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## A PHENOMENON AHEAD OF HIS TIME – HEYDAR ALIYEV

### Dövrünü qabaqlayan fenomen - Heydər Əliyev

#### Xülasə

Tarixdə qalan liderlər var, amma tarix yaradan liderlər də var. Heydər Əliyev Azərbaycanın müasir tarixini yaradan, dövrünün əsl əfsanəsinə çevrilmiş lider idi. Tarix onu nadir lider, qüdrətli dövlət başçısı, fədakar insan, dövlət quruculuğunun çətin tarixi vəzifəsini öz çiyinə götürə bilən əfsanəvi şəxsiyyət kimi xatırlayır. O, görkəmli siyasət və dövlət xadimi, xalqın əvəzolunmaz lideri olmaqla canlı əfsanə idi. Heydər Əliyev unikal şəxsiyyət idi. Bir çox ölkələrdə Azərbaycanı əsasən onun sayəsində tanıyırdılar. Dünyanın görkəmli insanları, tanınmış siyasət və dövlət xadimləri onu Azərbaycanın qeyd-şərtsiz lideri, siyasət dünyasının patriarxı adlandırırdılar. Ona görə də Heydər Əliyev fenomeni daim diqqəti cəlb etmiş, dünya azərbaycanlılarının bu ümummillə liderinin heyranlıqla yüksələn siyasi fəaliyyəti həm respublika, həm də dünya mətbuatında geniş işıqlandırılmışdır.

*Açar sözlər: Heydər Əliyev, lider, Prezident, Azərbaycan, siyasi*

#### Summary

There are leaders who remain in history, but there are leaders who create history. Heydar Aliyev was the very leader who created the modern history of Azerbaijan, becoming a true legend of his time. The history remembers him as a unique leader, a powerful head of state, a selfless man, and a legendary figure able to take on his shoulders a difficult historical task of state building. Being an outstanding politician and statesman, indisputable leader of the nation, he was a live legend. Heydar Aliyev was a person of a planetary scale, in many countries Azerbaijan was known mainly thanks to him. Outstanding people of the world, famous politicians and statesmen called him the unconditional leader of Azerbaijan, the patriarch of the world of politics. Therefore the Heydar Aliyev phenomena always attracted attention, the admiration rising political activity of this nationwide leader of the Azerbaijanis of world was widely covered both in the Republican and world press.

*Key words: Heydar Aliyev, leader, President, Azerbaijan, statesman, political*

#### Introduction

Today, it is difficult to find a people in the world who would not have a national leader who played an exceptional role in their fate at the fateful and difficult stages of history, who formed the traditions of statehood. Leafing through the pages of the life of such leaders filled with meaning and content, you can get a clear idea of the traditions of statehood, history, the level of development of the peoples to which they belong. These genius personalities, with their high spiritual world, deep attachment to the highest universal and national ideals, and national interests, are erecting a grandiose monument for themselves in the hearts of millions. The place and role of each nation in history is determined by the extraordinary mission of a genius personality who, taking responsibility in a difficult political situation, played an invaluable role in its fate, wisely and with foresight, created traditions of stable statehood with its progressive ideas and extraordinary managerial qualities. Given by the Almighty, such chosen personalities create an optimal model of the state and traditions of political continuity on the basis of state thinking, political worldview, national values of their peoples, perfected over the centuries.

### **Heydar Aliyev – a living history**

The political portrait of the nationwide leader Heydar Aliyev, a bright and outstanding personality of our 20th century history, is a living embodiment of the state thinking of the Azerbaijani people, a unique management school that has honorably overcome the test of history, the most stable qualities of modern socio-political and philosophical thought. Historiography, as it studies the personality of Heydar Aliyev, essentially studies the historical past, the present of the independent Azerbaijan state, the process of state building carried out in our country.

Heydar Alirza oğlu Aliyev was born on May 10, 1923 in the city of Nakhchivan of the Republic of Azerbaijan. After graduating from the Nakhchivan Pedagogical College in 1939, he entered the Faculty of Architecture of the Azerbaijan Industrial Institute, but the beginning of World War II did not allow him to complete his education.

In 1941-1944, Heydar Aliyev worked first as the head of the secret part of the archival department in the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, and then as the head of the general department in the Council of People's Commissars of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic. In May 1944 he was sent to work in the state security agencies. After training in 1949-1950 at the School of Leadership Training of the USSR State Security Committee in Leningrad, he was appointed in 1950 as the head of the department in the State Security Committee of the Azerbaijan SSR. (Al-Falah Adil Abdullah/Heydar Aliyev and national-spiritual values/2007: 92)

In 1957 he graduated from the correspondence department of the history faculty of the Azerbaijan State University. In 1958 he was appointed head of the counterintelligence department of the State Security Committee, and in 1964 - deputy chairman of the KGB of the Azerbaijan SSR. (O.Bayramov/Chronicle of the victory of Heydar Aliyev and Azerbaijani chess/Baku/2018: 17)

In 1966, he successfully graduated from the Advanced Training Courses for the leadership of the KGB Higher School in Moscow. In 1967 he was appointed chairman of the State Security Committee under the Council of Ministers of the Azerbaijan SSR. In the same year he was awarded the rank of major general.

