

# REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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## ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

### **THE PROBLEM OF GENOCIDE IN AZERBAIJANI ARTISTIC LITERATURE AND PUBLICITY IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY**

Speciality: 5716.01 – Azerbaijani literature

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## GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE RESEARCH

**Relevance of the Topic and Degree of Study.** Although the dissertation work entitled “The Problem of Genocide in Azerbaijani Artistic Literature and Publicity in the Early 20th Century” covers a short period in the early 20th century, it remains relevant today in terms of analyzing the historical conditions under which the massacres committed by Armenians against Azerbaijanis took place and drawing conclusions.

Genocide or genocide (from the Greek words γένος – generation and lat. caedo – I kill) is the deliberate and systematic complete or partial destruction of an ethnic, racial, religious or national group; it means a form of mass violence.

It is known that Armenians did not live in the Caucasus until the 15th century and only at the beginning of the 15th century did they receive permission from the Garagoyunlu ruler Gara Yusif to establish their religious centers in the region of Western Azerbaijan called “Uchmazdin”, that is, three muezzins. After that, they began to settle there, buying land from local Turkic-Muslims at low prices from time to time under the guise of petty trade. After the occupation of the Northern Azerbaijan khanates by Tsarist Russia in the early 19th century, the mass resettlement of Armenians to the South Caucasus led to a change in the traditional ethno-political and religious landscape of this region that had existed since ancient times. Since the 15th century Armenians who settled in Ottoman lands have occasionally received positions from the Ottoman sultans, sometimes even occupying positions in ruling circles. Since the beginning of the 19th century, Armenians have repeatedly committed massacres with the support of Russia, France, England, and Greece. In the Caucasus, Armenians who received strong support mainly from Tsarist Russia, have committed mass genocides and massacres against Azerbaijanis throughout the Caucasus since the beginning of the 20th century.

Real events that occurred in history were also reflected and reflected in literature. Over the past hundred years, our people have gone through the painful and painful path of bloody massacres and

deportations in complex socio-political conditions. The genocides committed against Azerbaijani Turks at the beginning of the 20th century, especially the March 31 genocide, remain a bitter truth in the historical memory of our people. Historically, Armenian nationalists, living with the dream of a “Great Armenia” and realizing their insidious territorial claims against neighboring states, have carried out a policy of genocide and terror directed against humanity and humanity as a whole, and have resorted to terrible crimes. This bitter truth resulted not only in the massacre of our compatriots, but also in the occupation of a certain part of our historical territories.

The genocide of Azerbaijanis began mainly in 1905. However, at that time, the Armenian Dashnaks did not have enough power to eradicate Azerbaijanis. When looking at the historical and ethnographic novel “Bloody Years” by Mammad Said Ordubadi<sup>1</sup>, the work “The Armenian-Muslim Conflict in 1905-1906”<sup>2</sup> by Mir Mohsun Navvab, and the historical and ethnographic monograph “The Independence Struggle of Azerbaijan”<sup>3</sup> by Huseyn Baykara, it becomes clear that no matter how cruel and merciless the Armenian Dashnaks were in committing massacres, mainly against unarmed people, they were defeated by the brave Turkic-Muslims and suffered more losses than the Turkish Muslims.

When writing about the March 1918 genocide, the need for a certain periodization arose and undoubtedly the genocides of 1905-1906 were also included in the study.

Due to the Armenians’ fantasies of creating an empire between three seas – have always been a conflict zone. This false imperial map drawn by the Armenian National Committee included the historical lands of the Turkic peoples and they tried to place them among the local peoples who had settled in this area over time. The

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<sup>1</sup> Ordubadi, M.S. Qanlı sənələr (1905-1906-cı illərdə Qafqazda baş verən erməni-müsəlman davasının tarixi) / – Bakı: Maarif, – 1991. – 141 s.

<sup>2</sup> Nəvvab, M.M. 1905-1906-cı illərdə erməni-müsəlman davası. / – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1993. – 128 s.

<sup>3</sup> Baykara, H. Azərbaycan İstiqlal Mübarizəsi tarixi. / – Bakı: Azərbaycan Dövlət Nəşriyyatı, – 1992. – 120 s.

organization called the Armenian National Committee - the Dashnaktsutyun (1890, Tbilisi) party was an expression of nationalist ideology, and in order to achieve its goal, the organization in question aimed to destroy the Turkic peoples in the territories it had set its sights on, and to subject the rest to deportation, and tried to strengthen the feeling of hatred and enmity against the Turks by all means. These attempts, in turn, led to national animosity at certain times and the genocide and deportation of Azerbaijanis in 1905-1906, 1918 and 1988-92.

Observations show that literary and public thought which plays an important role in the formation of public opinion in important socio-historical and national-spiritual processes taking place in the life of the people, actively intervened in that event as well. In the poetry, prose, journalism and drama of famous writers of the period, M.S.Ordubadi, M.M.Navvab, J.Jabbarli, M.Hadi, M.B. Muhammadzadeh, J.Mammadguluzadeh, S.Akhundzadeh, S.Huseyn, M.A.Sabir, H.S.Sayyah, U.Hajibeyli, M.A.Rasulzadeh and others attitudes towards the events of genocide were expressed and initiatives were taken to reveal its essence and prevent it.

After Azerbaijan was occupied by Tsarist Russia, the enslavement of Azerbaijanis by the Soviet Empire and the ruthless ideological policy applied had an impact on the socio-cultural life of the Turkic peoples living within the empire. The requirements of Soviet literary criticism did not allow researchers to study the literary works written about the crimes committed by the Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military units on an objective scientific basis. They presented these literary works, which constituted a branch of Azerbaijani literature, as a manifestation of harmful ideological thought, reactionary literature and nationalism.

As we have noted although a number of studies have been conducted on separate areas of research, the research work has not been included in the analysis as a single system. The research examined the works of representatives of Azerbaijani, Turkish and Emigration literature on the genocide at the dissertation level.

In order to bring to the public's attention the details of the genocide committed by the Armenian Bolsheviks against the

Azerbaijani and Turkish people at the beginning of the 20th century, academicians Isa Habibbeyli, Yagub Mahmudov, Teymur Karimli, professors Yavuz Akhundlu, Asif Rustamli, Islam Garibli, Lutviyya Asgerzade, Vugar Ahmed, Alizade Asgerli, Vagif Arzumanli, Vilayat Guliyev, Alkhan Bayramoglu, Abid Tahirli, Nikpur Jabbarli, Shabbaz Musayev, Elchin Mehraliyev, Tahira Mammad, Marziyya Najafli, Akif Ashirli and other prominent scientists conducted high-level scientific research on the genocide of Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century based on archival documents. And as a result, artistic examples of the genocide of Azerbaijanis have been involved in scientific research. Scientific articles, books, monographs are of great importance among the works done to make the world community aware of the truth. During the period of independence, works and comparisons written on the topic of Armenian-Azerbaijani relations, genocide and national ideology, in addition to having an ideological nature, also created an objective picture at the scientific-research level and began to be investigated in more depth on scientific grounds based on existing historical facts.

