare documents. Isa Habibbeyli has made numerous additions to the known researches about Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli and created a precise and clear vision of his scientific autobiography. Also, by discovering Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli's numerous articles, draft alphabets, letters, autobiographical documents, rare photos published in France, Russia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Isa Habibbeyli published them in the book «The Selected Works» for the first time and presented them to the general use. Thus, a generalized scientific vision was formed about the life full of challenges and the merits of an eminent personality like Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli. This is the first major step made in Azerbaijani literary studies to introduce Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli together with his rich autobiography, creative activities and works to scientific-literary community. Taking into account the publication of Mahammad Agha Shahtakhtli's only two or three works prior to Isa Habibbeyli, the importance of the presented voluminous «The Selected Works» becomes clear once more.

Isa Habibbeyli also published the eminent enlightener and poet Mahammad Taghi Sidgi's «Works» as a book for the first time in the Publishing House «Chashioghlu» in 2004. The textbooks, educative poems, scientific works and letters included in M.T.Sidgi's «Works» facilitate the visualization of the author's all-inclusive activities as a whole. Being materially new and rich, Isa Habibbeyli's researches about Mahammad Taghi Sidgi's life and creative activities are deep and fundamental from scientific and theoretical points of view too. The scholar's articles about this great poet of enlightenment allow the reader to visualize the complete picture of M.T.Sidgi's literary-educative merits.

Owing to his long researches, Isa Habibbeyli made serious additions to Eynali Bey Sultanov's (1866-1935) autobiography, his educative and literary activities. His researches revealed for the first time that when studying at Iravan Gymnasium, Eynali Bey Sultanov learnt Russian, French, Greek, Latin well and did some translations. It was Isa Habibbeyli who identified when Eynali Bey Sultanov

was born, and that he went to Iravan not Tiflis progymnasium, and was promoted to a responsible position at Iravan Okrug Court. The reasons for Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's special attitude to Eynali Bey Sultanov was also elucidated in the researches. And it was Isa Habibbeyli who proposed theoretical conclusions about Eynali Bey Sultanov as a critic-realist writer and realist-enlightener at-large. And the first edition of Eynali Bey Sultanov's journalistic works as separate books in Azerbaijani and Russian in 2016 is also Isa Habibbeyli's merit.

The book «The Great Literature Giant» published by Isa Habibbeyli on Mammad Said Ordubadi, the founder of the school of historical novel in Azerbaijani literature animates this mighty author's portrait generalized on the basis of modern scientific and theoretical views. In addition, Isa Habibbeyli presented Mammad Said Ordubadi's poems included in the books of poetry «Ignorance», «Motherland and Liberty» as well as his work «The Two Kids' Trip to Europe» to the readers in M.S.Ordubadi's book titled «My Life and My Environment» published in 2012.

In general, Isa Habibbeyli was the first to speak about the great democratic writer Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's tens of contemporaries, discovered hundreds of documents about these intelligentsia-enlighteners, provided extensive information about them and gave a scientific interpretation of the essence of their mutual relations. As a whole, Academician Isa Habibbeyli has created a perfect scientific chronicle of the Molla Nasraddin epoch of Azerbaijani literature.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli follows modern literature and literary process carefully and graduates them, expresses a scientific opinion about the newly-published works and defines how much these works are important in our literature. From this viewpoint, he is the fanatic of our literature in a good sense of the word and its great advocate in a scientific way. The pulse of literature is felt in Isa Habibbeyli's writings about literary process. I would say Isa Habibbeyli is an outstanding researcher-scholar with a universal worldview who has developed on the basis of the traditions of classical literary criticism, can express a profound scientific opinion about all the periods of literature and its outstanding representatives on a professional level. The scholar's researches dedicated to the lives and creative activities of Nizami Ganjavi, Imadaddin Nasimi, Mahammad Fizuli, Mirza Fatali Akhundzadeh, Husein Javid, Alibey Huseinzadeh, Mahammadhusein Shahriyar, Samad Vurghun, Mirza Ibrahimov, Mir Jalal, Rasul Rza, Bakhtiyar Vahabzadeh and others are valuable scientific examples of Azerbaijani literary studies.

