ADAlılar

ADA School Magazine

THE REAL DREAMLAND
By Nuray Ismayilova

JANUARY 2021

SHUSHA
By Aylin Baktashi

KARABAKH CUISINE

LETTERS TO SOLDIERS
By ADA School students

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ADA

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COVER PAGE: ***Hajar Naghiyeva, ADA School alumni***
PHOTO BY: ***Shabnam Gahramanova***

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FROM THE EDITOR

SAMIR JAVADOV

Dear reader,

If you are holding this magazine in your hands and flipping its pages, that means we have met again. Here we are - with our new team, new contributors, new ideas, and new impressions. We have so much to share with you!

We won a tremendous victory and liberated our historical lands after thirty years of occupation. We were starving for this victory. We lost thousands of our heroic soldiers. We lost so many brave and pure hearts, full of love and care to our Motherland. They wrote a history of our great nation with their blood. We pay a tribute to our heroes. Everyone has their part in this victory. School students contributed with their care and support to those on a frontline, and to their families. You have probably noticed that this issue of ADAlılar is mainly devoted to Karabakh, its liberation, and things related to this historical event.

The school was switched to online learning mode since we have been fighting with another invisible enemy - COVID 19 for almost a year. However, we managed not only to stay safe and healthy, but also we finished the first semester with excellent grades. Yes, studying online has its big disadvantages. But is it that can stop us from learning everyday something new?

The school has grown up and almost doubled in size since our last meeting. Many new students have joined our ADA family. We are getting bigger, stronger and smarter. What is more important – now we know that when we really want something, when we believe in our strength and union, nothing is impossible to achieve.

This release of ADAlılar is just a little proof that our students can evolve the most with every challenge. Each member of ADAlılar editorial board was a real team player and also excelled as an individual.
Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition!

S.Javadov

Samir Javadov
Editor-in-Chief

Ilham Kerimli
Co-Editor

Dear reader, I know that you have been waiting for this release. All of us were, but before we needed to idealize everything. In this edition you will be able to read many fascinating poems, stories about past and present of our country, our Motherland - Karabakh, Student Council activities, and other stories from our talented columnists. I hope you will enjoy reading this magazine!

Rumiyya Huseynova
Co-editor

This semester we all went through roller coaster of emotions. However, there is a relief after every hardship. As 44 days long war started, I was yet again astonished by the unity of our nation. We, as a team decided to dedicate our magazine mainly to the Karabakh theme. Hope you enjoy reading as much as we enjoyed collaborating and creating the magazine!

Elmira Babayeva
Creative Director

Undeniably, 2020 turned out to be a difficult year. At some point, probably, everyone thought that it was like a nightmare that would not end, but, as it turned out, there is a huge thing to thank it for.
Who would have thought that today we will celebrate a lifelong dream? And all thanks to our brave, fearless soldiers who went into battle even knowing about death, but with a song and a smile on their face. Never forget the experience of all these years, the fallen brave sons cannot be resurrected, but you can make it all a flame that burns hot in your soul and in your eyes, which will illuminate the path leading to Karabakh far! Thank you very much to everyone who made this possible!

Aylin Ismayilova
International Affairs Director

Dear Students! As we wrap up this semester, I, as the international relations director, present you this issue of the ADAlilar magazine. As I read through the articles our talented classmates put their hard work and effort in, I am filled with gratitude. Taking part in this project alongside the great co-editors and creative director has been a very pleasant experience. I hope you enjoy and look forward to our future projects!

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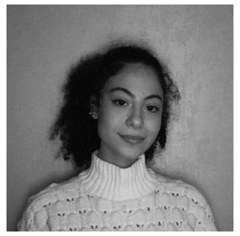
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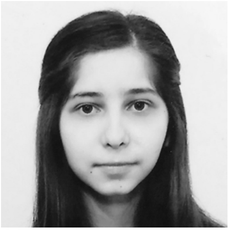
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KARABAKH

is

Azerbaijan

Vafa Kazdal

ADA WRITES HISTORY

«You need to be an ordinary person, but worthy for your country»

Our co-editor Ilham Karimli met with Vice Rector of ADA University Mrs. Vafa Kazdal, and asked some questions about the «ADA Writes History» project.

Ilham: Dear Vafa xanim, we all know how busy you are, especially at this time of the year. First of all, I would like to thank you very much for finding the time to talk to us. As an editorial board of ADAlilar Magazine, we would be very happy if you could answer some of our questions regarding the ADA Writes History Project. We are very aware that you recently initiated this project and many students from both school and university supported this idea and took part in this great project. So, my first question is that, how did you come to this idea to organize ADA Writes History project.

V.K.: In my turn, I want to thank you for initiating this interview. Even the fact that you want to interview me, already says a lot about the value of the project, and how much students appreciated this project. There are several factors that came together very nicely. Firstly, I think I wrote in my e-mail is that I was receiving a lot of e-mails from the students when the war started. Every student was telling his or her story, the reasons why they couldn't join the lessons, but I was reading them as stories because one student was writing that "I am in Barda", another student was writing that "I am close to Fizuli", the third one "I am in Terter", "I am hearing the bullets, rockets, I can't join to the lessons. Please stop the classes!". So, I was thinking that these are the stories of these young people. I wasn't looking at them as e-mails', but as interesting stories. And then, we had a 2-weeks break, because of the war and restrictions imposed by the government, so we couldn't continue the classes. Rector Pashayev and I were thinking about how to keep the kids busy and not to stay disconnected from education, so come to this idea. The next important reason is that I have always liked the education that is not linked to grading, self-motivated education. And I remember that it was the weekend time, and we announced that the classes are stopped. After that, I also remember that Rector asked me: "Why didn't you write the letter?"because usually, I write the letters. I said that: "I don't know. I just didn't feel writing, because I couldn't write to the students that we have to stop the education." He said to me that I should write the letter and should explain what the students should do, that they should continue self-studying, self-work. So, it was the weekend time, and I suddenly put together the whole puzzle. I remembered the stories, non-graded education, and the situation, and very quickly came to this idea, by putting everything together. I put everything together basically in one day, then shared it with my colleagues, they all loved this idea. On Saturday and Sunday, I worked on it, and on Monday (the first day when the classes stopped), I have already announced this initiative.

Ilham: We also liked this project very much, as most of the students did. I also want to ask, how were you able to realize the project? What was the most difficult part for you?

V.K.: This is actually very good question. I think that everything went smoothly with this project, and I didn't experience any difficulties. I know why. The main reason is that I had a lot of people supporting me. I felt students' support, but internally, if you remember I shared the idea with others. So, by sharing the idea with others and collecting their feedback, I kind of created

the union, found my allies, so the support that I had was very important in making the project successful. I had the support of many people, including the Rector. Finding your allies, getting the help and support from needed people, and making them believe in the project and its mission will all contribute to the success. The difficulty for me right now is to sustain the project, to continue students' love for writing and creativity. I am currently thinking about what else we can do so students continue in the same manner: they don't stop writing, observing, analyzing, paying attention, discovering, and then put it to writing.

Ilham: I also want to inform you that the students are waiting for your other project! As I remember, in the first session regarding ADA Writes History project you mentioned that we can write something emotional, for example: about our Shahids, about the children in the attacked zone. So, my question is that were there any stories, publications or posters that made you cry?

V. K.: Yes. Several stories made me cry. So far, my favorite story has been the story by Susan Garashli, which made me cry. This is very simple story, but it is a true story. Then, there is a poem with music by Nuray Ismayilova. It is the mixture of everything: music, poem, that made me also cry. But it made me cry not because the story was that, but it made me cry because of the talent of Nuray. So, the same I think with Susan. It is actually not the stories that made me cry, but it is the talent that I see in our young generation. I think this is the cry of happiness. I think that is one of the best parts of this project, to be able to discover the talents. I also liked the majority of poems. The poster with the girl and flag, I plan to put as my profile picture in my e-mail. So, when I distribute e-mails', she sees her poster in my e-mail. I think that this poster was a very good one. There is also very interesting digital story by the school student. The story is about her grandmother from Shusha. It is Aylin Bektashi's story, that is a really good one. Then, Vagif Muellim wrote a very good story.

Ilham: Thank you very much Vafa x-m. You mentioned that you had recognized some talented people in our school, and I want to ask, do you remember yourself in our age? In 15, 16, 17 years? And in your opinion, are there any differences between the generations?

