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## ABOUT INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO THE RESEARCH OF HISTORICAL HERITAGE AS THE MULTICULTURALISM MODEL BASED ON ETHNOGRAPHIC-ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND EDUCATION- LITERARY SOURCES

**Abstract:** Based on the different academic sources, various scientific materials, publications the rich historical heritage of Azerbaijan in this scientific article for the first time have been systematically investigated as an important ethnographic-archaeological and education-literary springs.

**Key words:** Azerbaijan, scientific researches, Ganja, ancient heritage, ethnography, historical past, archaeology, innovative investigations.

**Language:** English

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### Introduction

As it is universally known, Azerbaijan has declared 2016 the Year of Multiculturalism, 2017 the Year of Islamic solidarity and amid the crises and tensions existing in the world. The national policy is considered by the government, the society of this country and, of course, their counterparts abroad as a best implement for building peace, stability and prosperity around the globe.

Secular Azerbaijan is a country of openness and tolerance, ready to maintain and develop the traditions of multiculturalism taking roots from the inter-religious and inter-civilization dialogue, and equal respect for the representatives of different religions, languages, cultures and races. Such mentality results in the launch of unique project which has had a serious impact on integration processes, for teaching the subject of Azerbaijani multiculturalism at the leading universities around the globe should be considered as a huge step towards a more global inter-cultural development. Young people who have scientific interests in Oriental studies have had an opportunity to get acquainted with the successful model of Azerbaijan's Multiculturalism, get to learn more about the heritage of this country, about its influence

on the world's literature, history, economics and geopolitics [3, 2290].

The subject of Azerbaijani multiculturalism has been taught at some most ancient and prestigious universities of Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Georgia, Russia, Czech Republic and Belarus.

These include:

1. The Sapienza University of Rome (the largest European university by enrollments (the third if considering also the distance learning schools) and one of the oldest in history, founded in 1303)
2. The University of Sofia (St. Kliment Ohridski) (the oldest higher education institution in Bulgaria, founded in 1888)
3. The University of Lisbon (the largest university in Portugal. The history of the university dates back to the 13th century.)
4. Charles University in Prague (the oldest and largest university in the Czech Republic)
5. The University of Augsburg (one of the new, modern universities in Bavaria founded in 1970. It offers a wide range of academic programs.)
6. The Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (founded in 1457 by the Habsburg dynasty, one of the oldest universities in Germany)



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7. Gadjah Mada University (it is the oldest and largest institution of higher education in Indonesia) and some others [2-5].

Having analyzed a lot of information on official web-sites of these universities, having used the web-sites of various news-agencies, I managed to follow the success of the campaign and the amazing results of the interaction between Baku International Multiculturalism Centre and the universities involved in co-operation.

Having studied the opinions of rectors, professors, the students, who were all involved in this project, and statistics, I came to the conclusion that this project brought about both closer integration between Azerbaijan and other countries, and also between research and higher education. Many students claimed that the issue of multiculturalism and the model of the latter in Azerbaijan had become one of their main scientific interests and they are planning to work on their PhDs using the knowledge and skills they had gained.

For me Azerbaijan's model of multiculturalism is not only the best national policy but also a huge area for research to build prosperity and stability. The comparatively new term "multiculturalism" is a wonderful issue to study for Azerbaijan's model proves to have been working for centuries already [7, 9137].

### Materials and Methods

Modern multicultural societies develop on the deliberate policy of multiculturalism based on the cultural strategies. The demonstration of this is a development of Azerbaijan Republic, where develop representatives of different nations, which integrate into the national culture of Azerbaijan. Rejecting of multiculturalism does not promise anything good, because this path leads through the development of disagreement, phobia, ethnic and religious conflicting of the world.

Multiculturalism is an important instrument of cultures and civilizations. It is impossible to respect and have a tolerant attitude to the representatives of other cultures without learning their nature, history and achievements. And it is far from the reality to have mutual understanding and establish a dialogue between cultures and civilizations in this case.

What is tolerance and multiculturalism? In fact, this means humanity. If we can attitude with humanity to the religion, culture and history of each other, it means that we live in multicultural societies.

Azerbaijan from this point of view can not only present their Multicultural Society, but also can be an example for the world in this field. In various countries in the world are trying to study the practice of multiculturalism in Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan is a country where coexist different religions. And the representatives of these religions have always lived in peace, friendship and cooperation.

All religious monuments in Azerbaijan restore. Atashkah (temple of fire-worshippers) in Baku is the historical past of the Azerbaijani people and it is a monument of Zoroaster (the founder of the religion of fire-worshippers) period. Along with the restoration of old religious monuments also built the mosques, synagogues and churches. Above-mentioned demonstrates the development of the Azerbaijani society; it is also an indicator of the state policy here.