The Azerbaijani literature of the 1960s-1970s is characterized as the period of the arrival of a new galaxy, a new return. Especially, the introduction of the novelties and innovativeness brought to literature by the 1960s generation of Azerbaijanis holds an important place in Isa Habibbeyli's researches. In the examples of the people's writers Anar, Elchin and Yusif Samadoghlu, people's poets Fikrat Goja and Vagif Samadoghlu, he defined the successful artistic fate of the Azerbaijani literary generation of the sixties and generalized it systematically. In his view, faith in vital truths, in general, return to human beings, bringing «a common man» and deep moral relations to literature indicate the literary image peculiar to the 1960s Azerbaijani generation. Isa Habibbeyli's reference to the writers' individual peculiarities rather than general principles at this point and his identification of each writer or poet's place in that process has been important in finding the objective scientific solution to the problem. Thus, not only individual writers and poets of the period but also all the realities of the literary process of the period as a whole have been introduced.

In general, conducting scientific-theoretical generalizations, coming to serious outcomes on the basis of facts, documents, real processes and literary texts is Isa Habibbeyli's research method. This point of the issue defines the peculiarity of Isa Habibbeyli's scientific activities. Academician Isa Habibbeyli is a literary historian with the weight of theory of literature.

The People's Poet Samad Vurgun's scientific activity, his merits to the development of the Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan were first dealt with in a systematic research by Isa Habibbeyli whose book «Academician Samad Vurghun Vakilov» is of great importance as the first voluminous book published in this field. The work reveals the unknown pages of the autobiography and scientific activities of Samad Vurghun as one of the founders of the National Academy of Sciences of

Azerbaijan. Isa Habibbeyli was the first to speak broadly about Academician Samad Vurghun's merits as the Vice-President of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan. Besides, the book has formed an informative and generalized idea about Samad Vurghun's all-inclusive scientific and literary-social activities.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli's article «The School of Samad Vurghun and the Sons of Samad in Azerbaijani Literature» extensively deals with the wide potentials of the creative use of the traditions associated with the name of the people's poet. It is rightly noted in the article that though autobiographically, of all the people, Yusif Samadoghlu and Vagif Samadoghlu are «closest to Samad Vurghun, accepting not the rhythm and harmony of this great and inspired art, but its ideational-philosophical flow in the deepest layers and social spirit, they have turned into new type of artists by taking quite an original path». In Isa Habibbeyli's view, Yusif and Vagif, the sons of Samad Vurghun started from the point which Samad Vurghun reached in his creative activities, but could not develop and promote due to the restrictions defined by that period, i.e. from the depth of life; thus, they signified the developments of life and human beings with a real vision beyond the ideology.

In Academician Isa Habibbeyli's research Samad Vurghun was rightly considered one of the outstanding founders of the XX-century Azerbaijani poetry. Isa Habibbeyli characterized Samad Vurghun's efforts to create «the epopoeia of «Azerbaijan» and his talent to glorify the ideals of patriotism – Azerbaijanism on a high poetic level in literature as the brightest event of his creative autobiography. Isa Habibbeyli characterized the People's Poet Samad Vurghun as one of the men of art who created a literary school in Azerbaijani literature and defined the traditions developing in the light of this unparalleled literary school.