V. K.: That is a very good question. Definitely, there is a difference! You are very lucky generation because when I was your age, I don't remember anybody at school who thought about us, as much as we think about you! So when I was in school, I think people didn't think about creating those conditions for creativity and hard work. Another difference is that; we were hungry for such kinds of competitions, contests. We tried to use every opportunity, although the opportunities were very limited. But in your case, I don't see the same activeness, hunger to participate, to discover yourself. Another major difference is that in my generation we lost Karabakh, but in your generation, we returned and won Karabakh, which is

the biggest difference between the 2 generations. Probably, we should be the proudest nation in the world, because it is really difficult and rare to return the territories, that you once lost. So, our head should be always up!

Ilham: What would you recommend to ADA School students to do, to make the future of our country brighter?

«Enjoy your school life, and then your university life. This is very important!»

V. K. Well, to be a student that would do something bright for his or her country, you don't have to be an extraordinary person. You need to be an ordinary person, but worthy for your country. So, this is the first thing that I can tell you. Don't think that an only extraordinary person may make his or her country brighter, but usually, just ordinary people without any ego do such big things for their country. But since you are in school, your university life is ahead of you, and then your graduate program is ahead of you. So, probably, I should tell you what you need to do in your studies. Don't think that everything is about grades, and don't study for grades, don't for the piece of paper. I think this is project is actually the best example, that what matters is the process because what you like in this whole thing is the process. You submit the paper, somebody reads the paper, somebody gives you feedback, you rewrite the paper, you submit it again, then you see it on the blog, so this is what is the process called. Is it about your inner motivation? You see, if you have your inner motivation, it may bring you to success. You need to self-motivate yourself. Self-motivation is discovering, it is curiosity, it is sharing with others. So, look at education as the process, that is motivated by your teachers from one side, but most importantly motivated by you. Grades will come. I always tell, students who enjoy the process, their grades are usually good, because they relax, they don't think a lot about the grades. But those, who are obsessed with grades, either have psychological problems or their grades are not good. Enjoy your school life, and then your university life. This is very important!

Ilham: Thank you very much for your advice, dear Vafa xanim. We hope that the pandemic will be over soon, and we will be able to return to the campus. Thank you very much for your time and interview!

Photos by Fatima Khubyarova, ADA School (10A2)

THE REAL DREAMLAND

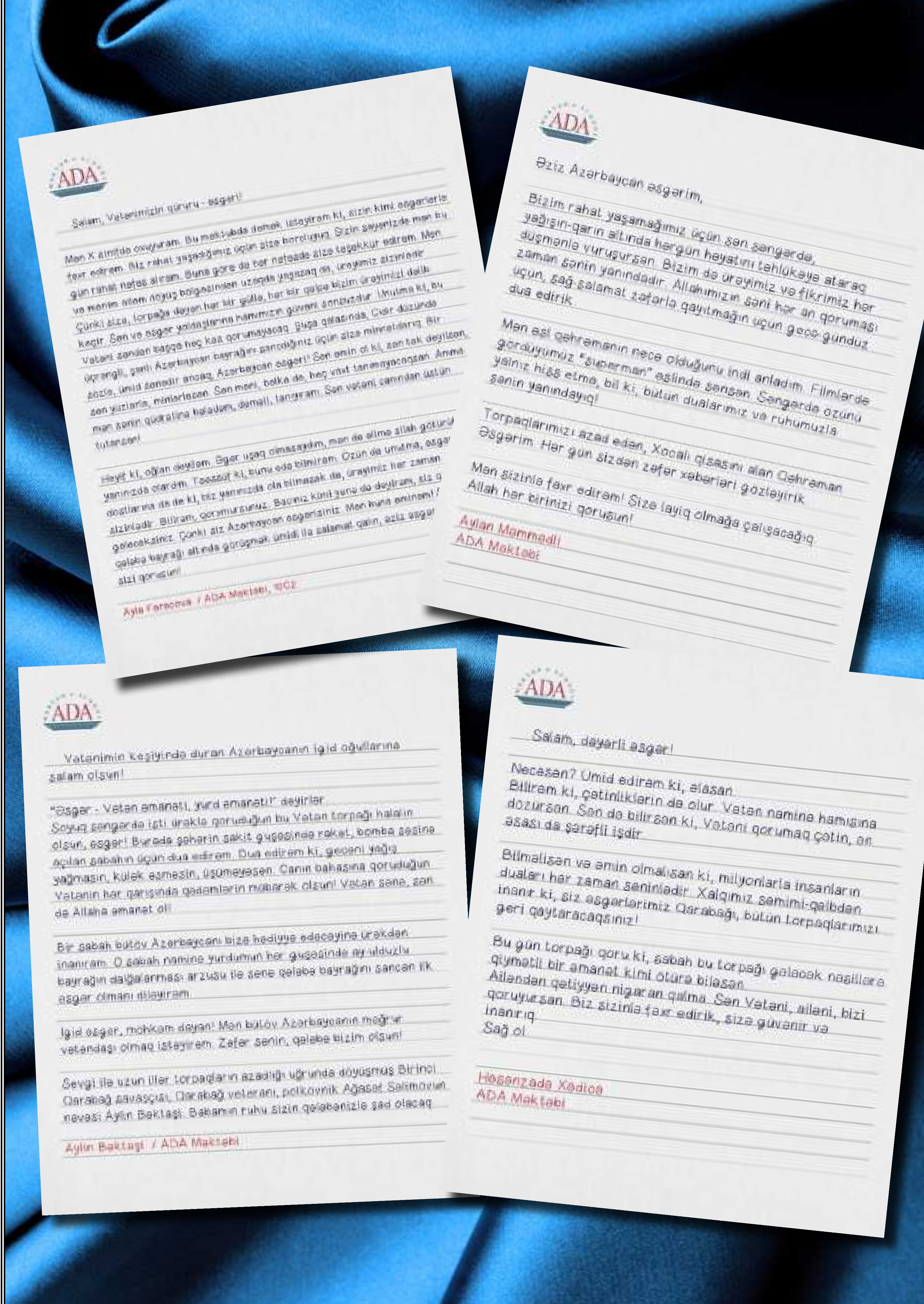
The country where I was born,
Is free and warm.
Like an abode full of fulgent,
Like a poesy with boundless words.
The country where I was born,
Is like a mother, who wants her child to return.
Feels a whisper of mugham,
Wants a sight of khantirma,
Lives with an echo of mournful kamancha…

Wait for me Karabakh, wait for us!
The country where I was born,
Is always there for us!
Let our history ends with a happy beginning,
Let the martyrs live in peace.
When the love lives without fear,
Victory is a headline for us.

We will end the tears of families up.
End the poor kids' death cause of the bomb.
Cries of nannies, screams of siblings,
The burnt teddies in toddlers' arms…
It will all end.
End with a happy beginning.
See my KARABAKH!
Feel my lack.
Live my KARABAKH!
Be back in your land!

Nuray Ismayilova

ADA School (11A1)



Salam, Vətənimizin qüruru - əsgər!

Aylə Fərəcova / ADA Məktəbi, 10C2

Əziz Azərbaycan əsgərim,

Bizim rahat yaşamağımız üçün sən səngərdə, yağışın-qarın altında hərgün həyatını təhlükəyə ataraq düşmənlə vuruşursan. Bizim də ürəyimiz və fikrimiz hər zaman sənin yanındadır. Allahımızın səni hər an qoruması üçün, sağ-salamat zəfərlə qayıtmağın üçün gecə-gündüz dua edirik.

Mən əsl qəhrəmanın necə olduğunu indi anladım. Filmlərdə gördüyümüz "superman" əslində sənsən. Səngərdə özünü yalnız hiss etmə, bil ki, bütün dualarımız və ruhumuzla sənin yanındayıq!

Torpaqlarımızı azad edən, Xocalı qisasını alan Qəhrəman Əsgərim. Hər gün sizdən zəfər xəbərləri gözləyirik.

Mən sizinlə fəxr edirəm! Sizə layiq olmağa çalışacağıq. Allah hər birinizi qorusun!

Aylan Məmmədli
ADA Məktəbi

Vətənimin keşiyində duran Azərbaycanın igid oğullarına salam olsun!

"Əsgər - Vətən əmanəti, yurd əmanəti!" deyirlər. Soyuq səngərdə isti ürəklə qoruduğun bu Vətən torpağı halalın olsun, əsgər! Burada şəhərin sakit guşəsində raket, bomba səsinə açılan sabahın üçün dua edirəm. Dua edirəm ki, gecəni yağış yağmasın, külək əsməsin, üşüməyəsən. Canın bahasına qoruduğun Vətənin hər qarışında qədəmlərin mübarək olsun! Vətən sənə, sən də Allaha əmanət ol!

Bir sabah bütöv Azərbaycanı bizə hədiyyə edəcəyinə ürəkdən inanıram. O sabah naminə yurdumun hər guşəsində ay-ulduzlu bayrağın dalğalanması arzusu ilə sənə qələbə bayrağını sancan ilk əsgər olmanı diləyirəm.

