

The Policy of Peace, Multiculturalism, Azerbaijanism of The President of The Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, in The Context of The Philosophy of Life

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Abstract

This article analyzes and evaluates the dynamic growth of peace and security, human solidarity, economic, diplomatic, and military spheres as the foundation of Azerbaijan's current development in the Political Governance Strategy of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev. The study emphasizes that Azerbaijan's contemporary progress cannot be separated from a comprehensive governance model that integrates national interests, regional stability, and international cooperation within a unified political vision. The author also highlights the achievements of President Ilham Aliyev as a rational-professional Leader, and discusses his guidance of ethno-identity and Azerbaijanism, as well as multiculturalism, in state administration with the principle of nation-state solidarity, and his application of this very important policy in practice. In this context, the article underlines the significance of leadership, strategic continuity, and ideological consistency in strengthening Azerbaijan's sovereignty, social cohesion, and cultural-humanitarian development. The task of scientifically substantiating the ideas of identity and Azerbaijanism, multiculturalism in the humanitarian-social policy implemented in the Republic of Azerbaijan, and covering research on these topics with constant attention and care in this context, is specifically put forward. The article further argues that the principles of peace, multicultural dialogue, Islamic solidarity, and national unity function not only as political concepts, but also as practical mechanisms for sustainable state-building. Therefore, the study contributes to the scholarly understanding of Azerbaijan's political governance strategy by presenting peace, security, Azerbaijanism, and multiculturalism as interrelated foundations of national development and international recognition.

Keywords: Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, politics, identity, Azerbaijanism, multiculturalism

Introduction

The geopolitical and geoeconomic development dynamics of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which global world judges attach special importance to among the countries with significant power in the Caspian-Black Sea basin and the South Caucasus region, its past

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cultural traditions based on millennia of history, as well as its identical heritage living in the conditions of modern globalization and preserved for future generations, as well as its military power and diplomatic achievements, arouse serious interest in the world community.

The Azerbaijani people, which were part of the USSR for 70 years but preserved their national image despite all ideological pressure and influences, have been valuing their historical existence with greater determination during the 30 years since they regained their independence for the second time and are implementing the goals of state-national unity symbolized by the "Iron Fist".

The political legacy of the founder of the independent Republic of Azerbaijan Heydar Aliyev and his successor, President Ilham Aliyev, thanks to his political leadership, great rational-intellectual political management power, and determination, the main priority issues of Azerbaijani statehood, which are of interest in a system, are the principles of peace, friendship, cooperation in all areas, and conditions for dialogue, which Mr. Ilham Aliyev implements in solidarity with the people, world socio-political thought in accordance with the standards of modern society.

It is a fact that the policy pursued by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, who is in the center of attention of the world, in solidarity with the people, world socio-political thought in accordance with the standards of modern society, is distinguished and appreciated by establishing economic, political, legal, diplomatic relations with advanced democratic states, systematizing a dynamic program of action in this area, and preserving and developing the idea of national interest-national statehood.

Research Method

This study uses a qualitative-descriptive research method with a conceptual and analytical approach. The research is based on the examination of political, philosophical, historical, and socio-cultural aspects related to the governance strategy of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev. The data were collected through library research by analyzing official speeches, policy documents, scientific literature, historical records, and relevant sources concerning peace policy, Azerbaijaniism, multiculturalism, Islamic solidarity, national identity, and state-building in Azerbaijan. The analysis was conducted by interpreting the relationship between leadership practice, political governance, national ideology, and humanitarian-social policy. Through this method, the study seeks to provide a scientific explanation of how peace, security, multicultural values, and national solidarity are constructed and implemented as important foundations of Azerbaijan's contemporary development.

Results and Discussion

Main part. 1. The main criteria of the policy pursued by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev

In the state-building of modern Azerbaijan, keeping the principles of civil society in the center of attention, political stability, economic, socio-cultural well-being events constitute the main criteria of the policy pursued by Mr. Ilham Aliyev.

It is known that at the historical stage when the Great Leader Heydar Aliyev came to the political leadership of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the second time, the country's economic power was completely weakened, large-scale disarray in the production areas

created an army of unemployed, the social situation of the people deteriorated significantly, and on the other hand, the country was faced with civil war.

After Heydar Aliyev came to political power with the will and demand of the people, the first task among the state-building tasks that lay ahead was to immediately solve economic and social problems, open new jobs, and ensure the material well-being of the people.

In parallel with global economic strategic agreements such as the "Contract of the Century", "Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan", oil policy in general, and the "Great Silk Road", the State Program "Development of Azerbaijani Entrepreneurship" (1993-1995), which envisages the development of small and medium-sized entrepreneurship in Azerbaijan in the interests of civil society, the laws "On the Fundamentals of Agrarian Reform" and "On the Reform of State Farms and Collective Farms" were adopted.