At the Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan held on June 14, 1969, Heydar Aliyev was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan.

Heydar Aliyev was a deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Supreme Soviet of the USSR for 22 years. In 1974-1979 he served as deputy chairman of the Council of the Union of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Elected in 1976 as a candidate member of the Politburo, and in December 1982 as a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Heydar Aliyev was appointed first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. In October 1987, in protest against the political course pursued by the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and personally by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, he resigned from his posts.

The day after the bloody tragedy perpetrated by Soviet troops on January 20, 1990 in Baku, Heydar Aliyev made a statement at the Azerbaijani mission in Moscow, in which he demanded to punish the organizers and perpetrators of the crime committed against the Azerbaijani people.

Returning to Azerbaijan in July 1990, Heydar Aliyev lived first in Baku and then in Nakhchivan. In the same year, he was elected a deputy of the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan. At the constituent congress of the New Azerbaijan Party held in 1992 in the city of Nakhchivan, Heydar Aliyev was elected its chairman.

On June 15, 1993, Heydar Aliyev was elected Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and on June 24, he began to exercise the powers of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In June 1993, Heydar Aliyev seeing misfortune of his nation returned to great politics in Azerbaijan. The people met the return of Heydar Aliyev with a hope and joy, and

this day went down the history of the independent Azerbaijan as the Day of National Salvation. Every citizen of the country knows that the national leader Heydar Aliyev was called by the people and took over the leadership of the country in the midst of the most difficult confrontations, when the threat to Azerbaijani statehood was impending. In the elections held on October 11, 1998 with high activity of the people, he won 76.1 percent of the vote and was re-elected President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. (Heydar Aliyev: Bibliographic reference/2003: 29). In practice, Heydar Aliyev managed to combine two fundamental concepts of the 20th century, "nation" and "personality", into one concept - a national leader.

The most important feature of the management of the national leader Heydar Aliyev was that Azerbaijan entered a new stage of its development in all spheres, in the true sense of the word, experienced a period of revival. Practically, not a single area of our life remained outside of his tireless, close attention and care, competence and control. The range of his activities was truly limitless. As a universally talented person, Heydar Aliyev was deeply, at a high professional level, versed in various spheres of spiritual and material life, which gave him the opportunity to successfully manage the socio-cultural development of the republic as a whole, including such areas as ideology, education, science, economics, art, law, international relations and other spheres of the socio-political system.

The merits of Heydar Aliyev in working out a strategy for the country's stable economic development, social cohesion and national unity are invaluable. Thanks to the national leader, Azerbaijan has its own path of state formation, which has entered the world political science as the "Azerbaijani path" of development. Thanks to the successfully implemented oil strategy of Heydar Aliyev, small Azerbaijan in the shortest possible time became one of the centers of world economic policy. The historic "Contract of the Century", the commissioning of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline, the Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum gas pipeline, the participation of our country in the largest fuel and energy projects, experts call the guarantor of eternal independence, and most importantly - a milestone of the sovereignty and democracy of New Azerbaijan. The invaluable contribution of Heydar Aliyev to the formation of Azerbaijani statehood and the stabilization of global processes, the establishment of peace in the Caucasus and the entire post-Soviet space have received deserved recognition throughout the world.

Heydar Aliyev devoted his political and diplomatic activities to changing the generally accepted judgments about Azerbaijan. It should be noted the merit of Heydar Aliyev in the implementation of the East-West project. In 1998, on his initiative, an international forum "Restoring the Silk Road" was held with the participation of the leaders of eight countries and delegations of more than thirty states. (The contract of the century – 10 years/ 2004 :16) This played an important role in strengthening the international image of Azerbaijan, in the intensification of its cooperation with Western and Eastern countries. The great leader played such a huge role in the life of his people and country, which will not be forgotten for centuries

If we look at today's Azerbaijan, we can boldly state that Heydar Aliyev was a man who saw his country for 20-30 years ahead. There is a famous parable that says that a man must do three things in his life: build a house, plant a tree, raise a son. Only then can his life be considered complete. Heydar Aliyev built a country - independent Azerbaijan, turned it into a blossoming garden, brought up a worthy successor who continued the country's path to progress and happiness of the political course.

In all spheres of his political activity, Heydar Aliyev relied on the principles of ensuring the protection and strengthening of the state independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He has always worked hard to build a strong, independent, legal state. "There is no more difficult road than the road of independence," the great leader understood, and yet he confidently led his people along this path, developing the social, economic, cultural and ideological spheres of society, while simultaneously solving foreign policy problems and problems of the country's national security. In 1999, the Board of Directors of the Cambridge International Biographical Center awarded Heydar Aliyev the title of "Outstanding figure of the 20th century" for pursuing a peaceful policy and a

great contribution to the development of democracy.(E.Akhundova/Heydar Aliyev - A Living History/2017: 447)

The activity of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation is also based on the idea of Azerbaijanism, which since its inception has been carrying out tremendous work aimed at promoting and developing the spiritual heritage and national culture of the people. The multifaceted activities of the President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO and ISESCO, First Vice-President of Azerbaijan Mehriban Aliyeva are aimed at disseminating the national and spiritual ideals of salvation in society and affirming in the public consciousness.