İgid əsgər, möhkəm dayan! Mən bütöv Azərbaycanın məğrur vətəndaşı olmaq istəyirəm. Zəfər sənin, qələbə bizim olsun!

Sevgi ilə uzun illər torpaqların azadlığı uğrunda döyüşmüş Birinci Qarabağ savaşçısı, Qarabağ veteranı, polkovnik Ağasəf Səlimovun nəvəsi Aylin Bəktaşi. Babamın ruhu sizin qələbənizlə şad olacaq.

Aylin Bəktaşi / ADA Məktəbi

Salam, dəyərli əsgər!

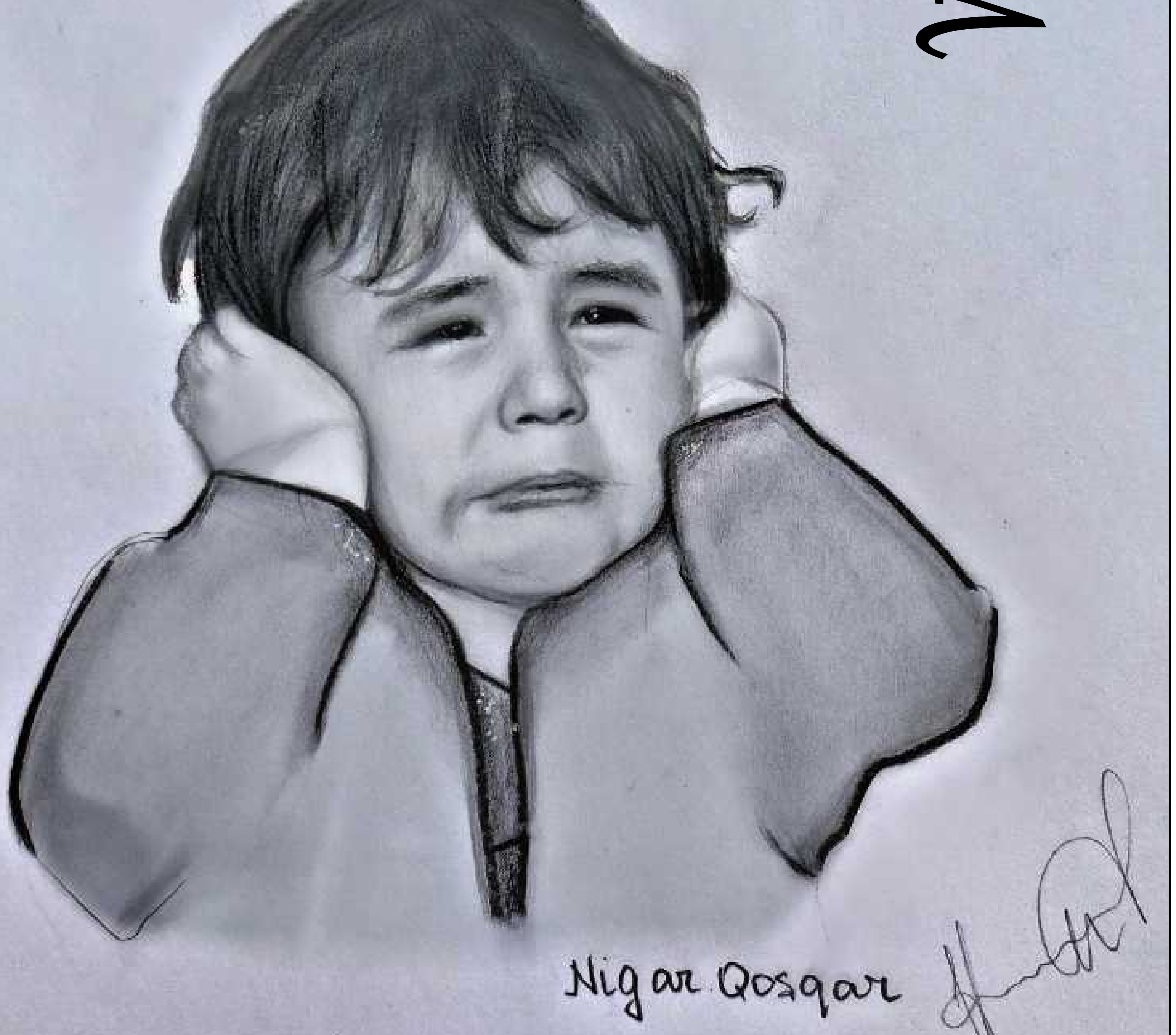
Necəsən? Ümid edirəm ki, əlasan.
Bilirəm ki, çətinliklərin də olur. Vətən naminə hamısına dözürsən. Sən də bilirsən ki, Vətəni qorumaq çətin, ən əsası da şərəfli işdir.

Bilməlisən və əmin olmalısan ki, milyonlarla insanların duaları hər zaman səninlədir. Xalqımız səmimi-qəlbdən inanır ki, siz əsgərlərimiz Qarabağı, bütün torpaqlarımızı geri qaytaracaqsınız!

Bu gün torpağı qoru ki, sabah bu torpağı gələcək nəsillərə qiymətli bir əmanət kimi ötürə biləsən.
Ailəndən qətiyyən nigaran qalma. Sən Vətəni, ailəni, bizi qoruyursan. Biz sizinlə fəxr edirik, sizə güvənir və inanırıq.
Sağ ol.

Həsənzadə Xədicə
ADA Məktəbi

YOUR PEN
IS YOUR
Voice



I am Nigar Mammadova, 10A1 student of ADA School. This is my drawing of little two-year-old Nilay, who lost her parents when Armenians attacked the city of Ganja in September 2020. Other families also died that frightful night. Don't forget Nilay. Don't be silent. Open your eyes. Karabakh is Azerbaijan.

Qızım, sən fəxr edə bilərsən ki, sənin nənən Şuşalıdır!

1992-ci ildə mayın 8-dən 9-a keçən gecə Azərbaycanın gözmuncuğu olan Şuşanı ermənilər işğal etmişdilər. Qonşularımız torpaqlarımızı ələ keçirmişdi... Yalnız hər zülmün bir sonu var. 2020-ci il Noyabrın 8-də Şuşa müzəffər Ordumuz tərəfindən azad edildi.

Babam həmişə Qarabağın gözəlliklərindən danışardı. Axırıncı dəfə Şuşada döyüşmüşdü. "Şuşa zirvədir hansı ki, o zirvənin ucalığından sanki dünya ovcunun içindəymiş kimi görünür" deyə xatırlayardı.

Uzun müddət Şuşada yaşamış nənəmlə xeyli söhbətdən sonra, belə bir məqalə yazmaq fikrinə gəldim. Aşağıda yazılanlar nənəmin dilindəndir.

Atam İsa Məmmədov məşhur Qarabağ nəsillərindən biri olan Qavarellilərdən, anam isə Qarabağ xanlığının ən məşhur adamı olan tacir Hacı Qulu Qarabağinin nəslindəndir. Şuşa xatirələri məni uşaqlığıma, həyatımın ən gözəl və sevinc dolu günlərinə, atamın və anamın mənim yanımda olduğu anlara aparır.

Şuşaya yayda gedər, orada istirahət edərdik. Hər dəfə gedəndə İsa bulağına, Daşaltına, Ərimgəldiyə, Cıdır düzünə və Turşsuya gedərdik. Şəhər mədəni ocaqlarla zəngin idi. Azərbaycanın ən məşhur adamlarını şəhərin mərkəzində görmək olardı. Şuşa camaatı çox mehribandır. Bakıdan gələnləri görəndə hamı çox sevinər, yad adamları belə evinə qonaq çağırarlar. Şuşa həmçinin bir mədəniyyət mərkəzi idi. Yazıçılar, şairlər, bəstəkarlar şəhərdə görüşüb bir-birləri ilə maraqlı söhbətlər və zarafatlar edərdirlər.

Şuşada ata evimiz və ana evimiz olsa da, nəslimizə aid saraylar da var idi. Ana soyumun evi Şuşada ən böyük və əzəmətli memarlıq abidəsi olan Hacı Qulunun Sarayıdır. Həmin sarayda 46 otaq 4 mərtəbə və 2 böyük zal var idi. Ən möhtəşəm tədbirlər bu sarayda təşkil edilirdi. Burada Xan qızı Xurşidbanu Natəvanın toyu keçirilmiş, Aleksandr Dyuma və məşhur rəssam, Vereşagin qonaq qalmışdı. Bu saray təkcə ailəmiz üçün deyil, Qarabağ xanlığı üçün də əhəmiyyətli idi. Hacı Qulu Qasım bəy Zakirlə, Cəfərqulu xan Nəvayla, Xurşidbanu Natəvanla yaxın dostluq etmişdir. Saraya məşhur adamlar gələr, tacirlər, səfirlər qonaq qalar, şair və muğam ustalarının iştirakı ilə məclislər qurardılar. Mən atam və anamla hər Şuşaya gələndə həmin sarayın həyətində oturar, söhbət edərdik, nənələrimizi və onların maraqlı əhvalatlarını yada salardıq.

