

The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies was established in November 2018 at the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the University of Warsaw by the Embassy of Azerbaijan and the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the University of Warsaw and with support of the Azerbaijan International Development Agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan

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## Welcome Message

**The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies announces the publication of the Centre's quarterly Newsletter with interesting materials on Azerbaijan's history and culture**

Dear Reader,

We bring to your attention the first issue of the "BULLETIN of the Centre for Azerbaijani Studies at the University of Warsaw". The Centre was inaugurated on November 26, 2018 at the Department of Turkish Studies and Inner Asian Peoples of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the University of Warsaw. Since then lectures on Azerbaijani culture and language, already held at the University of Warsaw, have been enriched by courses on the history of Azerbaijan. Since the Centre has been opened, over 200 students from various faculties of the University of Warsaw have attended lectures on the history of Azerbaijan regarding the history of Azerbaijan from ancient times until the Seljuk period, the medieval history of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan as a part of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan's foreign policy, as well as lessons on Azerbaijani culture and language. During this period, the Centre held lectures on the history and culture of Azerbaijan, not only within the University of Warsaw, but also at the Lazarsky University in Warsaw and at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies in Poland also holds open lessons for students, who participate in competitions on Azerbaijan, and publish articles in the journal of Baku State University. The Centre organizes academic events, round tables and seminars with Azerbaijani and Polish researchers, and also takes an active part in Polish scientific conferences. For the first year of its operation the Centre held three scientific conferences, two of which were international ones. For more information about our Centre and its scientific activities, please refer to our university website: <http://www.turkologia.uw.edu.pl/index.php/en/csa>. The conferences



help also to popularize Azerbaijani history and culture among researchers and students in Poland, as well as to attract the Polish audience to study our history and culture.

***Since the Centre has been opened over 200 students have attended lectures on history and culture of Azerbaijan***

The circle of colleagues wishing to cooperate with us is constantly expanding, as well as the number of students interested in the history and culture of Azerbaijan is increasing. Considering the interest shown in the activities of our Centre, we have decided to publish this Bulletin which will contain materials on Azerbaijani studies worldwide. Additionally, the Bulletin will also include announcements about Centre's academic events, scholarly publications, special issues of journals related to Azerbaijani studies, as well as bibliographies and bio-data of scholars.

Enjoy reading and we are looking forward to receiving your contributions!

# Powitanie

Drodzy Czytelnicy,

**P**redstawiamy pierwszy numer BIULETYNU Centrum Studiów Azerbejdzańskich (CSA) Wydziału Orientalistycznego Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego. CSA zostało otwarte 26 listopada 2018 r. jednak przedtem na Uniwersytecie Warszawskim były już prowadzone zajęcia z języka azerbejdżńskiego oraz wykłady z kultury Azerbejdżanu. Wraz z otwarciem Centrum uruchomione zostały również wykłady z historii Azerbejdżanu. Wykładowcy Centrum nie ograniczają się do Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, rozpowszechniają wiedzę na temat Azerbejdżanu również na innych polskich uczelniach i placówkach oświatowych. Ponadto, w ciągu swojej działalności Centrum organizowało liczne konferencje i seminaria naukowe dotyczące zagadnień z zakresu historii, kultury, literatury i życia społecznego Azerbejdżanu. Aby uzyskać więcej informacji o nas, zapraszamy na naszą stronę uniwersytecką: <http://www.turkologia.uw.edu.pl/index.php/en/csa>

W miarę rozwoju Centrum powiększało się grono koleżanek i kolegów chcących z nami współpracować, a także liczba studentów zainteresowanych historią i kulturą naszego kraju. W związku z rosnącym zainteresowaniem działalnością Centrum chcieliśmy jak najwięcej powiedzieć o naszej pracy, a przede wszystkim o Azerbejdżanie, jego dziedzictwie historycznym i kulturowym oraz o współczesnej sytuacji kraju. Dlatego postanowiliśmy opublikować ten Biuletyn, który będzie zawierał informacje o badaniach na temat Azerbejdżanu na świecie. Mamy nadzieję, że Biuletyn stanie się forum do popularyzacji badań, projektów naukowych oraz platformą do nawiązania kontaktów między badaczami z Azerbejdżanu i ich kolegami z zagranicy. Jesteśmy otwarci na materiały badawcze naszych polskich kolegów. Ponadto, w Biuletynie znajdują się interesujące aktualności dotyczące publikacji naukowych, specjalnych numerów czasopism związanych z badaniami nad Azerbejdżanem, informacje o konferencjach i innych wydarzeniach naukowych, bibliografie i biogramy uczonych.