Heydar Aliyev's political legacy, which is studied today in the context of aphorisms, wise thoughts of the national leader, and which are memorized by heart, is "No country, even the largest, can develop its economy only within its own framework", "The road is the economy, culture, in a word, life" [1], - his thoughts actually arose from the global reality of that first stage, and the ideas that emerged from these examples became the basis of the economic construction program of the Great Leader Heydar Aliyev during his 10-year political leadership of the young Independent Republic of Azerbaijan, opening up broad horizons for domestic socio-economic development and economic relations with foreign states.

The highly professional implementation of the political, socio-economic and socio-cultural development strategy of Azerbaijan by Mr. Ilham Aliyev, first of all, confirms the justification of the trust reflected in the Great Leader's address to the people dated 01.10.2003. At the same time, the high development that has occurred in the 20-year history of Azerbaijan indicates the successful continuation of the political path, the tradition of national statehood. In addition, the successes achieved become the basis for strengthening the state, the guarantee of the social well-being and increase in the material level of the country's citizens.

Of course, each historical period has its own area of development and problems, and each leader has his own path of political management towards a common goal. The absolutely correct and wise ideas of the Great Leader Heydar Aliyev in the historical and modern approach, in other words, the principles of the ideology of Heydarism, sound characteristic here: "The first to start work always falls on very great, honorable tasks"; "The more difficult it is to achieve independence, the more difficult it is to maintain it, to make it permanent and eternal"; "There is no path as difficult as the path of independence" (Heydar Aliyev. Wise thoughts. [2].

1.1 Strategy of cultural and humanitarian policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

As in all states with a solid economic foundation and strong modern political priorities, in Azerbaijan, culture, humanitarian policy, science, health, as well as women's, family, children, youth, sports policy are experiencing a high stage of development in a new, modern content, enriched with advanced ideas, and fused with the national idea. Also, this monolithic system, which continues the principles of political governance of Heydar Aliyev with a creative consciousness, and whose common name is state-building, is of interest as a living example of the development of achieved achievements and the continuation of unfinished historical works, and therefore, as a living example of a consistently successful strategy, and on the other hand, confirms the idea [3].

At this point, when we talk about the fact that the trust of the Great Leader of the Azerbaijani people, Heydar Aliyev, in Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the head of the independent Azerbaijani state with great wisdom, high political leadership professionalism, as well as charisma, who is confidently advancing his political epoch with his unique rational leadership qualities all over the world, is justified in its entirety, we cannot fail to recall the intercultural dialogue and multiculturalism policy that our state leader authored and successfully implemented.

The intercultural dialogue, which Heydar Aliyev based on historical experience, stemmed from the national ideology of Azerbaijaniism that he applied in political governance, and at the same time, the phenomenon of tolerance, which the Great Leader paid special attention to separately, is the main priority area in the state governance policy implemented by Mr. Ilham Aliyev, and is being developed in the essence of the life philosophy of society.

2. The historical ideas of multiculturalism of the Azerbaijani people in the context of political governance experience

It is a well-established and accepted fact that Azerbaijan, as an independent legal republic with an ancient history, has been committed to multiculturalism and traditions of tolerance for more than 30 years of its development, upholding the principles of respectful approach to the native language and religious beliefs of various nations and ethnic groups, and has been a guarantor of peoples living in a spirit of respect for each other's customs, traditions, and culture.

Even when the Republic of Azerbaijan was faced with the most global demographic and migration problems and was solving the problems of 1 million refugees, it did not forget its sense of respect and responsibility for multiculturalism, and despite the fact that Armenians have been cruel enemies of our people for centuries, it has ensured the security of the Armenian-origin population and has taken into account their interests related to their religious and spiritual traditions.

It is now a well-known fact that the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, highly appreciates the ideas of multiculturalism and bases his decision-making on this vital cultural program in solving global cultural problems of mankind and turns it into a sustainable development model with the power of his professional politician, competent Leader.

The profound thoughts of the head of state of Azerbaijan, expressed in the following quote, fully revive the content and essence of the multiculturalism model of the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan: "Multiculturalism is a way of life in Azerbaijan. True, this term is relatively new. However, multicultural societies have existed in Azerbaijan for centuries. Friendship and solidarity between peoples are a clear example of this. Today, we are still trying to demonstrate our positive influence on the processes taking place in the region and the world on our own initiative" [4].

Multiculturalism has become a serious research object as a topical area and topic in Azerbaijani socio-political thought, as well as in scientific fields.

International forums organized in Azerbaijan on the topic of Multiculturalism and Intercultural Dialogue, as well as the implementation of the tasks arising from the provisions of the conventions to which our country has joined, not only realize the integration of our country into the world, but also clearly confirm that our people are committed to the feelings of hospitality, neighborliness, friendship, brotherhood, and thus universal humanism.