In his album-monograph «The People's Poet Mammad Araz» (1999) Isa Habibbeyli gave a profound and fundamental analysis of the poet-compatriot's creative path. In the researcher's view, deep wisdom is expressed in Mammad Araz' poems dedicated to the glory of Motherland. Isa Habibbeyli thinks that in Mammad Araz' poetry a stone is glorified as bravery, reliability, steadfastness, a rock as pride, an unattainable peak, favourer and support to one's Motherland. According to the scholar in literary studies, the People's Poet Mammad Araz has further enriched our poetry in content and form. The monograph defines the artistic traditions associated with Mammad Araz and presents them in the general spectre of the literary process of the period. The idea that Mammad Araz' dramatic poem «My Father's Book» is the creative continuation of the great Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's work «My Mother's Book» in a new historical stage is a new theoretically-substantiated scientific hypothesis.

Isa Habibbeyli's views about the People's Poet Nariman Hasanzadeh's literary works, especially his dramaturgy are original scientific outcomes. The idea that in Azerbaijani literature Nariman Hasanzadeh is one of the prominent founders of lyrical-romantic dramaturgy expressed in verse has been substantiated by Isa Habibbeyli.

Following precisely the further consolidation of the civic stance and national thinking in Azerbaijani literature as well as the creation processes of liberation literature on the eve of the state independence and in the new historical epoch, Academician Isa Habibbeyli studied and elucidated them. In the example of the People's Poet Sabir Rustamkhanli, he has seen one of the great creators of the national liberation literature of the new period and generalized his views on the basis of concrete literary statements.

When speaking of the new trends of creativity in the Azerbaijani literature of the period of Independence Isa Habibbeyli comprehensively presented the writer-linguist-scholar in literary studies Kamal Abdulla as the creator of the literary movement of postmodernism. The outstanding scholar is also the author of researches on the formation and development of such movements as critical realism, postmodernism, magic realism, decadentism and their main figures.

According to Isa Habibbeyli, the national spirit and civic stance in the Azerbaijani literature of the period of independence are represented through specific literary means in the People's Poet

Zalimkhan Yagub's creative activities. He also appraised Kheyreddin Goja as the prominent representative of the satirical generation in the Azerbaijani literature of the period of independence. Also, in his book «A Creator in All Aspects» (2014) Isa Habibbeyli comprehensively analysed Rashad Majid's all-inclusive creative path and came to the following scientific conclusions, «As a literary personality Rashad Majid is a perfect and professional Azerbaijani intellect creative in all aspects who seems different with the sequence of his searches, and the originality and width of his artistic mind, the wholeness of his views and faith. The active civic-mindedness, clear national intellection, open and mature creative mind of the Azerbaijani intelligentsia of the period of independence can be generalized in Rashad Majid's example».

The creative works of Rustam Behrudi, Yunus Oghuz, Sayyad Aran, Ajdar Ol, Asim Yadigar, Vagif Mammadov, Khanali Karimli and others, who enjoy particular profiles in Present-day Azerbaijani literature, hold an important place in Isa Habibbeyli's researches.