Miłej lektury i zapraszamy do współpracy!



## Centre at glance



Photo exhibition organized by the Centre at the University of Warsaw during the International Conference "Black January in Azerbaijan – Suppression of Popular Uprisings in the Era of Communism" (February 2019)



Volunteer students in the Centre with Dr. Nargiz Akhundova

At the Conference "Azerbaijan - History, Society and Culture" hosted by the Centre for Azerbaijani Studies in November 2019 in Warsaw.



Participants and guests of the Azerbaijani-Polish Conference on "Crimes against Humanity: Experience of Azerbaijan and Poland in the 20th Century" organized by the Centre for Azerbaijani Studies in June 2019

Meeting with Azerbaijani scholars visiting the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the University of Warsaw



## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies commences collecting papers for the special issue of the International Journal "Orientalistica" published by the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences:

<https://www.orientalistica.com/jour/index>

## CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The State Pedagogical University of Azerbaijan announces the International Scientific Conference on "The Historical Knowledge and Impact on National Identity" which is to be held at the University in Baku, on November 12-13, 2020. All interested persons are invited to apply for enrollment by sending their abstracts to the e-mail [history.conference@adpu.edu.az](mailto:history.conference@adpu.edu.az). Deadline for receiving applications is September 1, 2020.

## CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS

The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies offers an opportunity to publish student articles in the journal of Baku State University "Türk dünyası gənc tədqiqatçılar dərnəyi" nin Araşdırmaları" ([http://history.bsu.edu.az/az/content/trk\\_dnyas\\_gnc\\_tdqiqatlar\\_drnyinin\\_aradrmalar](http://history.bsu.edu.az/az/content/trk_dnyas_gnc_tdqiqatlar_drnyinin_aradrmalar))

For any query please contact us at: [cas.office@uw.edu.pl](mailto:cas.office@uw.edu.pl)

Articles of students of the University of Warsaw were accepted by the board of editors of this journal and were published in May 2019. The article "Azerbaijan after 2014 - partial diversification of the economy" by Arnold Barański, representing Stowarzyszenie Młodych Przyjaciół Azerbejdżanu was among them.

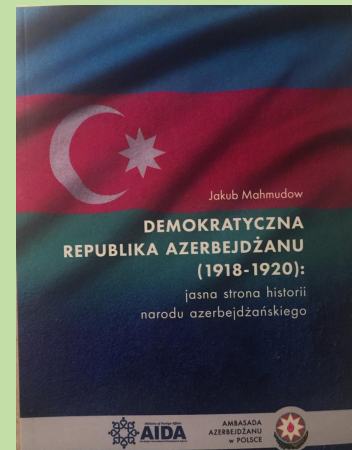
# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Currently a special issue of "Studia Wschodnioeuropejskie" entitled "Path to Independence", is being released. Most of the articles in this issue are based on the materials from conferences held by the Centre for Azerbaijani Studies. Among those materials there are research works of Dr. Ilqar Niftaliyev "Baku military operation in January 1990 as an attempt by the Soviet leadership to suppress the Azerbaijani national movement to protect the territorial integrity of the Republic", as well as "Kryzys władzy i etniczne przebudzenie. Zmiany kulturalne i społeczne w Azerbejdżanie w epoce Chruszczowa" (The crisis of power and ethnic awakening. Cultural and social changes in Azerbaijan during the Khrushchev era) by Dr. Shahla Kazimova as well as Dr. Paweł Stawarz's "Black Saturday - reaction of the West".