The following ideas, which Mr. Ilham Aliyev specially emphasized at the official opening of the III World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue on the theme “Sharing Culture for Common Security”, clearly express the historical and modern achievements in this direction in the Republic of Azerbaijan, which has adopted the ideas of multiculturalism as a philosophy of life for the development of society: “Today, Azerbaijan is an influential member of the international community, playing a very positive role at the regional level. Our initiatives are aimed at strengthening regional cooperation. Political and economic issues related to energy security are in the spotlight. The initiatives and projects we are promoting have gone beyond the borders of the region. These projects connect countries and continents. When we look at the issue of energy security, it is clear that Azerbaijan is already playing an important role for the energy security of Europe. As for transport infrastructure, today we are restoring the historical Silk Road. We are creating a new railway connection between Asia and Europe. We are investing not only in economic development and more advanced transport infrastructure, but also in people-to-people contacts. The historical Silk Road passed through Azerbaijan. Today, we are expanding it with the application of modern technologies and the participation of neighboring states. “We are restoring. All our projects related to economic and social development strengthen regional cooperation and mutual understanding between peoples and countries” [5]

In that speech, President Ilham Aliyev drew attention to the fact that the traditions of intercultural dialogue and multiculturalism in our country were started many years ago and that this historic task was successfully continued, highlighting the importance of integration into the world in the young Independent Republic of Azerbaijan, and showed that “in 2008, the “Baku process” was launched on our initiative. It was our initiative to invite the ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the meeting of the ministers of culture of the Council of Europe. This was the first such case. Because Azerbaijan is one of the few countries that are members of both organizations. Later, in 2009, the ministers of culture of the Council of Europe were invited to the meeting of the ministers of culture of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. These were our initiatives, and it was already called the “Baku process”. Today, issues related to intercultural and intercivilizational dialogue and multiculturalism are included in the “Baku process”. We will continue our efforts, and the fact that representatives from more than 100 countries visited Baku and discussed these important issues gave us a sense of commitment to achieving our goals. creates a high level of friendship, peace, partnership and cultural diversity” [6].

It is no coincidence that Mr. Ilham Aliyev, guided by paragraph 32 of Article 109 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, signed an Order on declaring 2016 the Year of Multiculturalism with the aim of “preserving, further developing and widely promoting the traditions of multiculturalism in Azerbaijan”. The decision of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan to hold the 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in Baku in 2016 also stems from the special importance Azerbaijan attaches to the philosophy of human intercultural dialogue - multiculturalism.

2.1 Azerbaijan’s unique position in “establishing Islamic solidarity”

First of all, we should note that the establishment of "Islamic solidarity" in the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as in other Islamic countries and regions related to Islamic countries, stems from the activities of an international organization called the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which serves the unity and solidarity of Islamic states. This authoritative organization, which has developed over many decades, has been called the Organization of

the Islamic Conference since 2011, and the Republic of Azerbaijan was admitted to the OIC as a full member on 08.12.1991. It is also interesting that the Organization of Islamic Cooperation is the first international organization of which Azerbaijan is a member.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, being committed to its mission of serving the unity and solidarity of Islamic states, took into account the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, which is the most global problem of Azerbaijan, and for the first time, in order to resolve conflicts, at the session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers held in Karachi in April 1993, accused Armenia of aggression against Azerbaijan with a relevant resolution.

In December 2004, while in Qatar as part of his visit to the Arab countries, President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev once again called on the OIC to stand in solidarity with Armenia in the UN against the aggression against Azerbaijan.

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, has particularly strengthened cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the foreign relations strategy of the country's political administration. The international organization's substantive criticism of Armenia's aggressive policy towards the national security of the neighboring nation at the summits in Morocco (1994) and Tehran (1997), as well as the withdrawal of Armenian troops from the occupied Azerbaijani lands, respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Azerbaijan, and the application of Chapter VII of the organization's charter (measures related to threats to the peace, breaches of the peace and acts of aggression) in response to Armenia's failure to fulfill UN resolutions (822, 853, 874, 884) at the summits in Doha (Qatar) on November 12-13, 2000 and Putrajaya (Malaysia) on October 16-17, 2003, represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the principles adopted during the OSCE Lisbon Summit on December 2-3, 1996 in the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and Armenia, high self-government status for Nagorno-Karabakh within Azerbaijan, and the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh) "(...) the adoption of documents reflecting the requirements of taking the security of the population as a basis" [7], as well as the holding of the founding meeting of the Youth Forum of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2004, the OIC's statements defending Azerbaijan in connection with the illegal elections held by the Nagorno-Karabakh separatist regime in 2006, etc. can be cited as examples.

In addition, the holding of the 14th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Mecca, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 31.05. 2019 under the motto "Hand in Hand Towards the Future" by the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OIC has strengthened friendship and cooperation between Islamic countries. In this regard, 11.12. In 2021, as well as during the participation of the Azerbaijani parliamentary delegation, led by the Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in the 16th Conference of the Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the theme "Sharing, Conscience and Islam: Palestine, Migration and Afghanistan" hosted by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, as well as "on March 22-23, 2022, in Islamabad, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, within the framework of the 48th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on the theme "Building a Partnership for Unity, Justice and Development", four resolutions were adopted, covering political, economic and cultural issues related to the consequences of Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan: "Eliminating the Consequences of the Aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan", "Providing Economic Assistance to the Republic of Azerbaijan", "Destruction of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Islamic Culture in the Territories of

Azerbaijan as a Result of the Aggression of the Republic of Armenia”, and “Solidarity with the Victims of the Khojaly Massacre”. It should be noted that the OIC The events of "Including new provisions in these resolutions, which are traditionally adopted every year by the Islamic Conference, taking into account the latest situation in the region" [8].