In the research work, the monographs and articles of the above-mentioned authors were referenced and used on a scientific-theoretical basis.

**Object and Subject of Research.** The object of the research work is the genocide committed by the Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military units of representatives of Azerbaijani, Turkish and Emigration literature against the Muslim-Turks in Baku at the beginning of the 20th century, as well as the massacres committed by the Dashnak-Bolshevik units against Azerbaijanis throughout the Caucasus, and the poems, prose, and dramas dedicated to these massacres. The dissertation work analyzes the embodiment of the genocide of Azerbaijanis in fiction and journalism at the beginning of the 20th century.

The object of the research work covers a period of more than 20 years in terms of time and literary material. The criterion applied to the selection of literary examples plays an important role here. The research includes poetry samples of prominent Azerbaijani

poets Mahammad Hadi, Ahmad Javad, Abbas Sahhat, Amin Abid, Ummugulsum, Samad Mansur, Alabbas Muznib, Mammad Araz, the great poet of the entire Turkic world Mehmet Akif Ersoy and others, excerpts from novels by writers M.S.Ordubadi, M.M.Navvab, Gurban Said and others, excerpts from dramas by J.Mammadguluzadeh, J.Jabbarli, H.Javid and others, stories by Jafar Jabbarli, Seyid Huseyn and Seyidagha Akhundzadeh, excerpts from historical and ethnographic works by M.M.Navvab, H.Baykara and others.

**Aim and Objectives of the Research.** The main aim of the study is to examine the development paths of writers and poets of the early 20th century, to determine their position, role, and influence in our literary history, to show how and in what ways their creativity on the genocide of Azerbaijanis is reflected, and to give an objective assessment of it. Also, the artistic and literary examples dedicated to the genocides that occurred at the beginning of the 20th century, their confirmation in connection with the socio-political events that occurred in Azerbaijan at that time, their merits, value, analysis, brief information about their authors, and at the same time the reason for their cover-up during the Soviet period. However, the works written on the same topic in our time are also of great importance in this regard, and therefore were included in the study. In order to achieve the stated goal, it was considered appropriate to fulfill the following tasks:

- To clarify the content of literary works written about the bloody genocides that occurred at the beginning of the 20th century;

- To show the position, formation and development features of the literary works created in the early 20th century and later related to the March genocides of 1905-06 and 1918, as well as the articles, poems, and feuilletons published during that period in the history of literature and the press;

- To review the history of the March genocide of 1918 in the direction of the ideas of National Independence and the establishment of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic in a general way;

- To show the position, principles of creation and survival,

characteristic features of literary works and press examples created on the topic of genocide in the history of literature and the press, and to determine their influence on individual writers, poets, and publicists;

- To analyze literary works and press examples that talk about the March genocide in the early 20th century and later;

- To prove the artistic and philosophical significance of the works of our writers who wrote about the genocide of Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century, which were based on irrefutable historical facts and reflect only the truth, instead of the distorted dates and events of the 70 years of Soviet rule in their works of that period;

**Research Methods.** Historical, historical comparative and scientific-descriptive methods were used in writing the dissertation. The dissertation titled “The Problem of Genocide in Azerbaijani Artistic Literature and Publicity in the Early 20th Century” was investigated with reference to artistic examples and works of researchers on the genocide. The ideas put forward here are based on the scientific-theoretical provisions of researchers conducting research on the genocide of Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century.

In addition, the dissertation sheds light on the topic of genocide in the works of representatives of Azerbaijan, Turkey and Azerbaijani emigration from certain aspects. Works dedicated to the genocide events that were written and took place at the beginning of the 20th century are considered an important source for literary criticism, history and the national press of that period. Although these works do not have a purely scientific-research character in terms of the methods and principles used, and although the essence of the events is sometimes distorted due to the period, they allow for the chronological coverage of the events related to the genocide and for certain generalizations.

**The Main provisions presented in Dissertation.** In the dissertation work, the study of the changes in content and form of the artistic examples written by Azerbaijani, Turkish and Azerbaijani emigration representatives on the topic of genocide



according to the period and time was involved in the study. The following provisions were put forward for defense in the research work:

- Systematic study of the creativity of writers-poets from the perspective of the occupation problem necessitates the sequence of a number of problems;

- In connection with the socio-political events, genocides, and conflicts of the early 20th century, the works of writers-poets of that period acquire specificity in terms of subject and content. It clarifies the peculiarities of the artistic creativity of literary-environmental poets appropriate to that period;

- Literary and artistic examples play an important role in clarifying the scale of the genocides that took place at the beginning of the 20th century, as well as the contradictory and turbulent events;

- The main aim of the study is to clarify who stands in the ideological and political landscape of the genocides that took place in the lands occupied and massacred by Armenians, and to determine what dangers the Armenian type opens up;

- To reveal the facts hidden during the Soviet era, to restore truth and justice about the events that took place, and to expose the fabrications of pro-Armenian circles based on irrefutable evidence;

**Scientific innovation of the Research.** The scientific innovations in the dissertation work consist of the following:

- The research work is primarily determined by bringing the problem-topic to the level of an independent dissertation. The dissertation work entitled “The Problem of Genocide in Azerbaijani Artistic Literature and Publicity in the Early 20th Century” is the first scientific research work systematically written on this topic in the science of literary criticism;

- The problem of genocide in Azerbaijani fiction and publicity at the beginning of the 20th century was mainly involved in the research based on the creativity of poets and writers of that period;

- During the Soviet period, certain steps were taken to restore truth and justice by accurately investigating the hidden facts about the literary examples written about the genocide of Azerbaijanis at

the beginning of the 20th century based on archival materials;

- The dissertation work did not only study the literary examples of the genocide of Azerbaijanis, but also created a serious idea about the socio-political-cultural landscape of that period;

- The research also reflects the promotion of the ideas of National Independence, the fact that the path to the establishment of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic passed through the March genocide, as well as the mobilization of our writers of that period under the slogan of national freedom;

- The dissertation includes artistic examples dedicated to the genocide of Azerbaijanis not only during that period, but also during the years of independence at the beginning of the 20th century;

### **Theoretical and Practical Significance of the Research.**

Since the problem of genocide in Azerbaijani fiction and publicity at the beginning of the 20th century, which we consider in the dissertation work, was first involved in the research at the dissertation level, specialists in this field can benefit from the research work and use it as a source. The essence of the research is emphasized by the positive impact of the results obtained on further research, as well as on literary critics. The research work can also be used in writing various monographs, textbooks, teaching aids, as well as in preparing lecture texts on the topic of genocide in higher education institutions. Since the research work is both scientific, political and topical in nature, it is very important in terms of being translated into foreign languages and conveying the genocide of Azerbaijanis to the world community based on accurate facts.

**Approbation and Application of the Research.** The dissertation work was carried out at the “Early Realism and New Period Azerbaijani Literature” department of the Nizami Ganjavi Institute of Literature of ANAS. Separate provisions of the dissertation were published in scientific journals recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in international and republican-level scientific conferences held in the country and abroad, as well as in the journal (Copernicus), which is included in the international summary and indexing system.