Ata və ana soyumuz Şuşada ən hörmətlilərdən idi. Rusiya çarları onların bəy olmalarını tanıyır, onlara hörmət edir, onların mülkiyyətində olan evlərə, fabrik və əkin sahələrinə toxunmazdılar. SSRİ Hökuməti dövründə isə, nəslimizin ən parlaq nümayəndələri tutulur, qalanları sürgün edilir, mülk və torpaqları əllərindən alınır, 1920-ci ildən etibarən ata və ana nəslimiz hər şeyi sıfırdan başlamalı olurlar. Qavarellilərin evi çoxuşaqlı ailələrin evinə, sonradan uşaq evinə, Hacı Qulunun Sarayı isə əvvəl tikiş fabrikinə, sonra muzeyə çevrilir, həmin ev Üzeyir Hacıbəyov haqqında bədii filmdə göstərilir.

Hacı Qulu Sarayı sənaye istifadəsi üçün yaramırdı, tədricən bünövrəsindən və divarlarından çat verməyə başladı və tam yararsız hala düşdü. 70-80-ci illərdə demək olar ki, tam boşaldıldı və istifadəsiz qaldı. 1992-ci ilin 8 may tarixində Şuşa ermənilərin işğalına məruz qaldı. Bu 28 il ərzində ermənilər sarayı mərmi atəşinə tutmaqla tamamilə dağıtdılar. Evin bəzəkləri, daşları və içindəki əşyaları mənimsədilər.

8 Noyabr 2020-ci il tarixində Ali Baş Komandan Şuşanın azad olunması xəbərini bizimlə bölüşəndə birinci gözlərimin qabağına Hacı Qulu Sarayı gəldi, həmin xəbərdən sonra gözlərimdən sevinc göz yaşları dayanmadan axır. Çünki bu qələbəni bizə cavan-cavan uşaqlar canları bahasına qazandılar, şəhidlik zirvəsinə yüksələrək bizə vətənimizdə rahat yaşamağı bəxş etdilər...

Şuşanın havası barədə deyim: Şuşa dağların və meşələrin ətrafında olan bir şəhərdir. Oraları tez-tez duman bürüyür, şəhər özü küləksiz olur. Belə ki, havası çox təmiz və sərindir. Şuşa elə pak yerdir ki, orada yağmur belə mülayim olur. Qış ayları qarlı olsa da havası soyuq yox yumşaq olur, yayda da çox isti olmur. Havasının təmizliyinə, şəhərin gözəlliyinə və təbiətinə görə Şuşa dünyanın ən gözəl şəhərlərindəndir. Şuşa əhalisi uzunömürlü olur.

Şuşa Azərbaycan xalqı üçün orada olan mədəni və tarixi ab-havaya görə önəmlidir. Şuşa Azərbaycan xalqının əqli mərkəzi idi. O cümlədən burada elm, fəlsəfə, ədəbiyyat və musiqi xadimləri yaşayıb, fəaliyyət göstərir, məktəblər tikib mənəvi irsimizi zənginləşdirirdilər.

Şuşa mənim vətənimdir! Hər bir insan üçün onun vətəni ən əziz və əvəzolunmaz yerdir. Mənim vətənim ən rahat nəfəs aldığım məkandır. Mənim üçün bu yalnız Şuşadır və mənə Şuşanı heç bir yer əvəz edə bilməz!

Aylin Bəktaşı
ADA Məktəbi (10B4)

My daughter, you can be proud that your grandmother is from Shusha!

On the night of May 8-9, 1992, Shusha, the mascot of Azerbaijan, was occupied by Armenians. Our neighbors have seized our lands ... There is only one end to every oppression. On November 8, 2020, Shusha was liberated by our victorious Army.

My grandfather always talked about the beauties of Karabakh. The last time he fought in Shusha. «Shusha is a peak, from the height of which it looks as if the world is in the palm of your hand» he recalled.

After a long conversation with my grandmother, who lived in Shusha for a long time, I decided to write such an article. The following is from my grandmother's point of view.

My father Isa Mammadov is from the Gavareli people, one of the famous descendants of Karabakh, and my mother is a descendant of the merchant Haji Gulu Garabaghi, the most famous man of the Karabakh khanate. Memories of Shusha take me back to my childhood, to the most beautiful and joyful days of my life, to the moments when my father and mother were with me.
We would go to Shusha in the summer and rest there. Each time we went, we went to Isa spring, Dashaltin, Arimgeldi, Cidir plain, and Turshsu. The city was rich in cultural centers. The most famous people of Azerbaijan could be seen in the center of

the city. The people of Shusha are very kind. Everyone is very happy to see people from Baku, they even invite strangers to their house. Shusha was also a cultural center. Writers, poets, and composers meet in the city and have interesting conversations and jokes with each other.

Although my mother and father had houses in Shusha, there were also palaces belonging to our descendants. The mother's house is the Palace of Haji Gulu, the largest and the most magnificent architectural monument in Shusha. The palace had 46 rooms, 4 floors, and 2 large halls. The most spectacular events were held in this palace. Khan's daughter Khurshidbanu Natavan's wedding was held here, Alexander Dumas and the famous artist Vereshagin were guests. This palace was important not only for our family but also for the Karabakh khanate. Haji Gulu Gasim bey was close friends with Zakir, Jafargulu khan Navay, and Khurshidbanu Natavan. Famous people came to the palace, merchants, ambassadors were guests, and meetings were held with the participation of poets and mugham masters. Every time my father and mother came to Shusha, we would sit in the courtyard of that palace, talk, and remember our grandmothers and their interesting stories.

Our father and mother were one of the most respected in Shusha. The Russian tsars recognized them as nobles, respected them, and would not touch the houses, factories, and fields they owned. During the Soviet era, the brightest members of our generation were captured, the rest were exiled, their property and lands were confiscated, and since 1920, our fathers and mothers have had to start from scratch. The house of the Gavarelians was turned into a house for large families, then an orphanage, and Haji Gul's Palace was first turned into a sewing factory and then into a museum, which is shown in a feature film about Uzeyir Hajibeyov. The Haji Gulu Palace was unfit for industrial use, gradually began to crack from its foundation and walls, and became completely useless. In the 70s and 80s, it was almost completely emptied and left unused. On May 8, 1992, Shusha was occupied by Armenians. During these 28 years, the Armenians completely destroyed the palace by shelling. They appropriated the decorations, stones, and belongings of the house.

On November 8, 2020, when the Supreme Commander-in-Chief shared the news of the liberation of Shusha with us, the first thing that came to my mind was the Haji Gulu Palace, and tears of joy flowed from my eyes after the news. Because this victory was won by young children at the cost of their lives, rising to the peak of martyrdom and giving us a comfortable life in our homeland ...

Let me tell you about the atmosphere of Shusha: Shusha is a city surrounded by mountains and forests. It is often foggy, and the city itself is windless. So the air is very clean and cool. Shusha is such a clean place that even the rain is mild. Although the winter months are snowy, the weather is mild and not cold, and it is not very hot in summer. Shusha is one of the most beautiful cities in the world due to the purity of the air, the beauty, and the nature of the city. The population of Shusha is long-lived.

Shusha is important for the people of Azerbaijan due to the cultural and historical atmosphere there. Shusha was the mental center of the Azerbaijani people. In particular, figures of science, philosophy, literature, and music lived and worked here, built schools, and enriched our spiritual heritage.

Shusha is my homeland! For every person, his homeland is the most precious and irreplaceable place. My homeland is the place where I breathe in peace. For me, this is just Shusha, and no place can replace Shusha for me!

Aylin Baktashi
ADA School (10B4)

Digital Artwork
NARMIN GURBANLI (11A1)

Why Civilians?!

Since 27th of September 2020, longing for Nagorno-Karabakh has been finished. In order to perseverance of our brave sons, we are coming back to our ancestors' historical lands. We - Azerbaijanis are demonstrating industrious, crucial effort in battlefield. While Azerbaijani soldiers are yearning for strong opponent in war, all of us are encountering with violent barbarians. At the same result of their resilient actions, in all Azerbaijanis' mind has formed "Why?" questions: "Why civilians?" "Why are they too weak for our army; however, too strong for our civilians?" To tell the truth, Azerbaijanis are not able to answer these questions properly. Because representatives of honest, tolerant Azerbaijan even can't attempt being barbarians, violent as Armenians are. Nevertheless, I will make an effort to do my best to share my own opinion with you. Firstly, victory of our country in the battlefield and in diplomacy front are quite noticeable. Our victory is establishing a fear in Armenian government to lose Karabakh. Evidences, researches support that if person is facing with fear of losing something, he/ she will represent unconscious behavior. Consequently, we are facing with unconscious actions of enemy and trying to identify one question. Why do Armenians afraid if they are saying "the truth?"

