



Karabakh-Shusha literary and cultural environment - from the distant past to the present day

One of the most important problems in the formation of the literary and cultural environment and at the same time in the development of regional artistic thought is the study of the literary environment in the local geographical area. In the studies carried out in this direction, it is considered an important factor to determine the place of literary and cultural environment in socio-political thought, literary and theoretical thought and to inculcate it in teaching. As in the literature of the peoples of the world, it is impossible to imagine the creation of Azerbaijani classics without literary environments, and in this context, the study and research of the literary environment of Karabakh is very important and relevant. Azerbaijan has the richest literary and artistic wealth of both the East and the world. This mighty wealth, of course, originates from folk thinking and folk creativity with an ancient history. The literary environment of Karabakh took its origin from this rich source. Thus, one of the most important, rich and original branches of Azerbaijan's artistic folk creativity is Karabakh folklore. Although the territory of Karabakh changes from time to time depending on the course of historical events, the territory of Karabakh stretches from the confluence of Araz and Kur (the confluence of two rivers) to Xuan Castle, from the present Red Bridge to Jermukh, on the borders of Lake Goycha, and on the other side the Sisakan, Gorus, Mehri-Zangezur mountain range. entered Karabakh along the way and covered the ancient Aran-Arsag territories. If we consider the presence of large cities such as Ganja, Barda, Shamkir, Beylagan, Karabakh in the territory of Karabakh from the first millennium AD, then the grandeur and antiquity of the culture and literature of this city comes to mind. As everywhere in Azerbaijan, the first literary samples were created in the territory of Karabakh by local poets, and this was reflected in folklore genres. There are genres of Azerbaijani Turkic-Oghuz folklore that are related to the Karabakh region. When you pay attention to the "Dada Gorgud" saga, it is clear that most of the events in the stories are in Karabakh Azerbaijan! 2 Some of the place names and toponyms that happened in the territory of Karabakh and are mentioned in the saga were historically and even now in Karabakh. Research proves that the creative personality of Deda Gorgud had a close connection with the Karabakh territory. This literary monument also proves that Karabakh literature has ancient roots. So, at the next stage, especially, the Karabakh-Shusha literary environment was formed on this foundation.

Shusha is one of the charming corners of Azerbaijan, a legacy of our history. One of the khanates that arose in Azerbaijan in the 18th century was the Karabakh khanate. The founder of the Karabakh Khanate (1847) was Panahali Khan Javanshir Saricali (1693-1763). A place for a new fortress was chosen on a mighty plateau of Azerbaijan, surrounded by steep cliffs, and its foundation was laid in 1750. Khan gave his name to the fortress and called it "Panahabad". Later, the city was also called Shisha-Shusha, and it was also called this way. In examples of oral and classical poetry about Shusha, the name of the city is described as Shisha: "Shisha has no match", "Shisha is heaven for me", "Heaven is Shisha's Jesus spring", "My Shisha, the refuge of Panahabad, who made you miserable", "Shisha is beautiful, ahu-eyed girls". These are not without reason. The etymological meaning of this name is also derived from the fact that Shusha is surrounded by mountains that are notable for their bulging rocks. One of the most powerful representatives of the



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literary environment of Karabakh, the creator of the history of Azerbaijani literature, an outstanding literary critic, an invaluable educator, Firidun Bey Kocherli describes this environment and writes: "Due to the influence of the climate of the city of Shusha and the fertility of its soil, many giraffes, udabas and shuara have appeared here. Thus, the Shusha castle was in the Shiraz region of the Transcaucasia, and it is considered to be the seat of arbabizovci safah and ahli-hal and sahib-language" [Kocherli F. Azerbaijan literature: in 2 volumes, I c. 1978, p. 157].