These papers were read during a conference entitled "Black January in Azerbaijan - Suppression of Popular Uprisings in the Era of Communism" organized by the Centre for Azerbaijani Studies under the honorary patronage of the President of the Institute of National Remembrance of Poland in February 2019 and in collaboration with the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies of the University of Warsaw. More detailed information on this conference can be found in the journal "KAWKAZ-Przeszłość-Teraźniejszość-Przyszłość", Instytut Historii Uniwersytetu Rzeszowskiego [No. 5, 2019, p. 270].

The same edition includes studies of Azerbaijani scientists who participated in the conference "Crimes against Humanity: Experience of Azerbaijan and Poland in the 20th Century" held on June 7, 2019 with the Head of the Institute of History of Azerbaijan of the National Academy of Sciences, academician Yagub Mahmudov as well as Jabi Bahramov, Irada Aliyeva and others. The book of Yagub Makhmudov "Demokratyczna Republika Azerbejdżanu (1918-1920): jasna strona historii narodu azerbejdżańskiego" published in Warsaw was launched at the same conference. Additionally, this issue also includes articles submitted by participants of the conference "Azerbaijan - history, culture, and society", held by the Centre in November 2019. Among the authors there are Dr. G. Agalarova (Counsellor, AIDA of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan) with her article "Cultural Diplomacy of Azerbaijan: serving to national interests", Dr. Jeyhun

Rzayev from the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy with his article on "Contribution of Universities of the Republic to the Socio-cultural progress of Azerbaijan", Dr. Aynur Bashirli from the National Academy of Sci-



ences of Azerbaijan with "Newspapers as the first draft of history" (The NYT coverage of Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict: 1988-1991), as well as the articles of Polish researchers Prof. Danuta Chmielowska (UW), Dr. Mariusz Ruszel, Dr. Andrzej Szabaciuk "Internally Displaced Persons in Azerbaijan Policy", etc.

The most active participants of this conference were our colleagues from the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow: Prof. Grażyna Zając "Man, time and place in the selected stories of Vagif Sultanlı", Dr. Silwia Filipowska "Azerbaijan in the Reportages of Turkish Writers of the 1960s" and others.

We are especially grateful to the Head of the Department of Turkology at this University Prof. Ewa Siemienieć-Golaś. Her studies on "Azerbaijan in the Eyes of Polish Travelers and Exiles to the Caucasus" and "Azerbaijan in the light of the descriptions from "Geographical dictionary" by Laurence Echard (1782)" are a valuable contribution to the development of the Azerbaijani studies and serve as a vivid evidence of the interest of Polish scholars in the history and culture of the Azerbaijani people and the continuation of this tradition, laid down by the founder of the Azerbaijani studies in Europe Tadeusz Świętochowski. This fact prompted us to open a permanent column in our bulletin - "Contribution of Polish scientists to the development of Azerbaijani studies".

## UPCOMING CONFERENCE

"AZERBAIJANI-POLISH RELATIONS"

*In commemoration of the Centennial of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Poland (1918-1920)*

On May 28, the Azerbaijani people celebrate the Republic Day. It is perhaps the most significant event in the history of the Azerbaijani people. On this day in 1918, an independent republic was



proclaimed for the first time on the territory of the Northern Azerbaijan, having founded a first and only then parliamentary government in the Muslim East. It lasted only 23 months. However, the history created during these months, the path traveled, as well as the political and cultural results of the accomplished deeds, became the property of the nation. At the origins of this state was a galaxy of more than 30 prominent thinkers, politicians, diplomats, and encyclopedists. For the Polish reader, this period is especially noteworthy in that, along with Azerbaijani democrats, a number of Poles took an active part in the formation of the ADR government: Stanisław Wąsowicz (1888 -1937) was a parliament member of Azerbaijan, Walerian Kleniewski served as the Minister of Social Security in the 4th Government of ADR, Maciej Sulkiwicz (1865 - 1920) was the Chief of Staff of the Army of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan and Poland are linked by long-standing historical traditions, since the Polish diplomats were involved in mediation between the Aqqoyunlu state and Western European countries. However the period of the late 18th to the early 19th century ushered in a new and dramatic stage in the history of Azerbaijani and Polish people, which was largely due to the loss of country territorial integrity. For Azerbaijan, this loss was reflected primarily in the fate of a nation divided into two parts. As for Poland, this historical period resulted in a loss of statehood until 1918. 100 years ago the first diplomatic relations between ADR and Poland were es-