**Name of the organization where the Dissertation work was completed.** The dissertation work was completed at the “Early Realism and New Period Azerbaijani Literature” department of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS and was completed in accordance with the research direction of the department.

**The Structure and Total volume of the Dissertation work.** The dissertation work consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion and a list of used literature. Introduction – 14979 conventional signs, Chapter I – 75899 conventional signs, Chapter II – 74204 conventional signs, Chapter III – 74634 conventional signs, conclusion – 9041 conventional signs.

The total volume of the dissertation work consists of 248757 conventional signs.

## MAIN CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION

In the “**Introduction**” of the dissertation, the relevance and degree of development of the topic, the goals and objectives of the research, the theoretical and methodological foundations are discussed, the main provisions put forward for defense are indicated, and the scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the dissertation are substantiated.

The first chapter of the dissertation is entitled “*Artistic reflection of the genocides against Azerbaijanis in poetry*” and consists of two paragraphs.

In the first paragraph of this chapter, entitled “*The theme of genocide in Azerbaijani poetry: the formulation of the issue and its artistic and historical sources*”, the unique path of development and evolution of Azerbaijani poetry at the beginning of the 20th century, the formation of genuine civic literature, and the extensive description and promotion of the theme of genocide in Azerbaijani poetry of that period are studied.

In connection with the socio-political events that took place at the beginning of the 20th century, the dissertation draws attention to

the formation of literary and public opinion at that time, its essence in all genres of literature, especially in poetry. And in the context of all the events taking place, the development of poetry and the attitude of our writers to the events of genocide are evaluated as a path towards strengthening national independence and the establishment of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic.

At the beginning of the 20th century, especially during the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, there were serious comparisons in the way the genocide of Azerbaijanis was reflected in poetry, the way it was expressed, the fall of the Republic, the beginning of the Soviet era and the form of its reflection and propaganda in emigration literature. During the Soviet period, the topic of the genocide of Azerbaijanis was not conveyed to readers as it was not only in literature, but also in poetry. The harsh laws of the Soviet regime served to partially, and sometimes fundamentally, change the national-historical memory of the people, and to direct propaganda in the wrong direction. Since the attempt to subordinate literature and culture to a single creative method completely prevented freethinking, speech, poetry, and self-expression faced severe tests. This, in the broad sense of the word, opened the way for the formation of poetry that was far from reality and partially fake.

In the early 20th century (1900-1937), along with our writers who created serious poetic examples in the direction of igniting national freedom feelings, such as Mahammad Hadi and Abdulla Shaig, it is possible to find artistic examples on the topic of the genocide of Azerbaijanis in the early 20th century in the poetic creativity of most of our poets of that period. One of the well-known writers of his time who reflected the issue of genocide in his poetry - Mirza Alakbar Sabir's "To our Muslim and Armenian citizens (International)"<sup>4</sup>, Ali bey Huseynzade's "Invitation to Peace"<sup>5</sup>, Mahammad Hadi's "Dedication to the Souls of Our Martyrs and

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<sup>4</sup> Sabir, M.Ə. Müsəlman və erməni vətəndaşlarımıza // Həyat qəzeti. – 1905, – 1 iyul.

<sup>5</sup> Hüseynzadə, Ə. Sülhə dəvət // Həyat qəzeti. – 1906, – 7 iyun.

Freedom”<sup>6</sup>, Alabbas Muznib’s “The Cry”<sup>7</sup>, Haji Selim Sayyah’s “The month of March”<sup>8</sup>, Abbas Sahhatin’s “Evacuation or Refugee”<sup>9</sup>, Jafar Jabbarli’s “Stop, O Shameless Nation!”<sup>10</sup>, Jamo bey Jabrailbeyli’s “Annama”<sup>11</sup>, Ahmed Javad’s “To the Martyrs”<sup>12</sup>, Amin Avidin (Gultekin) “Bloody Gift”<sup>13</sup>, Mamo bey Mamai’s “Let it be”<sup>14</sup>, “Turkic Son”<sup>15</sup> by the poetess Ummugulsum Sadigzadeh, “Either Death or Turkey”<sup>16</sup> by Abdullah (Abdu) Efendizadeh, Ali Nisha’s “A Bloody Relic of the 20th Century”<sup>17</sup> and others’ poems can be cited as examples.

The short period of existence of the Republic did not create ample opportunities for the rise of poetry and the creation of a literary school by its representatives during the period in question. However, the fact that the poetry of the Republic had an innovative and pioneering thought in content and essence determined its position in the history of national literature. The acquisition of a clear political thought by national literature during this period gave impetus to the formation of a new direction in poetry - independence poetry. The poetry of the Republic period, while being based on the classical tradition, also demonstrated activity by increasing attention to connections and mutual relations with the contemporary world. During the years of the existence of the Azerbaijan Democratic

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<sup>6</sup> Əbdülsəlimzadə, M.H. Şühədayi-hürriyyətimizin ərvahinə ithaf // Azərbaycan qəzeti. – 1919, – 31 mart. – №147

<sup>7</sup> Anar. Min beş yüz ilin oğuz şeiri. Antologiya, I kitab / – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1999. – s.942

<sup>8</sup> Səyyah H.S. Mart ayı. // Bəsirət qəzeti. – 1919, – 31 mart

<sup>9</sup> Qardaş köməyi. – Bakı: – Nurlan, – 2002. – s.61

<sup>10</sup> Cabbarlı, C. Mərsiyə. // İstiqlal qəzeti. – 1919, – 31 mart

<sup>11</sup> Cəbrayılbəyli, C. Annamə. // – Bakı: Övraqi-nəfisə jurnalı, – 1919. – №3, – s. 9-10

<sup>12</sup> Anar. Min beş yüz ilin oğuz şeiri. Antologiya, I kitab / – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1999, – s.942

<sup>13</sup> Gültəkin, Ə.A. Buzlu cəhənnəm / tərt. ed. və ön sözün müəll. Ə.Şamil. – Bakı: Günəş, – 1999. – 96 s.

<sup>14</sup> Məmai, M.B. Şeirlər // – Bakı: Elm və Təhsil, – 2016. – 210 s.

<sup>15</sup> Ümmügülsum. Ey türk oğlu // Açıq söz qəzeti. – 1918, – 20 fevral

<sup>16</sup> <https://moderator.az/az/ekskluziv/598546/ya-lum-ya-turkiye-kitabi-nece-nesr-edildi-nesiman-yaqublunun-teqdimatinda/>

<sup>17</sup> Qardaş köməyi. – Bakı: Nurlan, – 2002. – s.80

Republic, the propaganda of an optimistic belief in the future, activity and a spirit of determination were leading in the social and artistic thought of the period.

In the second paragraph of the first chapter of the dissertation, entitled *“Exposing violence and cruelty in the poetic creativity of poets who suffered from the Armenian aggression”* not only the creativity of our writers, such as Mahammad Hadi, Ahmad Javad, Abbas Sahhat and others, who witnessed the genocide events with their own eyes and experienced the processes that took place with their lives and blood, but also their patriotism, love for the homeland, and protection of the homeland were brought to attention.

Mahammad Hadi (1879-1920) was engaged in editorial activities in addition to his literary creativity during the events that took place during that period.