Isa Habibbeyli also wrote valuable works about the classics of Azerbaijani literary studies. He spoke of Firudin Bey Kocharli as the grandfather of Azerbaijani literary studies as a science. Isa Habibbeyli appraised Academician Mammad Arif Dadashzadeh's life and all-inclusive scientific creativity as a model of wisdom and modernity. Isa Habibbeyli considered Academician Mammad Jafar Jafarov as an outstanding scholar who has established a great scientific school in Azerbaijani literary studies. In his view, the scientific school associated with the name of Mammad Jafar Jafarov is «the school of theory of literature and literary criticism». Isa Habibbeyli is right to appraise Mammad Jafar Jafarov as the founder of the theory of Azerbaijani romanticism studies. The characterization of the prominent scholar Abbas Zamanov by the researcher as the great compatriot scholar of the XX century is the scientifically substantiated outcome. The top scientific appraisal given by him to the activities of Kamal Talibzadeh in history of literary criticism, of Aziz Mirahmadov and Kamran Mammadov in literary historicism is also objective. His introduction of Aziz Sharif as a scholar who has fulfilled «the great mission of literary studies» has been emphasized in the light of facts and events. Isa Habibbeyli's statements characterizing Academician Bakir Nabiyeu as a scholar in literary studies with the weight of literary criticism are visually proved by the great scholar's scientific works.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli has also made the first and important step in defining the writing modes and individual styles of the individual scholars in literary studies. According to his scientific-theoretical outcomes, in philology Firudin Bey Kocharli is the eminent scholar who created a literary-historical style, likewise, Mehdi Husein literary-publistic, Mammad Arif Dadashzadeh scientific-sociological, Asif Afandiyev literary-philosophical, Mammad Jafar Jafarov scientific-theoretical style. In the scholar's view, Yashar Garayev is distinguished by his analytical figurative mind, «He can see the most austere, pure, authentic details poetically». The examples quoted by Isa Habibbeyli from Yashar Garayev's works prove that reality visually, «Literary criticism resembles the literary compass. Here also the hand always points to the pole of truth». Or: «In our case all the «ism»s have flown away from the single nest by a mother eagle: ... classical poetry» or «When the writer is likened not to a cosmanaut but a tiller, grain-grower and ploughman, he becomes mysterious and useful», «The happiest authors ... are those who spill the white light onto the white paper also with black ink»... Isa Habibbeyli also substantiated scientifically that Yashar Garayev was the creator of the national theory of realism studies. He also highly appraised the professional expression of literary studies and study of art in unison in Yashar Garayev's works dedicated to theatre and written very artistically. Isa Habibbeyli spoke of Yashar Garayev as a literary scholar with broad intellect who can build a bridge between his *Ustads* Ali Sultanli and Mammad Jafar Jafarov and new generation of literary scholars. By discovering and publishing Academician Mammad Jafar Jafarov's plays "Men and Fates", Go Away, for You're still a Traitor", his memoir "The Recollections" and a long poem by him, Isa Habibbeyli focused the attention to the scope of this outstanding scholar's creative realm too. Besides, in his researches Isa Habibbeyli speaks of Academician Nizami Jafarov as a scholar characterized by a universal way of thinking and artistic mind. And the consideration of Professor Gazanfar Pashayev as «the creator of Azerbaijani Karkuk studies», the demonstration of Vagif



Yusifli's image of a genuine critic also express the objective realities from the scientific point of view.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli started his scientific activity by getting education as a post-graduate student to be specialized in Theory of Literature. In his dissertation for a candidate's degree titled "The Early XX-century Azerbaijani Romantic Lyrics" he gave a scientific and theoretical interpretation of the issues of diversity between the poetic form and literary style in poetry. His scientific-theoretical articles published at different times in the periodicals such as «For the Great Literary Studies», «The Definition of Literature», «A New Glimpse of the Branches of Literary Studies as Science», «Satire as a Literary Type», «... The Genre of Sonnet», «Anthemes and Marches in Azerbaijani Poetry», «The Genre of Short Story – Novellette», «The Monologue about the Dialogue», «From Literary Relations to Comparative Literary Studies», etc. present the literary scholar as the author of the researches of great scientific importance in the line of theory of literature. The student's book «Theory of Literature» (1985) has maintained its value up to present as a precious guide in teaching the appropriate subject at the universities. Most of the definitions in the book «Theory of Literature» have been developed like a formula by Isa Habibbeyli. In his monograph «The Potentials of Romantic Lyrics» (1984) Isa Habibbeyli analyzes and generalizes the poeticism and artistic features of the early XX-century Azerbaijani romantic poetry.

Isa Habibbeyli's activity as a university professor and his delivering lectures on the subjects "The Early XX-century Azerbaijani Literature" and "Theory of Literature" for many years enabled him to write and publish a number of textbooks, student's and teacher's books.