Over the long years that separate us from the era of Heydar Aliyev, much has been said about his deep intellect, phenomenal memory, strong-willed qualities, but the most powerful Aliyev weapon was the ability to talk with the people in such a way that each citizen perceived what was said as an appeal to him personally. A subtle psychologist and diplomat, he was able to capture the smallest nuances of the interlocutor's mood. The Azerbaijani language was in the center of Heydar Aliyev's special attention. He was firmly convinced that only "every nation is created by the native language."(S.Ayshan/National leader Heydar Aliyev and azerbaijan language/2011: 93). Heydar Aliyev was always sure that "in life everyone chooses fame or dishonor, personal well-being or social duty, greed or conscientiousness."(Heydar Aliyev: words of wisdom/2009: 284) He also made his choice. Being the undisputed leader of the people, he became a living legend during his lifetime, winning universal love and gratitude.

Another merit of this brilliant personality to the people is the upbringing of such a son as İlham Aliyev. As President İlham Aliyev himself said, he fulfilled his father's will, the greatest dream of National Leader Heydar Aliyev - the liberation of Karabakh from hated enemies, the occupying Armenians. The genius politician İlham Aliyev has successfully solved the Karabakh problem, which has become a "Gordian knot" for almost 30 years , with his wise and far-sighted policy in 44 days with the Patriotic War.

A political heavyweight, historian and philosopher, a brilliant orator who was able (as many of his political opponents note) to convince people of the correctness of his judgments with a single handshake. People who knew him said: "It was impossible to hide a secret thought under the gaze of this man. His handshake was so strong it left a long aftertaste." (Heydar Aliyev's policy: tolerance/2015: 386)Having come to power, Heydar Aliyev embodied in his creative and professional biography a whole strategy of new regional diplomacy. World leaders who are contemporaries of Heydar Aliyev, famous statesmen and political figures, writers have always had a high opinion of the great leader of our people: he was called an outstanding statesman, a giant of politics, a beloved leader of the Turkic world, an owner of a unique talent, a legendary personality. This assessment given to Heydar Aliyev evokes a sense of pride among the entire people.

*Russian President Vladimir Putin:* He was a great statesman. Without a doubt, we can say that he was a political lump. I treated him not only with great respect, I treated him with love. (Unforgettable meetings with Heydar Aliyev/2008: 73)

*Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan:* Heydar Aliyev was a famous and beloved leader not only in Azerbaijan, but throughout the entire Turkic world. He owns the statement "One nation, two states", which perfectly expresses the Turkish-Azerbaijani friendship. We must strive to ensure that the idea expressed in this wisest statement continues to live. In order to rejoice the spirit of the great Heydar Aliyev, we must strive to preserve and strengthen the unity and fraternal relations of the Turkic world. (Unforgettable meetings with Heydar Aliyev/2008: 67)

*Former US President George W. Bush:* I am delighted with the obvious leadership, courage, broad outlook and unique oratory of the world famous statesman Heydar Aliyev.( Together Towards the New Century: Official Visit of Heydar Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the USA : 27 July - 7 August 1997/1997: 108)

*President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev:* Heydar Aliyev was my close friend and one of my most respected politicians. Heydar Aliyev has done a great job both for the CIS countries and for his people. Future generations will give a true assessment of his services to his people. Although



it is very difficult for me to speak in the past tense about my dear and unforgettable friend, I must say that Heydar Aliyev, to his last breath, strove for the well-being of his people. (Unforgettable meetings with Heydar Aliyev/2008: 89)

"The merits of Heydar Aliyev in strengthening ties between our countries and the development of Azerbaijan are invaluable, I very well remember our meeting in July 1998 during his visit to the United Kingdom," - these words of *Queen Elizabeth II* testify to the phenomenal quality of Heydar Aliyev in building relations with people of any origin. (Unforgettable meetings with Heydar Aliyev/2008: 77)

### Conclusion

The personal authority of the outstanding politician became the main factor determining the country's confident entry into the international arena during the period of his leadership of independent Azerbaijan. Numerous meetings with world leaders ensured the success of the foreign policy of the newly created state. Everywhere he was greeted with respect, Heydar Aliyev's diplomacy conquered the world.

The great leader, as one of the outstanding personalities put forward by history, who rose through his activity over time and space, showed great dedication to ensure the sustainability of successes and achievements in the development of Azerbaijan. One of the most vivid examples of this is the preparation of a successor-follower who, worthily leading our country after a great leader, will ensure the sustainability of the successes achieved, will become the uncontested leader of the people. Today, the ideas of the national leader live and successfully develop thanks to the hard work and activities of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan İlham Aliyev.

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