*“Tatar cavalry regiment was sent to the front line in five echelons on September 11-13, 1914. On September 12, the commander of the Caucasian cavalry division, Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich, sent a telegram to the governor of Yelizavetpol, expressing his gratitude to the “city population, representatives of the district and the brave men” for organizing the regiment. The prominent Azerbaijani poet Muhammad Hadi was appointed as the chief akhund of the regiment”*<sup>18</sup>.

The beginning of the 20th century, the national independence poet Ahmad Javad also voluntarily joined the ranks of the “Caucasian Islamic Army” as a lieutenant and fought along the front, and even though he was wounded in the arm, he did not leave the group. As soon as the “Caucasian Islamic Army” won the victory over the British army, he wrote a beautiful poem “Bismillah”<sup>19</sup> at the “Wolf Gate” located 5 kilometers from Baku giving everyone the good news of victory.

Shortly after Abbas Sahhat wrote his poem “Evacuation or Refugee,” while carrying his sick father on his back to get him out

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<sup>18</sup> <https://ordu.az/az/news/140256/efsanevi--dikaya-diviziya-nin-azerbaycanli-suvari-alayi-arasdirma-fotolar/>

<sup>19</sup> Anar. Min beş yüz ilin oğuz şairi. Antologiya, I kitab / – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1999, – s.942

of the massacre, Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military units shot and killed them.

Hadi also accurately records that the poet was a victim of the genocide committed by the Armenians in 1918: *“The poet from Shirvan, like others, was forced to leave the city due to the Shirvan tragedy, and on the way he treated the genocides as tragedies, was robbed, and had everything taken from him. He wandered around in a few places, and finally moved to Ganja. In the meantime, he fell ill. He lived his life without any relief from the clutches of cruel and merciless death”*.

Another source that proves that the fact that Abbas Sahhat was a victim of genocide is more consistent is the article “Bloody Days” published by the author under the pseudonym Binava in the newspaper “Gardash Gaygisi” on November 12, 1918, which was published in only one issue. The article, along with the details of the events that took place in Shamakhi, also touches on the fact that A. Sahhat was a victim of Armenian gangs<sup>20</sup>.

As a result of the genocides that occurred at the end of March 1918, the members of the literary council “Majmaush-shuara” organized in Baku were forced to retreat to the villages and gardens of Baku. Some of the members of the literary council were from the villages of Baku, and the poets living in the city also found shelter in their houses. However, our writers wrote poems reflecting the misfortune, suffering, and tragedy of the people to the best of their ability, but because the national press was burned by the Armenians, they postponed publishing those examples.

In the winter of 1915, the Russian-Armenian neo-fascist military units of the tsarist army brought ten thousand of our ninety thousand Turkish brothers, from the Sarigamish province of Turkey, as well as from Erzurum, Kars, and Ardahan, from young children to the elderly, to Baku and subjected them to inhuman torture on Nargin Island, located 22 kilometers from Baku. Over the course of nearly three years, seven thousand of those prisoners suffered from hunger, thirst, and infectious diseases, and were forced to live in

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<sup>20</sup> Binəva. Qanlı günlər. // Qardaş qayğısı qəzeti. – 1918, – 12 noyabr, – s.4

extremely miserable conditions as a result of the severe torture they were subjected to Dr. Nariman Narimanov who witnessed the events that took place, raised the issue with great grief at the first meeting of the Baku Soviet in Baku, and at the same time published a large article about it in the “Hummat” newspaper which he was the publisher.

Our writers have shown the spirit of national independence and the genocide that occurred against the backdrop of socio-political processes at the beginning of the 20th century not only in their poems, but also in their service to the homeland. The physical, moral and psychological shocks experienced by our writers are clear evidence of this.

The main scientific results obtained in this chapter are reflected in the following articles<sup>21</sup>.

In the second chapter of the dissertation entitled “*Embodiment of the theme of genocides in artistic prose and dramaturgy*”, the problematic theme in Azerbaijani prose and dramaturgy of the early 20th century, as well as the genocides, atrocities, massacres, and tragedies committed by Armenian Dashnaks against Azerbaijanis in our lands on the basis of real facts, was included in the study through works that found their artistic reflection based on real facts.

This chapter of the research work aims to investigate the turbulent historical events of the early 20th century and bring to the attention of the public both artistic examples written on the basis of completely real facts at the beginning of the century, ideological distortion of works written on the same subject during the Soviet period, and works distorted during the years of Independence based on archival materials, which were restored.

In the first paragraph entitled “*Historical reality and*

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<sup>21</sup> Kərimova, S.A. XX əsrin əvvəllərində azərbaycanlıların soyqırımının poeziyada bədii əksi // – Bakı: AMEA Filologiya və sənətsünaslıq, – 2024. № 2, – s.110-115; Kərimova, S.A. Romantik ədəbiyyatda azərbaycanlıların soyqırımının bədii təcəssümü (31 mart 1918-ci il) // – Bakı: AMEA Nizami Gəncəvi adına Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, “Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatşünaslığı” jurnalı, – 2019. № 2, – s.137-141



*artistic truth in the first prose works dedicated to the genocide*", the embodiment of the genocide of Azerbaijanis in prose works based on historical facts at the beginning of the 20th century was reflected.

In his dissertation he discussed the "Bloody Years"<sup>22</sup> by one of our prominent writers, Mammad Said Ordubadi, Mir Mohsun Navvab's "Armenian-Muslim conflict in 1905-1906"<sup>23</sup> works, Seyidagha Akhundzadeh's "March Incident, the work of 1918 or Nuri Pasha..."<sup>24</sup>, Mirza Bala Mahammadzadeh's "Counter-Revolutionaries"<sup>25</sup>, Seyid Huseyn's "A Sad Memory"<sup>26</sup>, "İsmailiyye"<sup>27</sup>, Jafar Jabbarli's stories "Ahmed and Gumru"<sup>28</sup>, Gurban Said's novel "Ali and Nino"<sup>29</sup>, the work of Huseyn Baykara's "History of the Azerbaijani Independence Struggle"<sup>30</sup>, "North Wind"<sup>31</sup> by Gilman İkin and other works of art were included in the study. Through the works mentioned above, our writers were able to vividly, effectively and convincingly reflect the horrors of the tragedy of the genocide against Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century through the language of artistic images. In these first works of art dedicated to the genocide, there is no strong contradiction between historical facts and artistic details. These works arouse in the reader a strong feeling of

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<sup>22</sup> Ordubadi, M.S. Qanlı sənələr (1905-1906-cı illərdə Qafqazda baş verən erməni-müsəlman davasının tarixi) / – Bakı: – Maarif, – 1991. – 141 s.

<sup>23</sup> Nəvvab M.M. 1905-1906-cı illərdə erməni-müsəlman davası. / – Bakı: Azərbaycan nəşriyyatı, – 1993. – 128 s.