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, spoke extensively about this international event “in order to ensure the strengthening of Azerbaijan’s unique position in the establishment of Islamic solidarity” and also adopted a Resolution on declaring 2017 the “Year of Islamic Solidarity” in the Republic of Azerbaijan. The IV Islamic Solidarity Games held in our capital Baku that year, and the declaration of the cities of our historical region Nakhchivan as the capital of Islamic culture in 2018 officially confirm Azerbaijan’s commitment to Islamic solidarity.

The topic of Islamic solidarity in the field of science has paved the way for fundamental scientific research for many years. Currently, scholars of the humanitarian field, especially social sciences, are studying and analyzing a wide variety of topics of Islamic culture, which is based on historical millennia in Azerbaijan.

For example, the development of topics covering the role and importance of Islamic solidarity in intercultural dialogue and the development of multiculturalism ideas in a philosophical context is expanding the scope of social and humanitarian scientific thought. The establishment of the Multiculturalism Center state institution in the republic, the start of the Multiculturalism and Tolerance Philosophy Department at the Institute of Philosophy of ANAS, and the holding of large-scale cultural, scientific and mass events throughout the country also indicate the dynamism of the multiculturalism model in the implemented state policy.

It is precisely the strong sense of ownership of the Islamic religion, Islamic morality and culture of Azerbaijani citizens that has created conditions for living in a neighborly atmosphere for many centuries, in an atmosphere of mutual respect for the civil rights, spiritual feelings, customs and traditions of other peoples, nations, and ethnic groups. In this regard, since the moral values instilled by the Islamic religion such as solidarity, unity, peace, love, and friendship have a permanent place in the minds of Azerbaijan as dominant feelings, no misunderstanding or tension is observed in the direction of solving the problem of cultural diversity in the current stage of globalization, in the conditions of replacing traditional values with non-traditional values.

In addition, the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan has been elected a member of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, ISESCO, as well as other authoritative organizations uniting Muslim countries. This clear example of Islamic solidarity is also confirmed by the declaration of the capital of Islamic culture in 2009.

2.2 The principle of loyalty to political traditions

After being elected President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on October 31, 2003, in his speech at the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Ilham Aliyev declared that he would respond to the historic decision made by Heydar Aliyev on October 1, 2003 with practical action, promising to justify the wise leader's confidence in him, expressing his belief in him as the head of the Azerbaijani state, and said: "I believe in the happy future of Azerbaijan. I am sure that our country will continue to develop and become even stronger. Democracy will develop further in Azerbaijan, political pluralism and freedom of speech will be ensured. Our country will become a modern state. To do all this, much needs to be done in Azerbaijan. However, the most important thing in order to implement all this and turn Azerbaijan into a powerful

state is to continue Heydar Aliyev's policy in the country. Today, speaking from this high podium, I promise the Azerbaijani people that I will remain faithful to this policy, never deviate from this path, and continue Heydar Aliyev's policy. Today, from this high podium, I would like to thank our dear President, Mr. Addressing Heydar Aliyev, I say: Dear President, we will strengthen, enrich, comprehensively develop modern Azerbaijan, which is your work, and we will move towards new victories with your path" [9].

Mr. Ilham Aliyev, after being re-elected as the President of the country in 2008, promised to work more resolutely in front of the people for the next term with facts and evidence proving that he has honorably fulfilled the historic and responsible duty he assumed during the past 5 years, thus reaffirming the important decision and deep faith made by the wise national leader, the Great Leader of our people Heydar Aliyev in the last months of his life.

"I assure you that both Ilham Aliyev and the New Azerbaijan Party will continue to unite the most worthy children of our people around them and do a lot for the development of the Azerbaijani state and the prosperity of our people. ...I believe in him as much as I do and have great hopes for his future" [10].

This belief, which rises from wise, far-sighted thinking, has already justified itself in the dynamic development of the country in all areas and in the highest results in a not-so-short period of 20 years. A quote from the speech of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev at the Inauguration Ceremony on April 18, 2018 confirms this once again, especially with its emphasis on state and national unity and national unity.