As I mentioned before, Armenians are afraid from our victorious army and they are taking a revenge from pure civilians. According to their stereotypical strategy, by scaring our civilians we can stop the war. As all we know, it is their redundant strategy, which enemy cannot take benefit of it recently. In my opinion, another fear of dishonest enemy is disclosing of their multi-year lie. Unfortunately, there are quite enough countries, organizations, which are supporting Armenians' stereotypical information and data. However, right diplomatic steps, historically proved evidences of our country are causing them to lose their partner countries, organizations and create doubts in their minds. Thus, they are snap of finger losing the convince ability, which helped to them more than 2 centuries. From all the aforementioned ideas, my opinions once again reveal cruel action, aim and goal of our treacherous enemy. However, their actions cannot stop us and our courageous army. We-Azerbaijanis, all together believe, support our victorious army. We are strong together and nothing has enough power to pass in front of our love for Nagorno-Karabakh. Long Live, Azerbaijan!

With endless love by *Rashida Shahmaliyeva* (11B4)

Yaşanmamış Uşaqlıq

FATIMA SEYIDOVA 10C4

Aylar, illər keçəcək və bu gün yaşadıqlarımız bir əfsanəyə, xatirəyə və yazılı tarixə çevriləcəkdir. Bir şeyi dəqiq bilirəm ki, bizim evdə bütün informasiya vasitələrində və tarix kitablarında yazılmayacaq bir ömür yaşanırdı...

Anam bu gün yenə də "Yuxumda Şuşada idim" sözləri ilə açırdı səhərini. Bütün bu "fəlakət" adlandırdığımız, ağılagəlməz, dilə gətirilməz hadisələr onlar üçün bir göz qırpımında baş vermişdi. O, qəhər hissi ilə heç bir zaman unuda bilmədiyi anlarını bölüşür bizimlə:

"1988-ci il noyabr ayı, soyuq bir Şuşa səhəri... Hər şey ilk dəfə o gün başlamışdı. Dərs zamanı uşaqlar sinfə daxil olaraq tələslə ermənilərin Cıdır düzünə, Üçmıx təpəsinə erməni bayrağı asdıqlarını bildirmişdilər. Hamı bir-birinin üzünə baxır, heç kim "Niyə?" sualına əsaslı bir cavab tapa bilmirdi. Uşaqların üzündə bu təlaşı sezən müəllim isə: "Qorxmayın, ermənilər qorxaq millətdir, öz torpağımızda bizə heç nə edə bilməzlər", - deyə şagirdləri sakitləşdirməyə çalışmışdı. Biz haradan biləydik ki, vaxt gələcək qorxaq adlandırdığımız, məqsədini görmədiyimiz bu millət hansısa qüvvələrin gücünə əsaslanaraq bizi doğma torpağımızdan didərgin salacaq?

Ermənilər məni normal məktəb həyatı yaşamağa da qoymadı. Məktəbə gedib-gəlmək çox əziyyətli bir hal almışdı. Həyəcan siqnalı verilən kimi o zamankı Sovet əsgərləri bizi zirzəmilərə doldurmağa çalışırdılar. Mən də rus əsgərlərindən qorxduğum üçün gizli yollarla qaçıb evə qayıdırdım. Beləcə, get-gedə məktəblər də bağlanmağa məhkum oldu.

Atəş səsləri getdikcə top səsinə, qrad səsinə verirdi yerini. İlk anlar evdə məhəccərin içində dizlərimi qucaqlayıb ancaq bu səslər kəsilsin deyə dua edirdim. Lakin bir gün gözlərimin qarşısında qonşuda baş verən hadisə heç vaxt unudulmayacaq bir hiss buraxdı mənim zehnimdə. Füzuli dayı dediyim qonşumun qrad deyilən silah elə balkondaca başını aparmışdı. O gündən sonra zirzəmidə yatmağa məcbur olduq. Lakin uzun müddət bu mühitdə yaşamaq sanki duyğusuzlaşdırır insanı...

Nənəmgilin Şuşada ulu babadan qalma şərq üslubunda tikilmiş iki mərtəbəli gözəl evləri var idi. Və mən də atasız, anadan uzaqda, nənə yanında yaşayan bir uşaq idim. Şuşanın qılınc kimi kəsən soyuq qışında zirzəmidə daha dözə bilmirdim. Bir gün nənəmə dedim ki, artıq zirzəmidə yatmağa dayana bilmirəm. Mən yuxarıda - öz isti yerimdə yatmağa gedirəm. Nənəm ağlayaraq arxamca gəldi və dedi: "Sən mənə əmanətsən, sən orada yatsan, mən də orada yatacağam". Nənəmə yazığım gəldi və geri qayıtdım. Və həmin gecə qrad düz mənim yatdığım çarpayıya düşmüşdü. Rəhmətlik nənəm o gecə məni ölümdən qurtarmışdı.

Ermənilərin Şuşada etdiklərini saysan, yəqin ki, bitməz. İnsanların çəkdiyi əzab-əziyyət gözümün qarşısından heç vaxt getmir, yuxularımda məni tərk etmir. Getdikcə hər gün ölüm xəbərləri artırdı, hətta yolda tutduqları hamilə qadının bətnindəki körpəni güllə ilə vururdular ermənilər. Məsələ burasındadır ki, biz mənfur ermənilərlə həyətdə bir oynayırdıq, çörəyimizi bölürdük, heç vaxt düşünməzdik ki, bizə arxadan zərbə vura bilərlər.

1992-ci ildə Vətənimi - Şuşamı, doğmamı qoyub çıxmağa məcbur oldum...

Lalə Rabil qızı Seyidova (Fatimənin anası) Şuşada, Nizami küçəsi 1 ünvanda olan evlərinin həyətində.

Ağdam rayonuna-anamın yanına yerləşdik, ancaq nə biləydik ki, eyni fəlakət bizi burada da gözləyir. Mənfur erməni qüvvələri qanlı əllərini nəinki Dağlıq Qarabağa, hətta artıq ətrafyanı rayonlara da uzatmışdılar. Bu yaşadığım stressi, əzab-əziyyəti birə-on artırmışdı. Ağdamın da işğalından sonra Bakıya gəlməyə məcbur olduq. Yeni məkan, yeni mühit: artıq nə rahat evimiz, nə də ocağımız var idi. Gözlərimiz ümidlə, geri qayıdacağımız günü gözləyirdi. Bizim üçün qaçqın həyatı başlamışdı və bu həyat heç də bir qız uşağı üçün deyildi. Beləcə, biz ermənilərin günahsız qurbanları idik..."

O günlərdən sonra, uşaqlıq deyilən məfhum anamın həyatından üz çevirmiş, yeniyetmə yaşlarını əlindən almışdı. Anamın gözü önündə yaşananlar onun həyatında sonralar çox dərin izlər buraxmışdı. Müharibədən sonrakı illər Azərbaycan üçün heç də asan keçmirdi, ölkəmiz yenidən ayağa qalxmaq üçün əlindən gələni edirdi. Dünyanın bir çox yerində belə bir müharibə yaşamış uşaqlar illərlə psixoloji dəstək gördüyü halda, anam o vaxtkı şəraitə görə bundan da məhrum qalmışdı. Beləcə, bu sarsıntı anamın nəinki gecə yuxularını əlindən almışdı, həmçinin illərlə uşaq dünyaya gətirməsinə belə mane olmuşdu.

Bilirsiniz, bütün bu yaşananlara, qayğı, əzab-əziyyət ilə ötüb keçən illərə baxmayaraq, anam Şuşadan danışanda onun gözlərində həmişə bir qığılcım görünür. Şuşanın daşının, torpağının, çiçəyinin heç bir yerin daşı, torpağı, çiçəyi ilə müqayisə oluna bilməyəcəyini deyəndə hər zaman onun gözlərində böyük fəxarət görürəm. İndi mənim də ən böyük arzum o torpaqda gəzmək, o daşlara toxunmaq, o çiçəklərin ətrini ciyərlərimə çəkməkdir. Anam deyir ki, ağacların yarpaqlarının arasından günəş boylananda, onun işığının daşlar üzərində rəqsi, kiçik çayların, bulaqların sularında brilyant kimi parıltısı - təbiətin bu şəkildə təbəssümünü yalnız Şuşada görüb. Sanki dahilərimizin izlərinin olduğu o torpağı Yaradan da bir başqa sevib, əzizləmişdi. Məhz bu səbəbdən də, Şuşalı günlər anamın da, mənim də, bütün Azərbaycanın da ən böyük arzusudur.