<sup>24</sup> Rüstəmli, A. Azərbaycanlıların soyqırımı bədii ədəbiyyatda (mart, 1918) // Bizim əsr qəzeti. – 2003, – 15 aprel. – s.5

<sup>25</sup> Məhəmmədzadə, M.B. Əksinqilabçılar (hekayə) // – Tiflis: Gənclər yurdu jurnalı, – 1918. – 23 iyul

<sup>26</sup> Hüseyn, S. Həzin bir xatirə // Azərbaycan qəzeti. – 1919, – 20-26 avqust, – s.3

<sup>27</sup> Hüseyn, S. İsmailiyyə // İstiqlal qəzeti. – 1919, – 4 mart, – s.4

<sup>28</sup> Cəbbarlı, C. Əsərləri: [Dörd cildə] I cild. / tərt. ed. və ön söz müəl. Rüstəmli A. – Bakı: – Şərq-Qərb, – 2005. – 328 s.

<sup>29</sup> Qurban Səid. Əli və Nino // – Bakı: – Şərq-Qərb, – 2006. – 208 s.

<sup>30</sup> Baykara, H. Azərbaycan İstiqlal Mübarizəsi tarixi / – Bakı: Azərbaycan Dövlət Nəşriyyatı, – 1992. – 120 s.

<sup>31</sup> İkin, Q. Seçilmiş əsərləri: [İki cildə] I cild. / – Bakı: Avrasiya press, – 2006. – 232 s.

hatred for human violence and cruelty.

Mammad Said Ordubadi (1872-1950), known as the author of the first historical novels in Azerbaijan, was one of our writers who appeared in both prose and print at the beginning of the 20th century. The genocides of the period are more fully described in Mammad Said Ordubadi's (1872-1950) work "Bloody Years" based on real facts.

Academician Isa Habibbeyli, while comparing M.S. Ordubadi's work with the great writers of other countries, draws attention to the ideological essence of his works rather than literary criteria, and compares the outstanding Azerbaijani writer in some respects with the great Russian writer Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy. In his academic notes, he states: *"In our opinion, in many respects, Mammad Said Ordubadi, an outstanding Azerbaijani writer, can be compared with the great Russian writer Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy. For us, Mammad Said Ordubadi is the Tolstoy of Azerbaijani literature"*. Academician Isa Habibbeyli emphasized that the motives of reference and influence were not noticeable in the comparison of Mammad Said Ordubadi with Leo Tolstoy, and pointed out that the comparison implied the following: *"Whatever place the great Leo Tolstoy occupies in the history of Russian literature, Mammad Said Ordubadi also occupies in Azerbaijani literature"*<sup>32</sup>.

The objective embodiment of historical events in works of art instills in the reader a sense of national patriotism, calls for vigilance, and stirs the spirit of nationalism.

The second paragraph of the chapter, titled *"The Real Picture of Genocides in Dramatic Works: Types and Prototypes"* draws attention to the historical realities of the Armenian-Muslim conflict at the beginning of the 20th century, the transfer of national conflicts, human relations, and socio-political problems in society to dramatic works, and the analysis of the essence of dramatic works written on this topic.

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<sup>32</sup> Ordubadi, M.S. Həyatım və mühitim // – Naxçıvan: Əcəmi Nəşriyyat-Poliqrafiya Birliyi, – 2012. – 336 s.

Our prominent writers, Jafar Jabbarli's "In 1905"<sup>33</sup>, "The War of Baku"<sup>34</sup>, Mirza Bala Mahammadzadeh's "War for Baku"<sup>35</sup>, Jalil Mammadguluzadeh's "Kamancha"<sup>36</sup>, Huseyin Javid's "Iblis"<sup>37</sup> and other playwrights, a broad picture of the atrocities and genocides committed by Armenian Dashnak military units against Azerbaijanis during the March events of 1905-06 and 1918 has been created using the power of artistic language. The greatest works of art that talk about historical tragedies and genocides are as valuable and important as scientific books written on the basis of real facts.

Jafar Jabbarli tried to express the genocide of Azerbaijanis in various genres of literature at the beginning of the 20th century, both in poetry, prose and dramaturgy, in a unique way. Since those works date back to the beginning of the century and the Soviet era, there is a difference in the style of expression and subtextual presentation. Since the date of writing of his work "In 1905" dates back to the Soviet era, the playwright based the main essence of the work on the principle of "friendship of peoples".

Compared to other literary genres, dramatic works are an art form with great creative opportunities for vividly conveying the author's thoughts to a wide audience. When our playwrights bring our national tragedies to literature and art, they take on the mission of introducing our history, especially to young people, by taking advantage of the genre's means of influence and description.

The main scientific results obtained in this chapter are

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<sup>33</sup> Cabbarlı, C. Əsərləri: [Dörd cildə] I cild. / – tərt./ ed. və ön söz müəll. Rüstəmli A. – Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, – 2005. – 328 s.

<sup>34</sup> Cabbarlı, C. Bakı müharibəsi // Bəsirət qəzeti. – 1919, – 13 sentyabr. – №246

<sup>35</sup> Məhəmmədzadə, M.B. Seçilmiş əsərləri / – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2023. – 612 s

<sup>36</sup> Məmmədquluzadə, C. Biblioqrafiya / Tərt. ed. M.Vəliyeva, L.Şirinova, H.Manafova; elmi red. K.Tahirov; ön söz. müəll. İ.Həbibbəyli; red. M.Cəfərova, – Bakı: – 2019. – 760 s.

<sup>37</sup> Cavid, H. Əsərləri: [Beş cildə] III cild. / Tərt. ed. Turan Cavid; red. T. Kərimli, – Bakı: – Lider, – 2005. – 304 s.

reflected in the following articles<sup>38</sup>.

The last, third chapter of the research work is called “*Scientific and public attitude to genocides in Azerbaijani artistic publicity*”.

The Azerbaijani national press began to take shape and play an important role in the enlightenment of society from the second half of the 19th century. This period, in addition to being the beginning of the process of national awakening, is the stage when the press became the main tool in the formation of public opinion and the formation of national identity.

The first paragraph of the third chapter of the dissertation work is called “The impact and counter-impact of genocides on the realization of the ideas of national independence (*Based on materials from the national press. 1918-1920*)”.

The ethnic cleansing policy and genocide committed by Armenians against Azerbaijanis at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century are confirmed by archival documents as well as articles published in the press of that period.