"Azerbaijan has successfully developed over the past 20 years. The Azerbaijani people have demonstrated unity and solidarity. Our national ideology plays a key role in our future activities. The ideology of Azerbaijaniness has been fully established in Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijani people have united around a single national idea, and our country is developing very successfully. Interfaith and interethnic relations in Azerbaijan are exemplary. Representatives of all peoples and religions live in a friendly atmosphere like a family in Azerbaijan and will continue to do so. Our policy and the aspirations of society will also determine the steps to be taken in this direction" [11]

3. The Historic Victory of the President and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev

At this point, we should especially celebrate the event of our Victorious Army, under the determined leadership of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Azerbaijani State, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, starting the Patriotic War for our sacred lands occupied by Armenians for 30 years, fighting heroically for 44 days and achieving Victory.

Because the whole world already knows that Karabakh is Azerbaijan! Karabakh is the lifeblood, the apple of Azerbaijan's eye!

On November 8, 2020, it was announced that our Nagorno-Karabakh - the abodes of our ancestors, the ancestral homes of our compatriots, - our sacred homeland lands, which had been occupied by the hateful, ungrateful Armenian neighbors for 30 years - was liberated from occupation by our Victorious Army under the leadership of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, through a 44-day heroic struggle!

The Azerbaijani government has not left our Nagorno-Karabakh out of its sight for a single day or a single minute in the past 29 years!

The Great Leader of the Azerbaijani people, Heydar Aliyev, during the 10 years he led our independent state, with a history and geography teacher's stick in his hand, declared to

all corners of the world that Nagorno-Karabakh is the eternal land of Azerbaijan. In his wise speeches at the most influential events in the world, Heydar Aliyev spoke about the Armenians' alienation from Nagorno-Karabakh, their vandalism and their stage-by-stage occupation of our lands, their insidious activities from the beginning of the 20th century to the 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s and the Khojaly genocide, and achieved the adoption of the most important decisions and articles of law.

These words of the 21st century Azerbaijani leader Ilham Aliyev, who completely liberated Karabakh on November 8, 2020, when declaring the Victory of our army - our people, shed light on the realities of 27 years ago: "We were purposefully, tirelessly, and despite all the pressure, gathering strength and we gathered it - economic strength! If there was no economic strength, it would not have been possible to achieve this victory. First of all, economic independence had to be ensured and was ensured.

Today, Azerbaijan is economically independent of anyone, any country, any international financial institution. Independence! And this allowed us to develop our country. At the same time, strengthen our Army" [12].

The heroic son of our people, the one who saved the sacred lands of the Motherland from occupation, restored the national pride of the people, reunited our displaced people with their native lands, and the commander of the 21st century - our head of state, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, with a very loud vote on 07.02.2024, also brings to mind the valuable and wise thoughts of the Great Leader of the Azerbaijani people, the great founder of the independent Azerbaijani state, Heydar Aliyev, expressed in the following quote: "Of course, in order to restore our borders and reclaim our occupied territories, it was necessary, first of all, to strengthen our military power, that is, our national army, with both military equipment and experienced personnel." "Our state is gradually increasing its defense capabilities and becoming stronger militarily. Our national army is acquiring advanced experience and technologies, and our young people are enthusiastically going to serve." "The unity of the people and the Army both increases the power of the people and makes the army stronger".

These serious statements, which always preserve the historical significance of the great leader Heydar Aliyev, called on the people to patriotism and national unity, and justified the creation of a strong national Army as the most important task for victory in the upcoming battles. On November 8, 2020 - the day our Victory was declared, the leader of the 21st century Ilham Aliyev's address to the people, "Today I also visited the grave of the great leader Heydar Aliyev. I bowed before his soul. I said in my heart that I am a happy man that I fulfilled my father's will. We liberated Shusha," - his sincere words, whether as an heir - son or a political heir - successor, are equal to the most sacred prayers that calm the soul of the great leader who has left Karabakh! This sentence is also very valuable as the highest confirmation of the confidence of the political predecessor of the President of the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, the great leader Heydar Aliyev, in him as a political successor!

Yes! That unforgettable Appeal of 01.10.2003!

In this last address to the people of Azerbaijan dated 01.10.2003 and in the last sentences of the address, the commander of today's important historical victory expressed his deep faith in his political successor: "Turning my face to you - my compatriots, I call on you to support the presidential candidate, my political successor, First Deputy Chairman of the New Azerbaijan Party, Ilham Aliyev in the upcoming presidential elections. He is a highly intellectual, pragmatic person, well-versed in modern world politics and economics, energetic and enterprising. I assure you that both Ilham Aliyev and the New Azerbaijan Party will

continue to unite the most worthy children of our people around them and do a lot for the development of the Azerbaijani state and the prosperity of our people. I believe that with your help and support, Ilham Aliyev will be able to complete the fateful issues, plans, and works that I could not complete. I believe in him as much as I do and have great hopes for his future" (Address of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan).

This belief included ensuring the economic, military and comprehensive development of Azerbaijan. This belief included bringing the young Republic to the world political arena and gaining influence. Along with this, this belief included the historic task of liberating every inch of the occupied Azerbaijani lands and reuniting refugees and displaced persons with their ancestral lands.

In the years following the death of the great leader, Azerbaijan was confirmed by becoming a state that the global world judges attached special importance to among the countries with significant power in the Caspian-Black Sea basin and the South Caucasus region.