Photo by Fatima Khubyarova 10A2

Qarabağ

Qarabağ!
Gözlə bizi! Biz gəlirik!
27 ildir qalıb gözün yollarda
Həyəcanla, sevinclə.

Gözləyirdin nə vaxtdır bizi,
Elə bilmə ki unutduq
Bizə edilən haqsızlıqları,
Bizə edilən vəhşilikləri.

Düşmən çıxdısa bir dəfə,
Dönüşü yoxdur daha!
Gəlirik biz, Qarabağ!
Geri gəlirik!

Bizim tariximiz,
Bizim qələbəmiz,
Bizim canımızsan,
Qarabağ!

Biz, övladların sənin!
Sevirik səni,
Hədsiz məhəbbətlə,
Qarabağ!

Bizim keçmişimiz də,
Bizim gələcəyimiz də,
Sənsən! Sən!
Qarabağ!

Fatima Khubyarova 10A2

Photos by Fatima Khubyarova 10A2

Photos by Fatima Khubyarova 10A2

The blood of children will never be forgotten

Rifah Zeynalov, 10C1

During any war, the most terrible sight is how a civilian population who is not guilty of anything dies and suffers. Especially the spectacle of peaceful children who built their future plan, and at one point they were gone. I cannot describe everything because it is difficult to describe what was not in front of your eyes, but you can describe what you feel and would feel in their places. No one would have thought that today's school student, who has already gone to bed, will tomorrow be in the arms of his mother, whose tears are endless. Or a few months old baby, whom the parents have been expecting for many years and now he is not there either. Looking at all this, we understand the real feeling of love between relatives. You know, no matter how rich we are, if we lose a loved one, we lose everything we had. Some even lose themselves. As well as the relatives of these children were speechless.

Since the beginning of the conflict, a lot of aggression has been used against our children, and we will never forget that. However, nowadays we are talking about breaking news. And since September 27, 2020, Armenian armed troops again attacked our side. And, from the same day the conflict escalated and turned to war. During this war there were absolutely many illegal war crimes against the peaceful population of Azerbaijan. Some of the main ones are 4 terroristic attacks, which have been implemented in the biggest cities by population - Ganja and Barda, which are not located in the conflict zone. As a result, a lot of civilians were killed, including children, whose dreams remained unfulfilled. One of these innocent children was 15-year-old Nigar Esgerova, who would have turned 16 on the next day after the incidents. Probably for most, birthday is an important day in their life. And like all of us, Nigar also was prepared to it in-advance. Imagine knowing that tomorrow is your birthday, you are joyfully jumping, running and getting ready. Nigar also had it, but at one point she closed her eyes forever. She could not see her 16th birthday, she could not say thank to her mother for all 16 years, she could not see the last time her friends, who were also preparing to visit her on her birthday. It hurts to talk about such things, but we are all Nigar. Her blood didn't stay on the ground.

The Armenian military and political leaderships not only killed Azerbaijani children but also enlisted their children in the military. By doing these, they make a gross violation of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions, the UN Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and demonstrate even more ignoring norms and principles of international law and UN Security Council resolutions.

Being one of the children and citizen of our Motherland, I advise even if the war is over everyone not forgot about this, because our lands were returned thanks to them. Shahids (Martyrs) are always with us in our hearts!

Karabagh is Azerbaijan! We are back Home...

Həsrət bitir...

Düz 28 il idi,

Ayrı qalmışdıq biz.

Çəkə bilmirdim o gözəl havanı içimə,

Hiss edə bilmirdim bulaqlarının buz soyuğunu.

Gecələri yatanda fikirləşirdim ki,

''Görən o da darıxırmı bizdən yana?

Başqaları onun xarıbülbülünü qoxlayanda,

İsa bulağından su içəndə,

Görəsən incimir bizdən?''

Soruşmur ki öz-özünə: ''Axı niyə ayırdılar bizi?''

Heç ananı da balasından ayırarlar?

Kimin əli çatar, ürəyi dözər buna?

Görəsən xəyallar qururdumu o?

Xəyallar,hansılar ki qovuşacağımız günə dair:

O bərəkətli torpağını əlimizə alıb öpəcəyimiz,

Bağrımıza basıb buraxmayacağımız günün,

O gün ki bütün dünya hiss edəcək

Həmin möcüzəli zəfərin həyəcanını,

Və davam edəcək sonsuza qədər.

Ən gözəli də odur ki,

O hiss yaxınlaşır bizə günbəgün,

Az qalır ana ilə balanın qovuşmağına.

Elə bir qovuşma ki birdə heç bir güc-qüvvə,

ayıra bilməz onları sonsuza qədər!

Fatma Hajiyeva 10A1

Jeffrey Werbock:

«I am 69 years old and I have never seen a miracle, except in Azerbaijan.»

Our editorial team represented by Fatma Hajiyeva (10A1) and Samir Javadov managed to meet online with Mr. Jeffrey Werbock. Initially it was planned as an interview, but it turned to very interesting and sincere talk. Read and make yourself also inspired by this extraordinary and talented person.

Mr. Samir: We all have watched your film "Young Voices, Ancient Song" and we are impressed by this film. Especially students, they enjoyed this film very much. I talked about you as you are in love with Azerbaijan. When I listen to mugham, I can clearly understand if the person plays as he or she learned or from the bottom of the heart. From the first moment, I understood that you play mugham from the heart. Because you can't play mugham without feeling it from the heart. Mugham is the music, you are not playing, you are narrating. Each mugham is a story, the player is the storyteller. Now, I will give the floor to Fatma.

Fatma: First of all, I would like to thank you for accepting our proposal and spending your precious time with us. Meeting you is a pleasure for me. Approximately 3 days ago, I was watching TV and suddenly saw your documentary movie ''Young Voices, Ancient Song''. It seemed very interesting to me and I kept watching. At the end of the movie, I started crying unconsciously. This movie impacted me so deeply. After the movie, I searched for some information about you. And 2 days ago, I was told that I will be supposed to take an interview with you. You can't imagine how happy I was! Firstly, I want to thank you Mr. Samir for giving me this opportunity. Let's start the interview.

Jeffrey Werbock: Samir is quite right. First, we must learn the classical form of mugham, as it is taught in the conservatory. But I live in the United States, we don't have a mugham conservatory here, not yet, maybe someday we will. In year 2000, I was lucky to find a kamancha player living in Brooklyn who had graduated from the conservatory in Baku. He taught me the classical form of mugham. When you are playing in a group, you must play mugham in a predictable fashion, especially when you are supporting a singer, khanende. In the USA, I play solo so I can improvise more. Also,

I am playing for students and professors in colleges and universities, not mugham experts, so I have more freedom when improvising mugham melodies. I can express the essentials of mugham freely and easily. In addition to kamancha I also play on tar and oud, to vary the program. I also taught myself how to play mugham on electric guitar. There are significant differences between tar and guitar. They both have their own sweetness. That I play four different string instruments helps me to develop more improvisational styles. I had 3 teachers for kamancha and 3 teachers for tar, so I learned 6 different ways to render mugham. They each had their own unique ways to play mugham. Whenever you listen to anyone's interpretation, you can hear the core structure behind their interpretation.

Fatma: Why have you chosen mugham among the other music fields?

Jeffrey Werbock: I feel I didn't choose mugham, I feel as if Mugham chose me. Why me? I have no idea. The first time I heard Azerbaijani mugham was on kamancha played by an old man who was originally from Daghestan. I met him in the USA in 1972 and I was so deeply moved by what he did with his kamancha. I didn't know it at the time but his version of mugham was very simple. I was so impressed by his power. When I began to learn from him, he told me he was the last living carrier practitioner of this great and ancient tradition so I felt obligated to learn from him; this might even be my responsibility. And I wasn't sure if I could learn to be able to play like him or not. After associating with him for about 12 years he left the country, and three years later he passed away which deeply saddened me; he was not only my first mugham teacher, he was also something of a father figure to me. My Azerbaijani friends in New York advised me to go to Baku, saying mugham is alive in Azerbaijan and I could find another teacher. By then I realized my first teacher was not the only carrier practitioner of this tradition as he claimed, but I still felt I had to understand mugham in all its complexity. That's why I took some lessons from several Azerbaijani musicians who had visited the USA during this time, and why I went to Baku to find teachers, to understand their styles and techniques better.