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<sup>38</sup> Kərimova, S.A. Azərbaycanlıların soyqırımı bədii ədəbiyyatda // Tarixi ipək yolu və Naxçıvanın iqtisadi-mədəni əlaqələrinin inkişafı məsələləri, – Naxçıvan: Beynəlxalq “İpək yolu” konfransın materialları, – 16-17 oktyabr, – 2015, – s.138-139; Kərimova, S.A. 31 mart 1918-ci il azərbaycanlıların soyqırımı haqqında ilk bədii nümunələr // Nevruz zirvesi. I. Uluslararası Bahtiyar Vahapzadə, Azərbaycan kulturu, tarixi və edebiyatı sempozyumu, – Antalya: – 20-23 mart, – 2018, – s.12-13; Kərimova, S.A. Mir Möhsün Nəvvabın (1833-1919) yaradıcılığında soyqırım məsələsi // Bakı, Bakı State University: Azerbaijani Oriental Studies in the Context of East-West Scientific-Cultural & Socio-Political Dialogue. International conference. Dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of Bakı State University. – Bakı: 14-15 december, – 2022, – s.297-298; Kərimova, S.A. Dövrün soyqırımı Məmməd Səid Ordubadinin “Qanlı sənələr” əsəri əsasında // – Bakı: AMEA Nizami Gəncəvi adına Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatşünaslığı, – 2023. № 1, – s.102-107; Kərimova, S.A. XX əsrin əvvəllərində Cənubi Qafqazda azərbaycanlılara qarşı törədilmiş soyqırımı mövzusu ədəbi şəxsiyyətlərin yaradıcılığında // Cənubi Qafqazda dövlətlərarası münasibətlərdə şəxsiyyət amili: tarixdən günümüzə, – Bakı: AMEA Qafqazşünaslıq İnstitutu, Respublika elmi konfransı, – 06 noyabr, – 2024, – s.132-133

All of these are reasons that are of political and legal importance as well as historical in terms of exposing Armenian vandalism.

As we know, the foundation of the national press in Azerbaijan was laid with the “Ekinchi” newspaper, which began publication on July 22, 1875, under the editorship of Hasan bey Zardabi. However, the newspaper ceased its activities after two years due to injustices against Muslims.

From the end of the 19th century, our enlightened people created the following printed organs, first in Russian, and then, from 1906, with an amazing leap: “Ittifaq”, “Teraqqi”, “Sada”, “Sadayi-haqq”, “Tazə hayat”, “Hümmət”, “Kaspi”, “Füyuzat”, “Yeni Füyuzat”, “Ari”, “Babayi-Amir”, “Tuti”, “Mazali”, “Kelniyyat”, “Shalale”, “İrshad”, “Ittifaq”, “Zanbur”, “İqbal”, Hayat”, “Tekamül” and others. The writer Seyid Hüseyn highly appreciated the important role of the press in the life of the Azerbaijani people and wrote: *“The press gives life to every nation, every tribe, so that it gives that nation ears that hear, a head that understands, and a mind and thought that separates good from evil. The press is the language of the nation”*<sup>39</sup>.

At the beginning of the 20th century, a number of publicistic articles, stories and poems related to the March genocide was published in “Azerbaijan”, “İstiglal”, “Besirat”, “Achiq soz”, “Gancler yurdu” and other press organizations. The March issues of the “İstiglal” newspaper, a democratic press organization published in 1919-1920, were entirely dedicated to the events of the March 31 genocide. In those issues, articles about the genocide by Mahammad Amin Rasolzade, Jeyhun Hajibeyli, Mirza Bala Mahammadzade, Jafar Jabbarli, Ibrahim Khalil, Haji Selim Sayyah, and other public figures and literary critics were published. At that time, along with press organizations such as “Azerbaijan”, “İstiglal”, and “Hummet”, the articles published in the “Gardash Gaygisi” newspaper published in Tbilisi in 1918 were also a clear example of protest against the March genocide.

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<sup>39</sup> Hüseyn, S. Tənqid və tənqidçilərimiz, yaxud Əlif-Leyla // – Bakı: Şəhəbi-saqib jurnalı, – 1911. 19 mart, № 8, – s.5

Seeing the victory of the Muslims in the Armenian-Muslim conflict that took place in 1905-1906, the newspaper “Bakinski Rabochi” began to be published in Baku with the support of the Armenians. The first editors of the newspaper were A. Chaparidze, V. Niokin and Radus Zenkovich. At the same time, the newspaper “Banvori Dzayn” (“Voice of the Worker”) began to operate under the leadership of the Armenian Bolshevik L. Kununyants. These newspapers supposedly engaged in international education among the workers, mobilizing the masses against tsarism and the local bourgeoisie. However, in reality, their goal, especially that of Kununyants, was completely different. It was the desire to completely cleanse Baku and all of Azerbaijan of the Muslim-Turkish population and create a country of their own in this territory. At that time, all Bolshevik newspapers published in Russian were published under the censorship of Shaumyan. The Azerbaijani-language publications “Hummet”, “Devet-goch”, as well as “Bakinski rabochi”, “Bakinski vesti”, “Bakinski proletary”, “Gudok”, “Volya”, “Nasha jizn”, “Tekamul”, “Yoldash”, “Bakı heyati” and other press organizations were also directly under Shaumyan’s control.

From the end of March 1918, Shaumyan had all the national press in Baku closed, so the Dashnaks even burned down several publishing houses and printing houses belonging to the Turkic-Muslims. However, after the Caucasian Islamic Army liberated Baku from occupation, national press organs such as “Istiglal”, “Azerbaijan”, “Ovragi-nafisa”, “Gurtuluah”, “Ganjlar yurdu”, “Sheypur”, “Zanbur”, “Medeniyyet” and others began to operate. These national press organs mainly played an educational role by performing publicistic activities, calling on young people and adolescents to study science and education, and at the same time, they published articles to convey the content of the genocides, massacres, political-economic events and conflicts that had occurred to the people and to make them vigilant.

Mahammad Amin Rasulzadeh, taking advantage of his position as the chief commissar of the Baku Council of Commissars directly responsible for the March 1918 massacre, wrote that

Shaumyan was at the forefront of the genocides and bloody tragedies committed against the Azerbaijani people and that he had prepared for this very well by various means, stating in precise and honest terms and at the same time with irrefutable facts: *“...the soldiers of the Armenian Regiment marching before his eyes without a word being asked, the Muslim nation naturally became agitated when it saw the “Soviet” militia checking the officers sent from Tbilisi to create the Muslim Regiment. Such a burning (mevadi ehraqiyya) that increased day by day was finally ignited by a stirring spark. What caused the bloody March events that lasted from March 17 to 21, 1918 (March 30-April 2, 1918 according to the new style)”*<sup>40</sup>.

Azerbaijani Bolsheviks viewed Shaumyan as a determined Bolshevik who fought for the class struggle and did not want to believe that he was the leader of these massacres. However, after seeing hundreds of Muslim Bolsheviks killed in the March genocide, they realized that Shaumyan was a devil in Bolshevik guise. Thus, the newspaper “Hümmət”, edited by Nariman Narimanov, wrote on April 4: *“On the morning of Peace Day, I went to the customs yard in Chornigorod and saw those who were killed. I can say that they are all working class. When I came to Tazapir, the same scene was again seen. I went to the cemetery and saw that the oppressed, lined up side by side to be buried in their oil-stained clothes were still these poor people”*<sup>41</sup>.

