



## **Poetic chronicle of our way to victory (The theme of the Homeland War in Rafiq Yusifoglu's poetry)**

Famous poet, literary critic, publicist, writer, doctor of philological sciences, professor Rafiq Yusifoglu has been writing in periodicals for more than half a century. He is an honored cultural worker of the Republic of Azerbaijan, a laureate of a number of literary awards, including "Golden word", "Golden pen", "Best book of the year", "Vatan", "Araz" and other literary awards. Rafiq Yusifoglu's works of various genres have always attracted the attention of the literary community, prominent poets and literary critics have expressed high opinions about his creativity and personality. Suleyman Rustam, Ali Valiyev, Ismayil Shikhli, Huseyn Abbaszadeh, Bakhtiyar Vahabzadeh, Gasim Gasimzadeh, Nabi Khazri, Mirmehdi Seyidzadeh, Mammad Araz, Gabil, Nariman Hasanzadeh, Fikret Sadiq, Hikmet Ziya, Tofiq Bayram, Tofiq Mahmud, Agha Lachinli and others. At different times, in different moments, Rafiq Yusifoglu's opinions about his artistic creation talk about the unique poetic style of the poet, the imagery in his work, the richness of language and expression. Rafiq Yusifoglu's poetry has rich themes and issues. The theme of military patriotism has always occupied a leading place in his works. A series of poems written by him both about January 20 and the First Karabakh war were published in the press, and based on those works, the Azerbaijan State Television prepared a play called "All Azerbaijan must be a soldier" in 1997, and this work played an exceptional role in the patriotism education of the new generation. Poet's "Fireplace", "Moonlight Path", "Migration of Longing", "Caravan of Sorrow", "Fence of Longing", "Grief Fence of Separation", "Realm of Heart", "Landscape of Desires", "Third Belly", "Life in Love" "I lived" and so on. patriotic poems always prevailed in his books. "My scales are broken, Lord", "My grandmother's people", "A handful of land", "Black monkey", "Refugee statues", "Shusha songs", "Lagedlik has bent the back of the great nation", "Stand up", "The stoves are extinguished" "Yurdum", "Gumadlim", "Khojali Martyrs" and dozens of similar poems reflect the poet's anxiety about the future fate of his people with high poetic volume. The poet wrote and published the poem "My People" in 1990, ending with these verses:

Azadlığı verməyəcək sənə kimsə pay,  
Ayağa dur, öz oduna, közünə güvən.  
Mənim xalqım, bir kimsədən gözləmə haray,  
Ağır sınaq günlərində özünə güvən.

The events of the following years showed how right Rafiq Yusifoglu was in his concern. It can be said that the theme of patriotism has taken a leading place in the poems of almost all the poet's books. This is not accidental. Rafiq Yusifoglu is originally from Gubadli district. Therefore, he knows very well the nature of refugees and displacement. That is why his poems seem to be kneaded with pains and sufferings. The death of the poet's mother, whose father's grave is in Gubadli, and the death of his mother in the city, the artistic reflection of the pain caused by these events, is reflected in the poem "To whom will I write the first poem of the century" in the very first pages of the book "Grief Fence of Separation":



## *Karabağ Azərbaycandır!*

Hərəmiz bir eşqin şirin bariyq,

İllər üstümüzə çökür toz kimi.

Məhəbbət daşıyan eşq qatarıyq,

Zaman çəkir bizi parovoz kimi.

Saçımda bərq vurur illərin qarı,

Sükut qəbristanda xəyala dalıb.

Sərnişini düşən eşq vaqonları

Zaman qatarından açılıb qalıb.

Qəlbini atdılar oda anamın

Arzuları düşdü hey pərən-pərən.

Qəbri ayrı düşən ata-anamın

Ruhları qovuşa bilibmi görən?!

İllərlə biz həsrət odunda bişdik,

Düşdü tariximə bir qara kölgə.

O əsrin başında didərgin düşdük,

Bu əsrin önündə sevindik bəlkə?!

The poet's dreams flowed and became China. Finally, our lands were freed from occupation. In general, the national war and the joy of victory are the most relevant topics of today's poetry. As in the first Karabakh war, poetry speaks first again. Poetry has always been a leading branch of our literature, which was the first to respond to events. The victory we won thanks to the 44-day war of our 30-year longing and the call of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief "Karabakh is Azerbaijan" and the bravery of our fighters had to be filtered through the magical verses of our poetry. The first verses of the poems written in this style are full of pride and pride. The sad motifs that permeated Azerbaijani literature and poetry in the 90s were finally erased by the end of 2020 and were replaced by joys of victory and triumph. Rafiq Yusifoglu, who took the well-known theme as the main line of his work since the 90s, is one of those who brings the sweet taste of our victory to his poetry today. Let's admit that he is one of the poets who wrote the most on this topic, the most published and at the same time the best. Karabakh is Azerbaijan! 3 The ability to interpret events poetically, high professionalism, imagery, laconism significantly increases the artistic value and meaning capacity of his poems.

During the 44-day war, in "Literary newspaper", "525-ci newspaper", "Azerbaijan teacher", "Sozun sehri" and other newspapers, as well as in "Manevr.az", "Azpress.az", "Dalidağ.az", "The rhythm of the battle can be heard in the series of poems published on Manera.az", "Dilimizvarlığım" and other websites.