The student's book «The Early XX-century Azerbaijani Writers» written in answer to the university needs specifies the writers and poets' autobiographies and creative activities and presents them on the basis of a scientific system. This work is also of great importance from the point of view of introducing Azerbaijani literature. The editions of the book «The Early XX-century Azerbaijani Writers» in Russia, Turkey and Ukraine also prove it visually. This book is the first of its kind to classify the early XX-century Azerbaijani literature according to literary movements and to present the lives and creative activities of their representatives to the readers. Also, the book extensively elucidates for the first time the lives and literary activities of less-studied authors who are not included in the course programs such as Haji Karim Sanili, Eynali Bey Sultanov, Omar Faig Nemanzadeh, Aliabbas Muznib, Ahmad Javad, Ahmad Bey Aghayev, Abdulla Sur, Mammad Amin Rasulzadeh and others.

The textbook «Literature» for the XI grade of secondary schools, which is co-authored also by Academician Isa Habibbeyli, has been giving the necessary knowledge and world-outlook to the new generation in the period of independence since 2006.

Besides, Isa Habibbeyli was the first to classify the division of literature into types and genres anew. According to the scholar, one more literary type – the literary type of satire has been added to the range of literary types along with the lyric, epic and dramatic literary types. Academician Isa Habibbeyli substantiated satire as an independent literary type scientifically and theoretically and defined the genres belonging to the literary type of satire.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli was the first to develop the conception of the periodization of the history of Azerbaijani literature and defined its stages of development. He has also been involved in the issues of periodization of the history of Turkic literature and suggested his own conception. His monographic work "Azerbaijani Literature: the Conception of Periodization and Stages of Development" is a serious theoretical research work written in this line.

Universality is the leading feature of Academician Isa Habibbeyli's scientific activity. Involvement in consistent scientific activity in the directions of the science of literary studies: the history of literature and theory of literature means the pillars of Isa Hasbibbeyli's research science. Besides, he has also conducted researches and published books and articles in such fields as history, folklore studies, literary relations, immigration literature, studies of art, history of theatre. Isa

Habibbeyli's researches on the Great Storm, the Prophet Noah and Nakhchivan are valuable scientific sources dedicated to the history of civilizations. The book "The Duzdagh Mosaics" (2017) is the scholar's interesting scientific research work on the earliest human settlement and earliest urban culture.

Isa Habibbeyli's book "The Roads Started Through Poetry" published in 2016 encompasses his poems, stories and plays written in different years as well as the songs composed on the basis of his poems and his translations.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli is also one of our scholars who are distinguished not only by their scientific, scientific-pedagogical achievements but also high organizational ability, communicative skill allowing them to work with people. The leadership at the Students' Scientific Association for many years by Isa Habibbeyli, who was very closely involved in social activities back during his studies at Nakhchivan State University, led him to the position of vice-rector for scientific affairs in 1991. The animation and development generated by the scholar at the University played an important part in his fate further. Consequently, on 16 October 1996 Isa Habibbeyli was appointed Rector of Nakhchivan State University. Professor Yavuz Akhundlu, who once was replacing the rector of Nakhchivan State Pedagogical Institute, pointed out, «The destructive impacts of the early 1990s did not pass by Nakhchivan State University. This centre of education was experiencing difficult and complicated conditions. The teachers were divided into political groupings, there was no end to mismanagement and neglect. Isa Habibbeyli became the best candidate to develop the University... He maintained good traditions at the University, recollected his predecessors' merits and declared himself their successor to continue their activities, summoned the staff around himself and promoted the University with his kindness, sincerity and proactivity, inexhaustible activity, and determination».

In 1996-2013 when Isa Habibbeyli was the rector of the University, serious positive changes took place there in education, scientific-research affairs and cultural-public activities. Dissertation Board was established at this University, the material and technical resources were considerably consolidated, some new multi-storey buildings, e-library, Olympic Sports Centre, Medical Faculty, the building of the Conservatoire were constructed, a new type of modern campus was set in the area of 108 hectares. The scientific relations of the University in international sphere were developed fast, the integration processes to the world education system were expanded. The project on «The Administration of Universities and Organization of International Relations at the Modern Stage» developed by Isa Habibbeyli was accepted by TEMPUS Program of the Council of Europe. Thus, «A Window to Europe» has been opened for Nakhchivan State University, which established relations with over 70 Universities in four continents of the world.