So that Azerbaijan is a part of the Islamic world is located at the crossroads of East and West, and is considered as the largest Muslim republic in the Caucasus.

The people of Azerbaijan as well as other peoples of the Caucasus have always been loyal to his moral and religious values, and approach to their traditions with respect. In spite of the fact that the majority of the Muslim population of Azerbaijan composes Shiites, Azerbaijan is also home for members of other religions and different ethnic groups. Tolerance and respect to national minorities has been since ancient times, it comes from the time of the Great Silk Road to our times. And this attitude composes the foundation of our country. After acquisition of independence, Azerbaijan has increased the number of men and women from the national minorities who hold high positions in the government of Azerbaijan.

The incidents which happen during the destruction of the Soviet Union become a serious examination for religious and national tolerant traditions of Azerbaijan. In this period Armenians which occupied more than twenty percent (20%) of Azerbaijani territory realized a policy of ethnic cleansing which results by more than a million refugees in Azerbaijan.

Despite that representatives of civilian population were killed and expelled from their homes, a principle to live in peace and side by side is one of the main principles of Azerbaijan society. Even despite the fact that twenty years passed after the beginning of the war in Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijani society continues to maintain harmony between religious and ethnic groups.

Living together of Muslims and Jews in Azerbaijan can be a model for the whole world. The fact that the only Jewish settlement which is located outside of Israel called the Girmizi Gesebe (Red Town) located in Guba region of Azerbaijan regards as the pride for Azerbaijan. One more factor which unites Muslims and Jews of Guba region is a tragic incident happened in 1918-1919. At that time members of the Armenian nationalist party named "dashnaksitun" derives ruthless mass extermination of Jews and Azerbaijanis.

Azerbaijan people and the Islamic religion played an important role in preserving the culture of tolerance between different religions and ethnic groups up to date on this territory. Preservation of

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religious and ethnic tolerance in Azerbaijan up to this day is the result of the correct policy of the President of Azerbaijan Mr. Ilham Aliyev, who continues to sound policy of the national leader of Azerbaijani people Heydar Aliyev.

Taking into the consideration the importance of presentation of Azerbaijan, where multiculturalism becomes a style of life, to the world as an example more widely and for analyzing the models of tolerance of different countries was created Baku International Multiculturalism Center with decree of President of Azerbaijan Republic from date 15 may 2014 year.

The main direction of activity of the center is the development of intercultural dialogue and humanitarian affairs. The President of the Azerbaijan Republic declared 2016 year as a year of multiculturalism.

After the restoration by Azerbaijan Republic the independence status in our country has formed a new direction in the relationship between state and religion and also was created the legal base for the further development of religious tolerance in Azerbaijan. It should be noted that freedom of conscience and religion is reflected in the Constitution of Azerbaijan Republic. And 48<sup>th</sup> article of the Constitution of the Azerbaijan Republic is defined as follows:

a) Everyone enjoys the freedom of conscience.

b) Everyone has the right to define his/her attitude to religion, to profess, individually or together with others, any religion or to profess no religion, to express and spread one's beliefs concerning religion.

c) Everyone is free to carry out religious rituals, however this should not violate public order and contradict public morals.

In the era of globalization, information exchange and integration processes to engage by self-isolation can cause to self-defeating. Most countries in the world are multicultural countries. The representatives of different nations and different religions live for centuries in these countries. Friendly and fraternal relations between people of different religions are the base for the future development of all countries.

Architectural traditions of ancient and modern Ganja have an importance as the multiculturalism sample from the point of historic-cultural view. This city has more than 4000 years old and here there is one of the main and ancient historical monuments of Muslim East civilization – Imamzada tomb. This important monument is situated 7 kilometers from the city of Ganja, on the right shore of Ganjachai river. Imamzade complex is one the main symbols of Ganja city and important example of medieval architecture of Azerbaijan. At the present time, as one of the most valued places of pilgrimage of the Islamic world, Imamzade tomb-complex in Ganja is

a sacred place for local population, as well as pilgrims that come from different foreign countries. Imamzade mausoleum, situated in one of the ancient scientific and cultural centers - Ganja State History-Culture Reserve, was built in 739, on site of the grave of mevlana Ibrahim. Imamzade means “the descendant of imam,” “from the family lineage of imam.”

The historic monument of Ganja - Imamzade tomb-complex attracts the attention of a number of features from the point of multiculturalism view:

Ganja Imamzade is an important pilgrimage shrine. This place is visited by thousands of people every year. It should be noted that the number of visitors is increasing every year as well as foreign countries. Interesting fact is that non-Muslims are also among that memorial. The mausoleum, built around the grave of mevlana Ibrahim in the VIII century, was enlarged in the XIV-XVI centuries, and subsidiary buildings around it were erected in the XVII-XVIII centuries. The tomb is the most important part of the Imamzade complex. The height of the dome of tomb building is 12m, the height of cupola is 2.7m with diameter of 4.4m, covered with blue tiles. Another designation for Imamzade, also known as the Goy (Blue) Imam Turbe, according to different sources can be related to ancient belief of the Azerbaijanis to Goy Tanrı, from whom the Turkic dynasties claimed to be descended.