In 1918 on the eve of the unprecedented massacre of the Turkic-Muslim population of Baku under the leadership of Shaumyan, Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military units doused the buildings of the Azerbaijani national press organs “Kaspi” and “Achiq Soz” with gasoline and set them on fire, as well as the building where the electric printing house of the Orujov brothers was located. On this eve, Russian-language newspapers that took a “neutral” position were also closed by Shaumyan’s fatwa. However, a few months after the terrible genocide against our people in Baku

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<sup>40</sup> Rəsulzadə, M.Ə. Azərbaycan Cumhuriyyəti / çap edən; Yadigar Türkel, – Bakı: – 2015. – s.46

<sup>41</sup> Nərimanov, N. // Hümmət qəzeti. – 1918, – 4 aprel.

and other regions of Azerbaijan, the newspaper, which was published in only one copy on November 12, 1918, was published by the Turkish Youth Organization in Tbilisi under the name “Gardash Gaygisi” (Brotherly Care) by the “editorial staff”. Since the newspaper was published in both Azerbaijani and Russian languages, it was published in Russian under the name “Миръ праху невинныхъ жертъ” (Peace be upon the burnt ashes of innocent victims!). Researcher Akif Ashirli writes about this: *“In addition to the idea “Sleep well, you unjust victims, may mercy be upon you” in the newspaper’s headline, the phrase “Turkish youth remembers with respect the victims who died for the independence of Azerbaijan” was also reflected in large letters. The news that the funds collected from the sale of the newspaper, which cost 2 manats, would be “spent on those who suffered” in Baku and Shamakhi in 1918 is clear from the headline of page 2”*<sup>42</sup>.

Our leading intellectuals in exile interpreted the events of March 1918 more accurately and honestly. For example, Mirzabala Mahammadzade (1898-1959) wrote in detail in the magazine “Kurtuluş” published in Berlin under the editorship of Mahammad Amin Rasulzadeh that Shaumyan had gathered a large Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military force consisting of 25,000 Armenian and Russian soldiers returning from the Russian fronts, the Russian military fleet consisting of Bolsheviks in the Caspian Sea, and numerous workers consisting of Armenians and Russians working in the oil fields in Baku, and committed a massacre against the Muslim population in Baku, staining the city in blood: *“...Shaumyan, relying on these forces, began the massacre on March 31, and during this massacre, which lasted for three nights and resulted in the deaths of 15,000 unarmed and innocent Turks, Baku was bombed from the air, sea, and land, mosques were destroyed, educational and cultural institutions, printing houses, theaters, schools, libraries, etc. were set on fire and burned”*<sup>43</sup>.

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<sup>42</sup> Aşırılı, A. 31 mart soyqırımı: 1918-1920-ci illər mətbuatında / – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2011. – s.100

<sup>43</sup> Mehmetzade, M.B. Milli Azərbaycan hərəkatı // – Berlin: Qurtuluş jurnalı, – 1938. – s.7



Most of the press organizations operating at that time were published with the financial resources of Haji Zeynalabdin Taghiyev.

In the last paragraph of the third chapter, titled *“The activities of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic in connection with the genocide in artistic and publicistic thought”*, the issues related to the holding of serious state events and adoption of decisions regarding the genocide of Azerbaijanis during the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, the extensive coverage of the genocide events in the press of that period, and the importance of what should be done to prevent such events from happening to our people in the future are brought to attention.

In his article “A Day to Imitate,” Mahammad Amin Rasulzadeh expressed his opinion on declaring the March 1918 massacre a day of mourning, noting that if that day is not declared a day of mourning, future generations will know nothing about it, which in turn will lead to the cover-up and suppression of the genocides committed against the Azerbaijani people by the Dashnak and Bolshevik neo-fascist military units. He recalled the mourning of the Baku workers (of course, non-Azerbaijani workers) for the death of 26 commissars killed by the “dictatorship of the Central Caspian government” organized by Armenian emissaries, and noted the necessity of mourning for the 10,000 innocent people killed in late March and early April 1918: *“...Finally, it must have been due to the decisive decisions of Muslim authorities that the “workers’ conference” administration declared the 30th, not the 31st, of the month, a day of mourning and the organization of rallies on this occasion. However, neither those who came to the rallies nor those who called the rallies themselves came. They could have turned a blind eye to the March tragedy, as they knew it”*<sup>44</sup>.

Mahammad Amin Rasulzadeh repeatedly wrote articles about Armenian vandalism, the immorality and cruelty of Andronik in several issues of his newspaper “Achiq Soz” and had them translated into several languages, warning the whole of Europe about this. Rasulzadeh wrote in his first article published in the newspaper: *“Andronik*

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<sup>44</sup> Rəsulzadə, M.Ə. Numuneyi imtisali bir gün // Azərbaycan qəzeti. – 1919, – 2 aprel. – № 148

*Ozanyan, who had been trained for years in the Ottoman army, recently escaped from the army with the Armenian soldiers under his command and raided the villages of Anatolia, as well as the villages inhabited by Muslims in Nakhchivan, Zangezur and other places, killing more than thirty-five thousand innocent and unarmed people, from infants and pregnant women to the sick and the elderly, in inhumane ways.*"<sup>45</sup>.

Mirza Bala Mahammadzadeh, an active member of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic who emigrated to Turkey only after the establishment of Soviet power in Azerbaijan, stated in his article "Azeri Turks" how the Azerbaijani people lived through difficult times, but that it was an unforgivable mistake of history to call tens of thousands of our people, who were brutally murdered without any guilt, "counter-revolutionaries" by the Soviet Union, and to call Shaumyan, who had made the Azerbaijani people drink his blood, and those who enslaved him, revolutionaries.

Khalil Ibrahim (1892-1938), the editor of the Russian-language edition of the "Azerbaijan" newspaper which was published under the editorship of Uzeyir bey Hajibeyli during the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic saw in his article "March 18-31" one of the reasons for the inhuman massacres committed against the Azerbaijani people by the Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military units in the Azerbaijani people themselves, in their belief in the hypocritical Armenians and the fraudulent Bolsheviks who made many promises. However, Khalil Ibrahim called on the Azerbaijani people to come together, mobilize, cast aside all hopes and fears and rise up to jihad, when necessary, in order to protect the homeland, land, people, and flag, so that they would not face such calamities again. He wrote: *"...And that part of our community deceived themselves by believing in masked criminals and treating them like socialists: what is the meaning that part of our community led the people astray with the intention of exposing themselves and disregarding the honor of the other party, precisely for the sake of sectarianism?"*<sup>46</sup>.

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<sup>45</sup> Rəsulzadə M.Ə. // Açıq söz qəzeti. – 1915, – №16

<sup>46</sup> İbrahim, Xəlil. 18-31 mart // Azərbaycan qəzeti. – 1919, – 31 mart. – №147

The Armenians committed all the genocides they committed in Turkey and Azerbaijan with the intention of creating a “Greater Armenia”. Omar Faig Nemanzadeh commented on this insidious intention of the Armenians in the article “What should we do?” published in the “İrşad” newspaper under the signature “Bir javan” and wrote: *“The Armenians are determined to create an “Armenia” for themselves by all means. And in order to achieve this intention, they are also forced to expel us from the Iravan, Karabakh and Kars regions. We must know that the Armenians are willing to make any sacrifice to achieve this intention....”*<sup>47</sup>.

The March events of 1918 were first attempted to be assessed by the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. The ADR celebrated March 31 as a day of national mourning in 1919 and 1920. These events were reflected in documentary form, in the press materials of that period, in the stories of victims and witnesses.

The important results obtained in the last chapter of the research work were reflected in the following publications<sup>48</sup>.