Mr. Ilham Aliyev confirmed this belief by achieving the election of the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan as a member of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, ISESCO, as well as other authoritative organizations uniting Muslim countries!

The truths explained in the speech of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, at the swearing-in ceremony on April 18, 2018 - "Azerbaijan has developed successfully over the past 15 years. The Azerbaijani people have demonstrated unity and solidarity. Our national ideology plays a key role in our future activities. The ideology of Azerbaijaniness has been fully established in Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijani people have united around a single national idea, and our country is developing very successfully. Interreligious and interethnic relations in Azerbaijan are exemplary. Representatives of all peoples and religions live in a friendly atmosphere like a family in Azerbaijan and will continue to do so. Our policy and the aspirations of society will also determine the steps to be taken in this direction" (Speech of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, at the swearing-in ceremony on April 18, 2018- once again showed the loyalty to the faith of the great national leader, the confirmation of this faith.

Thus, at a time when complex and tense events were taking place in the country and the world, the young President of the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, who was founded at the cost of endless difficulties by the Great Leader of the Azerbaijani people, Heydar Aliyev, had only one Victory left to complete the will of his father - predecessor, confirm the faith, and justify the trust - to achieve the liberation of our sacred lands under occupation from the hated enemy.

The political successor of the Great Leader of the Azerbaijani people, Heydar Aliyev, was preparing for this every day, every hour. The words spoken today on the magnificent Victory Day are a testament to the goal and aspiration that has been on the way for years: "Today, the Azerbaijani flag is waving in Shusha.

Now the entire Azerbaijani people are welcoming that good news with pride. We were purposefully, tirelessly, and despite all the pressures, gathering strength and we have gathered it - Economic strength! If it were not for economic strength, it would not have been possible to achieve this victory. First of all, economic independence had to be ensured and was ensured. Today, Azerbaijan is economically independent of anyone, any country, any international financial institution. Independence! And this allowed us to develop our country. At the same time, strengthen our Army" [13].

After the next provocations during the ceasefire period, which were obtained by the begging of the abominable usurper Armenian "regretful" government that declared a so-called republic over Azerbaijan and our sacred lands, and which was still raging and saying "Karabakh is Armenia, period", and its vandal Armenian compatriots who did not have the status of a nation, the President of Azerbaijan, the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, made a firm decision.

There is a wisdom hidden in everything. With this one-sentence criminal thought, the Azerbaijani people revived the "sleeping lion" quality that the national leader patriotically explained when A. Gromyko, the right-hand man of the Russian empire of the once great leader Heydar Aliyev, instructed him to announce to the Azerbaijani people that Nagorno-Karabakh was given to the Armenians - "Karabakh was and will be Azerbaijan's". Azerbaijanis are sleeping lions, it is better not to wake them up! - when he declared.

Ilham Aliyev revived our "sleeping lion" quality, which was present in this wise call - the father's testament.

Thus, hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijani youth, whose courage was expressed in the depth of meaning of Heydar Aliyev's word "lion", immediately voted for the decision of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Ilham Aliyev - the commander of the 21st century, and poured into the streets with the slogans "Karabakh is Azerbaijan!", "Either Karabakh, or death". Within a day, thousands of our citizens with fighting power voluntarily joined the ranks of the National Army. Our crown reached the most decisive Victory peak on the path to restoring the border integrity of the Holy Lands of the Republic of Azerbaijan, waving its tricolor flag in Shusha!

The words of the President of Azerbaijan, Supreme Commander-in-Chief Mr. Ilham Aliyev in his address to the people - "This history will live forever. This is the day of our glorious victory, our triumph. We won this victory on the battlefield", - were a good news that pleased our people and the souls of all our compatriots who, along with our new martyrs, left the world with longing for Karabakh.

This Victory Day - VICTORY holiday, coinciding with November 8, 2020, confirms the invincibility of Azerbaijan with the magnificent monolithic Turkish Unity! There is a historical saying: "A Turk has no friend other than a Turk!". The political and moral support of the giant Republic of Turkey on the basis of this Victory is unforgettable. Our Turkish compatriots came to our aid 100 years ago, and they came again. But this time they saved our lands. 100 years ago, with the great attention of the founder of the Republic of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, our people were saved from the Armenian genocide, and now, with the great political support of the world giant - the leader of the Republic of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, our borders have regained their integrity. We have a proverb, "If a snake does not see a star, it will not die"!.. It is no coincidence that Armenia, which saw Turkey standing like a mountain behind Azerbaijan, and was defeated in the magnificent war waged - by Azerbaijan with the political and moral support of the giant Turkey, collapsed not only militarily, but also in many areas. Its "sea-to-sea" fantasies completely fell apart, and it is unlikely that it will fall for the claims of plunder.