Ganja Imamzade is a very valuable, ancient epigraphic monument. The inscription on the monument of great importance and recordings are available. This historical monument is an important source of investigation of traditional ethnographic view of the valuable of Azerbaijan people, national and moral values. The area of Imamzade complex was included in the property of the descendants of Nizami Ganjavi, the great Azerbaijani poet and philosopher. Through the centuries, people carried and protected this sacred site. Ganja Imamzade have the value as an important source of research of the genealogical history of the people.

Thus, as a result of the analysis of ancient manuscripts and historical documents it was determined that, a prominent thinker and poet Nizami Ganjavi, as representatives of the owners of the private land owner of the monument over the long term and their graves have been preserved to this day in the cemetery near the monument Imamzade.

### Conclusion

According to the Degree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On measures to improve coordination and management of science and technologies development”, Committee for Coordination under the Cabinet Ministers launched aim to strengthen the science role in terms of social and economic development, creating favorable



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conditions for scientific, technological, and engineering activities as well.

Main tasks of the Committee are to coordinate scientific and technological development that includes the following substantial tasks:

to frame sustained directions of science and technological development considering contemporary scientific success, tasks of social and political, social and economic development;

to ensure coordination the activities of research institutes and institutions, design organizations, higher educational institutions of the ministries and departments, the Academy of Sciences for the implementations of the priority directions of science and technology;

to arrange effective system for monitoring of scientific research, scientific and technological programs of various branches of economics, industry and education;

to develop bilateral beneficial international cooperation in the scientific and technological area, to mobilize foreign investment into state's scientific sphere, to secure participation of scientific research organizations in international projects and programs;

The Decree defines basic aim of the state's scientific and technological policy of Republic as the, maintenance of scientific and technological elaboration securing technological renewal of economics branches, allowing domestic market to be filled with competitive products and services.

The main aim in terms of determining substantial directions of science and technology is to secure implementation of economical reforms and to expand technological level of economic branches. This aforementioned aim affects positively on the state progress rapidly (in 2-5 years) in accordance with state needs.

The most effective mechanism of determining stability is to coordinate scientific activity, as well as to unite existed forces towards the exact aim.

Aiming for implementing presidential decree 8 fundamental research programs including 417 projects for 2007-2011, 17 applied research programs containing 591 projects for 2009-2011, innovation program including 221 projects, as well as fundamental and applied researches for younger scientists containing 38 projects (2006-2008), fundamental and applied researches of the state scientific and technological program for younger scientists (2010-2011) including 62 projects hosted as the result of contests in six year period since the establishment of structure in National Academy of Sciences, in the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture and other ministries.

As it was mentioned above, to involve promised youth into scientific research and innovative activities is one of the urgent tasks.

The Presidential decree "On betterment certifying and training process of scientifically and pedagogically qualified personnel" (2012) and Act of the Cabinet Ministers "On postgraduate education and measurement of certifying and training process of scientifically and pedagogically qualified personnel" were adopted.

According to this structure coordinating activity of postdoctoral institutions is charged to the Committee for Coordination of Science and Technology Development.

Enrollment distribution on specializations of senior scientific personnel approved by Committee will be directed to the Ministry of Finance to finance from the state budget.

Undoubtedly, there exist enough issues which haven't been solved yet apart from the success in terms of the state scientific control and coordination system.

For instance, according to the scientific research results monitoring of 2012-2016, the scientific investigations are led in outdated instruments in majority scientific executive organizations.

The large-scaled scientific projects promoting to resolve problems in enterprises and economical branches have been constructed yet in terms of hosted scientific and technological programs of ministries and agencies, and the Academy of Sciences, as well. In this regard, it is important to establish beneficial cooperative mechanism between small-scale business organizations and enterprises, scientific research establishment, as well.

In order to overcome some unsolved issues:

-to learn demand of entrepreneurs and all customer for scientific investigation results alongside with Trade and Industrial chamber of Uzbekistan, to create information base on completed scientific investigation results, and to lead contests on innovation projects aiming at developing economical branch economically and socially while attracting distributional funds of entrepreneurs, small-scale business, private sector, economic subjects, ministries and agencies, as well;

-to elaborate regulations and suggestions protecting rights of intellectual property objects created by means of state budget funds, to launch engineering and consulting centers securing cooperation between science, education and industry, to enhance regulations of industrial and scientific parks.

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