Fatma: We know you can speak the Azerbaijani language; how did you learn?
Jeffrey Werbock: When I first came to Azerbaijan in 1989, I was invited by the Friendship Society, a government

agency responsible for inviting foreigners. I couldn't speak Azerbaijani yet so there were 2 translators for me. I wanted to speak Azerbaijani because I knew I was going to visit Azerbaijan again, perhaps many times. There were no teachers here so I had to teach myself, even without a dictionary. But I managed to learn the language quickly because I enjoyed it so much. After a few years, I was speaking Azerbaijani not too badly. It's a good thing since I did have a meeting with your great leader Heydar Aliyev in 1997 who had a most impressive personality. It was a great honor and a pleasure to meet with him. We spoke for more than an half an hour; he gave his time to meet with me even though he had important meetings on the same day.

I had to learn the Azerbaijani language. It is really useful because, during the making of the film, we traveled to the regions of Azerbaijan. I didn't have a translator during this period but I didn't need one. It was also helpful when I studied mugham from the kamancha player who came to Brooklyn as he did not speak English yet. In learning music, it is better to be able to converse but not necessary. We don't have to learn a language for playing mugham. I had some students in America, one is Azerbaijani, Azer Demirov, who plays the violin. I taught him Bayati Shiraz. We both speak English and Azeri but we didn't need to discuss much; I would show a phrase and he would repeat it. And I also taught several American students how to play mugham. They didn't need to learn Azerbaijani, they just listened to me very carefully and learned mugham's structure and texture. I hope one day I will bring them to Azerbaijan when traveling restrictions are lifted. They will be able to demonstrate their skills in mugham.

Fatma: We recognized Nizami Pashayev thanks to your documentary movie. His singing grieved all of us. When was your last meeting with him? Are you still in contact?

Jeffrey Werbock: We met last in Azerbaijan in 2016. Our story is told in the movie. When we first met in one of the refugee camps in 2000, he was only 14 years old yet his singing was extraordinarily emotional. He sang "Haqqimiz yox danishmaga daglardan, azad elemesek yagilardan". When I edited the videos we made during that expedition, I watched him sing many times. We say in Azerbaijani, "Tüklərim biz-biz durub". We can't expect these emotions from a 14-year-old boy, it was shocking for everyone. Mugham is so deep, so complex. How do your children do these miracles? It is really "mocuze". We are not talking about a couple of children, perhaps prodigies; there seems to be hundreds of children who have the ability to sing mugham at a very high level of quality. I am an adult but I can't sing like these children. We returned to the camps after 8 years to find him again. We did find him but he doesn't sing anymore, very sad. In 2016 we met again in the Nizami theatre when there was an event for our movie. I also met with Elnur Mahrammov who was a refugee from Aghdam and who served as our guide in the villages and camps. One of the children singers from the filming in 2008 I am still in contact with; Asker Askerzade, whose parents were refugees from Aghdam, now living nearby in Quzanli. He was only 12 years old at the time (2008), singing Qarabagh Shikestesi and mugham Segah. We ended the film with that scene because of the positivity of the message that the new generation must carry this tradition to future generations. Asker continued to singing after becoming an adult. I invited him to the USA where we performed 2 times, once at University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and once in Princeton University in New Jersey, both very prestigious venues. Now we are planning to do more collaborations and I hope one day we will perform in Aghdam and Shusha.

Fatma: What other influences helped to shape the way you play mugham today? What does mugham mean to you, since you did not grow up listening to this kind of music?

Jeffrey Werbock: In addition to the musicians who play on Azerbaijani instruments, there are many who play on western instruments and I listen to them too. Each instrument invites us to play mugham in unique ways and they all contributed to my way of playing mugham. Regarding my feelings about mugham music in general, there is a difference between your approach and my approach. Your parents and grandparents listened to mugham, but mine didn't. I was 21 years old when I first heard mugham. For many Azerbaijanis, mugham can evoke a kind of patriotic feeling, pride in one's ethnic heritage which of course does not apply to us foreigners who happen to love your mugham. I also hear from Azerbaijanis they feel a deep sadness from mugham, but when I play mugham, I feel none of that, I feel joyous. Of course there is a bit of sorrow in mugham music but for me there is mostly joy. I see joy on the faces of Azerbaijanis when they listen to mugham but for some reason they emphasize the sadness when they talk about their feelings.

Fatma: Surely you know about our history and you know about Karabakh. Do you want to share with us any thoughts about that?

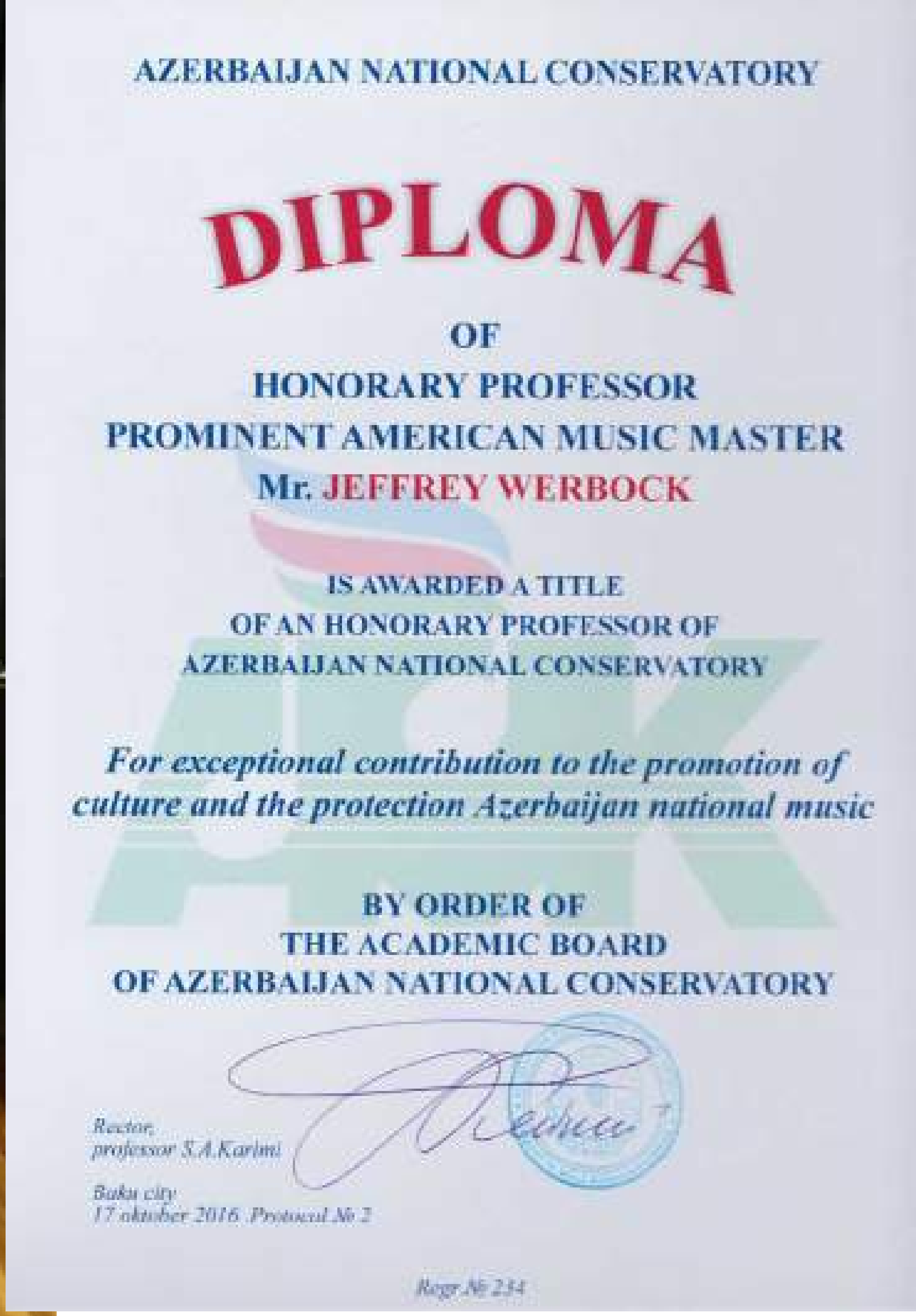
Jeffrey Werbock: Often I am asked questions about the situation in Karabakh. I don't have the right to comment, because I am just a musician, not a politician or historian. Whatever the Azerbaijani people want, I want them to have that. When Azerbaijani people are happy, I am happy. We all suffered from this occupation. I remember like yesterday when Kalbajar was newly occupied. I tried to explain this to people in my country, but they only read propaganda that Azerbaijan was the aggressor country, not Armenia. They didn't know the reality. Eventually officials in the State Department of USA understood the truth for themselves. During those times, there were very few Azerbaijanis in USA from Baku side. I just had one friend who was from Baku. Except for him, all

of my Azerbaijani friends were from Iran and were mostly students and professors in American universities. When I asked them about Karabakh, they said "This is not our problem". It was just shocking for me, and disappointing. They were focused on the problem of publicly speaking the Azerbaijani language in Iran, because 30 years ago it was dangerous. But now, they think about Karabakh, they are proud of this, because Azerbaijan got its lands back.