The great leader of the Republic of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, with the 80 million-strong giant Turkey's "Long Live Azerbaijan!" "We stand with the Azerbaijani people!", which echoes the voice of their hearts, and at the same time, the President of the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan, our Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, highly appreciates the mutual cooperation relations between Turkey and Azerbaijan, and our most

important brotherhood - our being one nation, in his addresses to our people, confirms the great historical victory of the Turkish Union in the new century.

By the way, I would like to note that in the last few years, as I have watched the news of the war and martyrs almost every day in Turkey and heard the condolences of "Long live the homeland!", I have longed for our Patriotic War for Karabakh, no matter how difficult it may be, and for our sacred lands to be reclaimed at the cost of our blood and lives... In my speeches in the country and abroad, I have said, "Peace is beautiful, and lands are sacred."

The Great Leader of our people, Heydar Aliyev, said at the event held on July 5, 1997, on the day of the establishment of the professional holiday of the employees of the National Security Bodies: "We have a great responsibility. We are creating an independent Azerbaijani state and we must create it in such a way that it will always live, that no force can ever bend it to any side, that no great state can come and take away our, the Azerbaijani people's, national freedom and independence. The state independence of Azerbaijan is the most dear, most valuable achievement for us, and we will always preserve this achievement – our state independence. The more difficult it is to achieve independence, the more difficult it is to maintain it, to make it permanent and eternal" [14]

The importance and value of these thoughts, which were said 29 years ago, are measured precisely by the fact that the Head of State of the Independent Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, fulfilled his political successor and successor mission with honor, determination, and perseverance.

3.1 PEACE policy of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev in the Country, Region, and World

It is known that since the beginning of the world, the meanings of the words good and evil have kept pace with events in the minds of people, and mankind has defended the good, which is the expression of peace and tranquility throughout history.

It is no coincidence that conflicts, even 100-year wars, have ended in Peace in the end. Today, wars with terrible tragedies are still observed in the world. Countries are being destroyed, even the atmosphere, flora and fauna of the earth are being destroyed, dangerous diseases are emerging, and most importantly, peoples and nations are being demographically and spiritually destroyed.

The World Peace Culture Program was put forward at the 36th World Congress in 2004, which, in our opinion, the world's leading countries either do not remember or do not take into account.

This Congress calls the world to peace with such sensitivity that it even calls on the media not to broadcast oppressive programs, and turns the most delicate asset of the world - the mother, the female citizen - into the main driving force of the Program.

Peace, dialogue, intercultural dialogue, which the whole world is trying to solve, no matter how superficial it may seem, is becoming more necessary today in the second decade of the 21st century. Because at this stage, the world is much closer to the beginning of a new history, if not the end.

Thus, regional wars have become the junction of religious wars, a number of states have been destroyed, but new ones have not been created, and disasters continue on top of the ruins. Instead of unity, peace, and cooperation, the right to neighborliness and border inviolability has been destroyed. Hostile, uncivilized relations are taking place in all four corners of the world, on all continents. The youngest people in the world - children, in fact, grow up addicted to weapons and war-themed games, dictated by the imposed policy, which

accompanies them in adulthood and youth, psychologically instilling in their minds war, hostility, and as a natural result of this, weapons, destruction, and destruction become a philosophy of life, giving rise to wars. Therefore, in our modern era, Peace - Dialogue is the most basic condition for the salvation of humanity and the world, and it is currently among the chain global problems of the 21st century planet Earth.

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, has always kept the policy of PEACE, Dialogue, and cooperation in mind as the most important strategy during his Political Leadership and State administration. In this regard, Mr. Ilham Aliyev is known as one of the presidents who implemented a PEACE policy in the Country, Region, and the World, and even one of the leaders.

We have already talked about Mr. Ilham Aliyev's 44-day decisive Patriotic War, which liberated the Republic of Azerbaijan from the 30-year occupation of neighboring Armenia, and its historical Victory, in the previous half-chapter.

Of course, a just war continues with Peace, and this is a historically confirmed truth. From this point of view, during the 23-year period of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev's activity as the Head of State, the ideas of PEACE, Dialogue, Solidarity, Friendship, and cooperation have been implemented in the essence of an ideological strategy, which the whole world is witnessing.

Thus, the Republic of Azerbaijan has hosted large-scale events where the world's most global problems are solved, has become a member of the most serious security organizations, and has joined conventions and agreements on peace negotiations.

The political activity of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, on issues of Peace, Solidarity, Dialogue, and Cooperation, stems from the peace-loving political management mission of the Great Leader of our people, the great personality Heydar Aliyev, during the 30 years that our lands were under occupation, and continues to show its practical power today. Dozens, even hundreds of examples can be cited.

For example, after our lands were liberated from 30 years of occupation, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, launched peace negotiations, and first of all, the peace treaty between the states of Azerbaijan and Armenia - the document "Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and Interstate Relations between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia" can be an example of this. At the same time, the Republic of Azerbaijan has fulfilled its Peace Mission by sending aid to Armenia, which is experiencing serious economic problems, and by providing energy to the neighboring state.