In the “**Conclusion**” section of the dissertation work, the scientific and theoretical conclusions obtained from the research conducted throughout the research are summarized as follows:

- The systematic work on the genocide of Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century began after the decree “On the Genocide of Azerbaijanis” signed by the national leader, prominent statesman Heydar Aliyev on March 26, 1998. According to this decree, March 31 was declared the “Day of the Genocide of Azerbaijanis”. After the

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<sup>47</sup> Bir cavan. Nə etməliyə? // İrşad qəzeti. – 1906, – 4 avqust. – №183

<sup>48</sup> Kərimova, S.A. 1918-ci il 31 mart soyqırımını milli mətbuatımızın gözü ilə // – Bakı: AMEA Nizami Gəncəvi adına Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatşünaslığı, – 2024. № 2, – s.92-96; Karimova, S.A. The genocide of march 31, 1918 in scientific research (During the years of Independence) // – Warscawa, Polska: Międzynarodowe czasopismo naukowe, Colloquium-journal, – 2024. № 34 (227), – p.62-64; Kerimova, S.A. Mehmet Emin Resulzadənin sanatsal gazete yazılarında soyqırım meselesi // Söylem 4. Uluslararası Filoloji Sempozyumu, – İstanbul: – 10-12 Nisan, – 2025, – s.808-816; Kərimova, S.A. XX əsrin əvvəllərində azərbaycanlılara qarşı törədilmiş soyqırımların müasir tədqiqinin hüquqi əsasları // Borçalı: BUTA ədəbi-bədii, elmi-publisistik məcmuə, – 2021. № 01, – s.432-438

decree of the same name, wide opportunities arose for the study of the history of the Caucasus region and Azerbaijan in the 20th century. It should be noted that after the adoption of these important state documents related to the genocide, articles, books, research works, scientific studies, and conferences on the March 31 genocide have once again demonstrated the relevance of the topic in the modern era.

- The requirements of Soviet-era literary criticism did not allow researchers to study the literary works written about the crimes committed by the Dashnak-Bolshevik neo-fascist military units on an objective scientific basis. They presented these literary works, which constituted a branch of Azerbaijani literature, as a manifestation of harmful ideological thought, reactionary literature and nationalism. However, during the period of independence, works and comparisons written on the topics of Armenian-Azerbaijani relations, genocide and national ideology, in addition to having an ideological nature, also created an objective picture at the scientific-research level and began to be investigated in more depth on a scientific basis based on existing historical facts.

- In this dissertation, the examples written about the genocides that occurred against the Azerbaijani people during that period were included in the research and research was conducted on the basis of a unified system.

- In the research, the position of the literary works created in the early 20th century and subsequent periods related to the March genocides of 1905-06 and 1918, as well as the articles, poems, and feuilletons published during that period in the history of literature and the press, their formation and development features were shown, and certain steps were taken to reveal the essence of the events that occurred.

- In the dissertation, not only the artistic examples of the genocide of Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century were studied, but also a serious idea of the socio-political-cultural landscape of that period was formed.

- The research also reflected information about the promotion of the ideas of National Independence, the fact that the path to the establishment of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic passed through the March genocide, as well as the mobilization of our writers of that period

under the slogan of national freedom.

- The dissertation mainly studied the work of poets and writers of that period, and also included in the research and comparisons were made of artistic examples dedicated to the genocide of Azerbaijanis during the Soviet era and the years of independence at the beginning of the 20th century.

The analyses show that the scientific study of the Armenians' policy of mass genocide against the Azerbaijani people based on artistic and historical materials is a rather serious issue. At a time when our lands were completely cleansed of the perverted Armenians as a result of the 44-day Patriotic War and Azerbaijan restored its territorial integrity and sovereignty, it is important and necessary to continuously destroy Armenian fascism within the framework of scientific research based on accurate facts. In this regard, the relevance of the dissertation work on the topic "The problem of genocide in Azerbaijani artistic literature and publicity in the early 20th century" was brought to attention.

**The main content of the dissertation is reflected in the following scientific articles and conference materials of the applicant:**

1. Kərimova, S.A. Azərbaycanlıların soyqırımı bədii ədəbiyyatda // Tarixi ipək yolu və Naxçıvanın iqtisadi-mədəni əlaqələrinin inkişafı məsələləri, – Naxçıvan: Beynəlxalq "İpək yolu" konfransın materialları, – 16-17 oktyabr, – 2015, – s.138-139
2. Kərimova, S.A. 31 mart 1918-ci il azərbaycanlıların soyqırımı haqqında ilk bədii nümunələr // Nevruz zirvesi. I. Uluslararası Bahtiyar Vahapzade, Azərbaycan kultürü, tarixi və edebiyatı sempozyumu, – Antalya: – 20-23 mart, – 2018, – s.12-13
3. Kərimova, S.A. Romantik ədəbiyyatda azərbaycanlıların soyqırımının bədii təəcəssümü (31 mart 1918-ci il) // – Bakı: AMEA Nizami Gəncəvi adına Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, "Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatşünaslığı" jurnalı, – 2019. № 2, – s.137-141
4. Kərimova, S.A. XX əsrin əvvəllərində azərbaycanlılara qarşı törədilmiş soyqırımların müasir tədqiqinin hüquqi əsasları

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5. Kərimova, S.A. Mir Möhsün Nəvvabın (1833-1919) yaradıcılığında soyqırım məsələsi // Baku State University: Azerbaijani Oriental Studies in the Context of East-West Scientific-Cultural & Socio-Political Dialogue. International conference. Dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of Baku State University. – Baku: – 14-15 december, – 2022, – s.297-298
  6. Kərimova, S.A. Dövrün soyqırımı Məmməd Səid Ordubadinin “Qanlı sənələr” əsəri əsasında // – Bakı: AMEA Nizami Gəncəvi adına Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatşünaslığı, – 2023. № 1, – s.102-107
  7. Kərimova, S.A. XX əsrin əvvəllərində azərbaycanlıların soyqırımının poeziyada bədii əksi // – Bakı: AMEA Filologiya və sənətşünaslıq, – 2024. № 2, – s.110-115
  8. Kərimova, S.A. XX əsrin əvvəllərində Cənubi Qafqazda azərbaycanlılara qarşı törədilmiş soyqırımı mövzusu ədəbi şəxsiyyətlərin yaradıcılığında // Cənubi Qafqazda dövlətlərarası münasibətlərdə şəxsiyyət amili: tarixdən günümüzə, – Bakı: – AMEA Qafqazşünaslıq İnstitutu, Respublika elmi konfransı, – 06 noyabr, – 2024, – s.132-133
  9. Kərimova, S.A. 1918-ci il 31 mart soyqırımı milli mətbuatımızın gözü ilə // – Bakı: AMEA Nizami Gəncəvi adına Ədəbiyyat İnstitutu, Azərbaycan ədəbiyyatşünaslığı, – 2024. № 2, – s.92-96
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The defense of the dissertation will be held on 15 september 2025 at 12<sup>30</sup> at the meeting of the ED 1.05 - Dissertation council operating under the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

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It is possible to get acquainted with the dissertation in the library of the Institute of Literature named after Nizami Ganjavi of ANAS.

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