As a scholar, Academician Isa Habibbeyli is known internationally as well. In different years he decently represented the science of our country in Turkey, Russia, the People's Republic of China, France, Germany, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, South Korea, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Kazakhstan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Kirgyzia. Isa Habibbeyli is the member of the International Informatization Academy, the Republic of Turkey Atatürk Supreme Council for Culture, History and Language. His works were also published in the English, Turkish, Russian, French, Arabic, Urdu, Polish, Hungarian, Georgian, Lithuanian languages, along with the Azerbaijani language. He carries out a productive activity as a member of the Commission on State Prizes of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Editorial Board of a number of foreign and national newspapers and journals.

Since 24 April 2013 Isa Habibbeyli has been the Vice-President of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan. Since 19 June 2013 he has also been Director of the Institute of Literature after Nizami. In 2013-2014 the Statutory Commission chaired by him at the Academy managed to develop the new Statute of the National Academy of Sciences in the independent period and have it approved. Also, Isa Habibbeyli has developed and published a project on the conception of

Azerbaijanism. He is also the author of the conception of periodization of the history of Azerbaijani literature. Isa Habibbeyli has initiated the establishment of the departments «Nizami Studies», «Azerbaijani Immigration Literature», «Literary Criticism», «Press History and Journalism», «Azerbaijani-Asian Literary Relations», «Azerbaijani-Turkmenian-Uzbekistan Literary Relations», the section «Fizuli Studies», and secondary departments like «International Relations», «Publication and Forecasting», «Education Department» at the Institute of Literature after Nizami. The scientific journals «Poetics.ism», «Literary Links» published owing to his efforts, make their contributions to the development of philology. Isa Habibbeyli has a specific role in the organization of some international scientific conferences and establishment of extensive relations with the scientific institutions of foreign countries at the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Literature after Nizami. At his initiative national and international symposia were held on “Physics and Lyrics: the World Experience and Country’s Realities” in 2014.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli is the author of the documentary “The Temple of Science” dedicated to the Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan and “The Martial Music of Academy”. “The Martial Music of Academy”, to which composer Vagif Garayzadeh has composed music, was played at Baku Science Festivals in 2014 and 2016.

Isa Habibbeyli takes an active part in the public life of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In 1998-2005 he was elected a member of the *Ali Majlis* of Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic and chaired the Commission on Human Rights and International Relations.

Isa Habibbeyli, who was elected a member of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2005, 2010 and 2015, is the chair of the Committee for Science and Education of the 5th-Convocation Parliament of the country. *The Law on Science* (2015), *The Law on Pre-school Education* (2016), *The Law on Vocational Education* (2017) have been developed and adopted under his leadership.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli’s scientific and social activities have been highly appraised by the Azerbaijani government. For his all-inclusive and productive activities he was awarded the honourable title «Honoured Scholar» (1999), and the orders «Glory» (2007) and «Honour» (2009) were bestowed on him.

Isa Habibbeyli was awarded with the silver medal of the International Turkic Academy, the medal of Shahriyar of Tabriz University, the medal of Mahmud Kashgari of the Azerbaijani Writers’ Union. He was also distinguished with the badge «For Effective Activity in the Organization of the Students’ Scientific Researches» by the Ministry of Higher Education of the USSR.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli is the author of over 700 scientific articles, 12 monographic works, over 20 books and brochures, and one textbook. Like in his youth, Academician Isa Habibbeyli works with a great zeal, energy and dedication and serves with honour and responsibility the development of humanitarian and social sciences, including our science of literary studies and literary-social view, modern Azerbaijani society.

***Kamran Aliyev (Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan,***

***Mammad Aliyev(Doctor of Philological Sciences, professor)***