In addition, the Heads of State of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia adopted a Peace and Cooperation Document on August 8, 2025 in the United States of America, personally led by the President of the United States, R. Trump. Thus, the two countries, based on the main terms of this document, jointly appealed to the cessation of the activities of the Minsk Group, and the "Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity" (TRIPP), reflecting the national interests of Azerbaijan, was created.

Such global Peace, Dialogue, Solidarity activities of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, are in the spotlight of world leaders and are forming positive relations with our country and its head of state.

The recent awarding of the "Guernica Award for Peace and Reconciliation" by the Guernica-Lumo and Pforzheim City Councils to Mr. Ilham Aliyev is precisely a high assessment of the successful end of the Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict, the achievement of peace between the two countries, and the establishment and development of Dialogue.

The speech delivered by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, upon receiving this prestigious award, confirms the political ideal and management strategy of the Azerbaijani head of state, which is related to PEACE and security for humanity.

The following quote from this prestigious speech by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, fully expresses the commitment of the Azerbaijani people and the Azerbaijani state to the historical tradition of peace: "I express my deep gratitude to the Guernica-Lumo and Pforzheim City Councils, the Guernica Peace Museum, the House of Culture and the "Guernica Gogoratuz" Peace Research Center for being awarded the "Guernica Prize for Peace and Reconciliation" for my efforts to achieve peace between Azerbaijan and Armenia and to promote dialogue. It is a great honor to be awarded this prestigious award, which aims to keep alive the historical memory of the Guernica tragedy and to recognize people who have contributed to the peace and reconciliation processes. The presentation of this award on April 26, the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Guernica, has a special symbolic meaning. The brutal crime committed against the civilian population in Guernica 89 years ago is one of the most terrible and bloody pages of the last century.

The message of peace and reconciliation emanating from the history of the city of Guernica is of great importance for all peoples. The memory and experience of the peoples who experienced the bitter consequences of wars should be an important lesson for future generations to live in a more stable and secure world" [15].

In his speech, President Ilham Aliyev declared that the Azerbaijani people, who have experienced and cherished in their blood the Khojaly genocide and such grave national tragedies of the recent history of the Motherland as Guernica, are ready for Peace relations with Armenia.

"Currently, Azerbaijan is adapting to this new reality and living in an environment of peace. The general positive atmosphere, greater confidence in stability and security allow us to move forward and devote more time and resources to our development agenda. At the same time, we are taking steps to strengthen peace and turn it into practical action, and both our societies are already witnessing the real benefits of peace in the economic, trade and other spheres. Today, Azerbaijani oil products, grain and other products from third countries are already exported to Armenia through the territory of our country. Confidence-building measures between the two countries play an important role in establishing lasting peace. In addition to the steps taken at the state level, regular meetings between representatives of civil society make a positive contribution to this process.

The example of Azerbaijan and Armenia shows that despite long-standing conflict, suffering and mutual distrust, peace can be achieved when there is strong political will and international support".

Furthermore, as the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, specifically noted, the "Guernica Prize for Peace and Reconciliation" is not only a recognition of the achievements already achieved, but also an important inspiring stimulus and responsibility in terms of the common welfare of the international community and future steps to be taken for the sake of peace" [16].

Conclusion

Thus, in this article, while analyzing the PEACE policy pursued by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev in the Country, the Region, and the World, we

come to this objective-logical scientific conclusion that Mr. Ilham Aliyev, while distinguishing himself from world political leaders with his rational-professional position, strengthens the sovereignty, democratic, legal state image of Azerbaijan with his historically significant activities.

On November 8, 2020, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, our Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, issued the GOOD NEWS that our 10 million people, Azerbaijanis all over the world, and our Turkish compatriots have been waiting for for 30 years: “Today the Azerbaijani flag is waving in Shusha,” confirming both his great faith in Azerbaijan as the Turkish Conqueror of the 21st century and the Commander-in-Chief of Azerbaijan, and proving the extraordinary power of Azerbaijan, which draws strength from the unity of the State-nation in War, as in every field.

Under the constant attention and leadership of Mr. Ilham Aliyev, great constructive work has been carried out in our liberated Nagorno-Karabakh territories for 6 years.

In the modern era, every region of the Republic of Azerbaijan is decorated with the tricolor Azerbaijani flags. There are countless victory celebrations. The people accept the political leadership of Mr. Ilham Aliyev, which is the choice of their will. The Azerbaijani people expect their Leader, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, to solve another important event in the history of Azerbaijan - the problem of Western Azerbaijan.

All this gives reason to say that the identity, multiculturalism, Azerbaijaniness of nations and peoples united under one common sky is being accepted as a priority concept of state policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan and is confidently moving forward in the context of a new and sustainable philosophy of life, and this political strategy is of great importance in terms of history and modernity.

Of course, the source and basis of the MULTICULTURALISM, AZERBAIJANISM POLICY of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, is the principle of PEACE - SECURITY, which once again confirms that he is a strong world leader.

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