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## FROM THE HISTORY OF CULTURE OF THE AZERBAIJAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

**Abstract:** This article characterizes the activities of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic in the 1918-1920s in the field of culture and art. The activity of the cultural life of Baku, as well as the formation of new trends in the theatrical art, is emphasized.

**Key words:** Azerbaijan, republic, culture, music, theater.

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### Introduction

In a short period of its existence, the government of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic (1918-1920) achieved high results in the field of culture, enlightenment, education.

The dynamic progressive development, carried out in such a short time in the economy, society, culture, society, was also stimulated by the fact that the end of the XIX - the beginning of the XX century was marked by a powerful educational movement.

Prominent Azerbaijani enlighteners professing democratic ideas have become leading figures in the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic.

Educational ideas, which manifested themselves so diversely and vividly at the turn of the 19th - 20th centuries, received their continuation and development in the historical period of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. Thus, the progressiveness and dynamics of culture during the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic is substantiated by a huge base of historical sources.

### Materials and Methods

The promotion of education and concrete active steps towards enlightenment were reflected in various aspects of culture.

During the period of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, training stage studios were actively

functioning in Baku. We emphasize the breadth of the educational process in this kind of stage studios. As an example, I will cite the program of one of the studios, which speaks volumes about the level of educational training:

1. Diction and recitation; voice production, correction of speech deficiencies, logical reading and artistic reading;
2. Practical exercises in mastering art, experiencing individual words and moods, passing roles in excerpts from dramatic works;
3. Director's class;
4. Plastic;
5. Conversations on the history of art and the history of theater in particular [2].

The cultural life of the period of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic was distinguished not only by highly professional staging of various kinds of performances. The so-called "Oriental Concerts" were popular. "Oriental concerts" were performances of musical numbers, excerpts from operas and musical comedies, etc., performance of folk songs and dances.

Performances and musical evenings were staged for charitable purposes, which especially clearly demonstrated the humanistic essence of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. Charity performances have become a tradition in the theater's

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activities and were announced in the "Azerbaijan" newspaper.

In 1918, the landmark historical drama Nadir Shah by N. Narimanov was staged at the Government Theater. The entire collection went to the families of the soldiers who fell near Baku.

To attract the public, the management of br. Hajibeyovs, the organizers of the performances invited the musicians who played between intervals - the Turkish orchestra and the sazandari. Moreover, the performances were enhanced by an exhibition - the sale of valuable things, the collection from which was also charitable. Let us also say that the desire to show their charity was the reason that donations from various persons were sent to the theater [3-5].

Not only the propaganda of the national artistic culture was encouraged, but also the staging of international performances. Thus, in the newspaper "Azerbaijan" the performances of such theaters as "Pel-Mel", "Smile", "Novosti" were announced.

A positive interpretation of such theatrical events was reflected in the leading publications of the Republic. So, about the opening of the Pel-Mel theater, the correspondent of the "Azerbaijan" newspaper wrote the following: "... we must welcome those small tasks that the leaders of the "Pel-Mel" theater have undertaken - to give the layman a part of a harmless rest in the evening, to snatch him - the layman - from the realm of "non-being" with a pun" [7].

The organization of the State Theater in Azerbaijan in 1919 was the brightest page in the cultural life of the ADR period. So on October 18, 1919, the ADR government, after hearing the report of the Minister of Education on the organization of the State Theater in the capital, decided to purchase the building of the Mailov brothers' theater in Baku (now the Azerbaijan State Opera and Ballet Theater) for this theater.

A special place in the theatrical life of Baku during the period of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic is occupied by the performances of works by the outstanding Azerbaijani composer Uzeyir Hajibeyli, carried out at the Government Theater.

It should be emphasized that the play of the actors who are part of the theater troupe and who perform roles in the operas and musical comedies of U. Hajibeyli was inspired by the ideas and aura that reigned in the country in the 1918-1920s.

It must be said that an international creative team was often represented in charity events. Thus, "Azerbaijani, Lezghin, Russian music sounded at the Persian evening at the Baku Public Assembly on

March 1, 1919. The evening was held with the direct participation of the Persian consul and was arranged in favor of the Persian gymnasium "Ittihad". According to the program, an artist of Muslim and Russian troupes took part in it, excerpts from well-known operas and operettas sounded" [11-14].

The national march "Azerbaijan", the song "The Black Sea was raging", written by Uzeyir bey Hajibeyli to the words of Ahmed Javad, are musical symbols of the ADR period.

### Conclusion

The Azerbaijan Democratic Republic has left a deep imprint on the historical memory of the people. The humanistic ideals proclaimed during the 23-month existence of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic have been concretely embodied in the development of the centuries-old national culture of Azerbaijan. Based on historical materials could say that, multicultural values have been one the main characteristics of Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. The importance of multiculturalism in Azerbaijani society is high. Multiculturalism creates in modern Azerbaijan the preconditions for a successful intercultural dialogue, allows us to rely on the positive trends of intercultural dialogue. Moreover, it is the guarantor of the unity and cohesion of society, since it ensures the equality of all citizens of Azerbaijan regardless of religion and ethnicity.

Let us formulate some relevant parameters of modern education in the Republic of Azerbaijan:

1. Clear definition of goals and strategic directions;
2. Adequacy to the relevant state priorities of national development;
3. Appeal to the experience of theory and practice of domestic and world culture;
4. Creation of universal models in the management, administration of the modern educational process;
5. Development of effective innovative programs that ensure high rates of development of national education;
6. Implementation of projects in which the use of the results of scientific and creative activities of the country's pedagogical elite is recorded;
7. Systematic training and education of personnel capable of serving in the interests of national development;
8. Development of programs with the definition of forecasts for the future development of Azerbaijan, taking into account national interests.

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