# In service of Motherland

## In commemoration of Azerbaijani officers who served in the Polish Army

On June 26, 1918 by a resolution of the government of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic (ADR), the Muslim Corps was renamed to Detached Azerbaijan Corps. This decision was the legal basis for the creation of the armed forces of independent Azerbaijan. Polish general Maciej Sulkiwicz was appointed as a Chief of Staff of the Army of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In May 1920, after the overthrow of the ADR, General M. Sulkiwicz was arrested. On 15 July he was shot for "counter-revolutionary activities." According to the memories of a person who was with him in the Bayil prison of Baku, the last words of General Sulkiwicz were as follows: "... I am happy that I am dying as a soldier of the Azerbaijani army. Farewell!"

After the suppression of the ADR by the Red Army Azerbaijani democrats conducted negotiations with the Polish government regarding the employment of the Azerbaijani officers into the Polish Army. As a result of it, the first Azerbaijanis serving in the Polish army from 1924 were the following officers: Vali Bay Yadigar, Israfil Bay Mammad [in some sources "Israfil Bay Israfilov"], Jahangir Bay Kazim, Hamid Bay Mammadzade, and Kazini Bay Safaroglu. Among them, Velibey Jadigar dis-



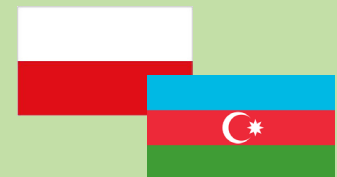
tinguished himself with the greatest military services to independent Poland. In 1932, he graduated with honors from the Higher Military Academy of the Polish Army. From 1936 he served as the deputy commander of the 7th Lublin Ulan regiment. In spring of 1945, Vali Bay Yadigar in the rank of the colonel, was sent to the headquarters of the 2nd Polish Corps in Italy.

The monuments commemorating the Polish decent general Maciej Sulkiwicz, Chief of General Staff of the National Army of Azerbaijan (1918-1920) and Vali bey Yadigar, colonel of the Polish Republic Army were erected on the personal initiative of H.E. the Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Poland Mr. Hasan Hasanov in the Józef Poliński Park in Warsaw in September 2017.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

established. On 13th February 1920, Polish Foreign Minister Stanisław Patek sent a telegram to the Government of Azerbaijan on the actual recognition of the Republic of Azerbaijan. At that time Fatali Khan Khoysky was the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan. This historic event formed the basis of a scientific conference dedicated to the Centenary of recognition of Azerbaijan's first independence by the Polish government in 1920, which at the initiative of H.E. the Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Poland Mr. Hasan Hasanov will be held by the Centre and the date of which will be announced in September 2020. Majority of the conference participants have

been already enrolled. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and continuation of quarantine restrictions those who would like to participate in the conference can still submit their academic papers.



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# Our Milestones

On November 14th, 2019 the Centre hosted the scientific conference titled "Azerbaijan – History, Society and Culture"

## November 2019

On October 14, 2019, the Centre for Azerbaijani Studies organized a scientific seminar on "Diasporas and Ethnic Minorities in Poland and Azerbaijan".

## October 2019

Azerbaijani-Polish Conference on "Crimes against Humanity: Experience of Azerbaijan and Poland in the 20th Century" was organized and held by the Centre in the UW

## June 2019

The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies was one of the organizers of the "Azerbaijan - Pearl of the Caucasus" event held on April 9, 2019 at the Lazarski University in Warsaw.

## April 2019

International Conference titled "Black January in Azerbaijan – Suppression of Popular Uprisings in the Era of Communism" was organized by the Centre in the University of Warsaw.

## February 2019

The Centre, together with the Center for Multiculturalism in Warsaw, organized a joint event on the topic "Politics of Multiculturalism and Tolerance in Azerbaijan."

## December 2018

The Centre for Azerbaijani Studies was established at the University of Warsaw and solemnly inaugurated on November 26th, 2018.

## November 2018



The Maiden Tower is an ancient monument in the Old City, Baku