Fatma: If there would be mugham festivals in Shusha, would you like to participate?

Jeffrey Werbock: Yes, I absolutely would like to! In 1997, meeting with Heydar Aliyev, he asked me, "Is there anything we can do for you?". And I said, "When you get Shusha back, I want to help build a mugham school there." I explained that I was an engineer and know how buildings are built. And he said, surprised, "Shusha?" Shusha is known as the cultural capital of Karabakh. And Karabakh is known to be the birthplace of mugham. So we are waiting for the Azerbaijani government to rebuild those places in Karabakh, especially Shusha, so, we can come and visit. And we want to promote tourism there; all people must come and see this miracle in the Caucasus.

Fatma: You are absolutely right! Next question is, which musicians are you inspired by in Azerbaijan?


AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL CONSERVATORY

DIPLOMA

OF

HONORARY PROFESSOR

PROMINENT AMERICAN MUSIC MASTER

Mr. JEFFREY WERBOCK

IS AWARDED A TITLE

OF AN HONORARY PROFESSOR OF

AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL CONSERVATORY

For exceptional contribution to the promotion of culture and the protection Azerbaijan national music

BY ORDER OF

THE ACADEMIC BOARD

OF AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL CONSERVATORY

Rector,
professor S.A.Karimi

Baku city
17 oktober 2016 Protocol № 2

Regr № 234

Jeff: They all are inspiring for me, they all are amazing. Everybody in the Milli conservatory, in Asef Zeynalli mugham school, Ince Senet Universiteti, they are all my brothers and sisters. Even the wedding musicians, they all inspire me, they are all great musicians and they know mugham so well.

> There can be no other explanation of mugham except as a miracle.

Mr. Samir: I can recommend you to listen to Vafa Orujova. She participated in the mugham competition approximately 7 years ago. You will probably like her singing. Because she sings from the bottom of the heart. Especially Bayati Shiraz she sings super!

Jeff: InshAllah we are going to sing and play Bayati Shiraz in Shusha!

All: InshAllah!

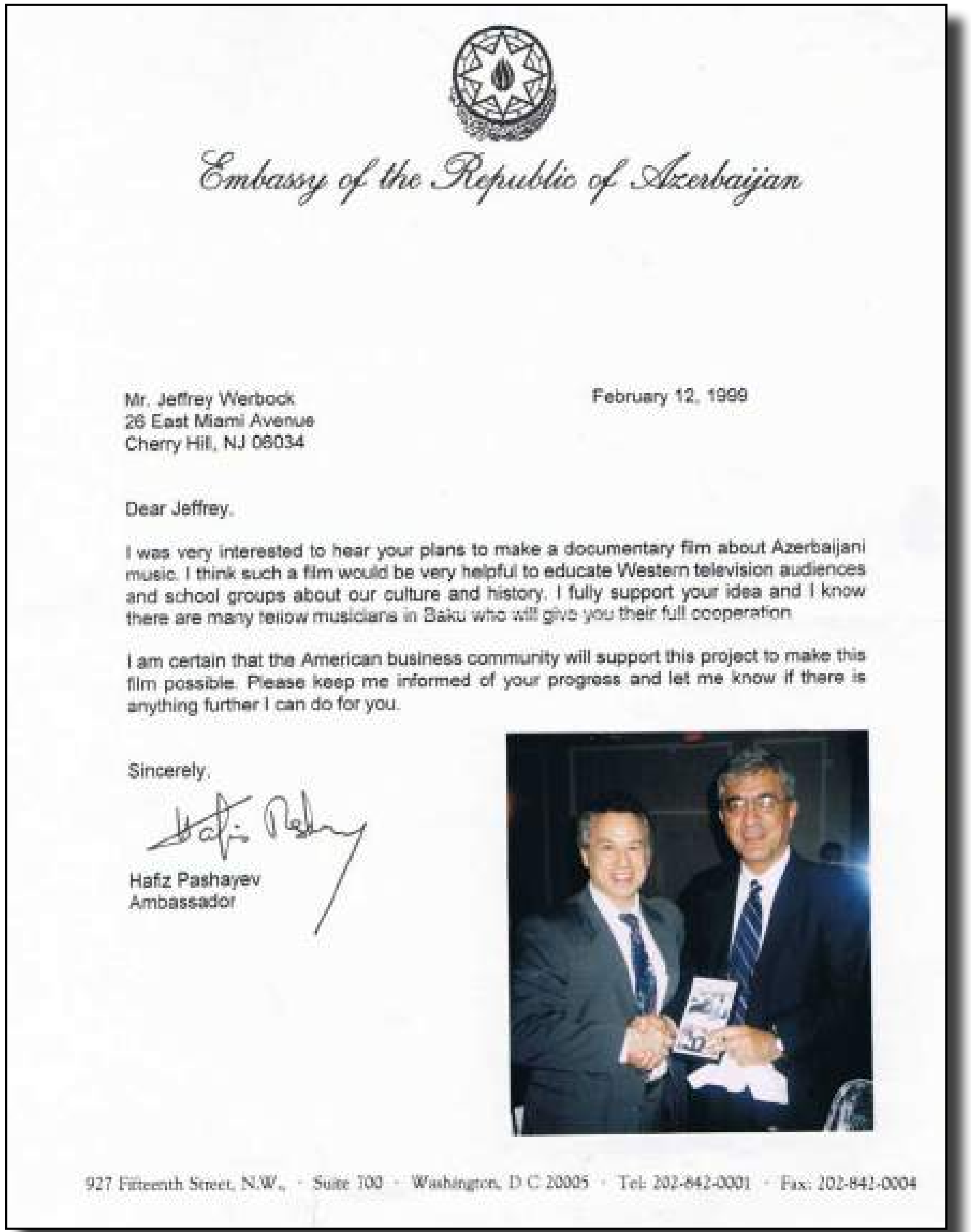
Mr. Samir: I want to ask Mr. Jeffrey's this question. We have mainly three instruments in mugham which are kamancha, tar, and ud. In my feeling, kamancha is crying, tar is telling, the voice of ud is like mystical. Do you agree with me?

Jeff: I can agree with you on one point. If kamancha is in the right hands, it can tell or it can cry, and it's sound is more mystical than any other instrument. The sound of kamancha is really a miracle. I remember that first time when I listened to mugham Shur on kamancha. It was just amazing. I can't understand, why doesn't the World know about mugham, this miracle? Why just me, not other musicians? You have this power and also your children have it. There can be no other explanation of mugham except as a miracle. I am 69 years old and I have never seen a miracle, except in Azerbaijan. That is why I made a film to show to the whole world how your children sing mugham. This was not easy. It was expensive to make this film. But we were very lucky, we found a young businessman, Tale Heydarov agreed to produce it. And he didn't want to show his name, he didn't want people to think he is trying to promote himself, gain favor, or anything. I said, "Yes, good, but the name of the producer must be in the film credits, you have got to tolerate this". He is extremely modest.

And we are going to make another film too. He called me 7 weeks ago and said "Jeffrey, are you ready to go back to Azerbaijan?''. And I said, "As soon as traveling restrictions are lifted, yes why not?". He said, "We want to go to Shusha". At that time Shusha had not yet been liberated. And I said, "What do you mean Shusha, it is occupied". And he said, "Soon it will be ours". I just said, "I want to go to Shusha!'' And approximately one week later, he called me that Shusha is liberated! You can't imagine my reaction. Finally after waiting patiently all these years we are going to make kabab and sing "Shushanin Daghlari". After 30 years, you got back your homeland. You suffered for years and then you got your lands back!

Mr. Samir: Yes. These people deserved this victory after 30 years. You can't imagine the happiness in the people's souls. We are so happy for liberation. Thank you, Mr. Jeffrey! That was really amazing to have a meeting with you!

Fatma: I will never forget this interview. It was unforgettable!



Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Mr. Jeffrey Werbock
26 East Miami Avenue
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

February 12, 1999

Dear Jeffrey,

I was very interested to hear your plans to make a documentary film about Azerbaijani music. I think such a film would be very helpful to educate Western television audiences and school groups about our culture and history. I fully support your idea and I know there are many fellow musicians in Baku who will give you their full cooperation.

I am certain that the American business community will support this project to make this film possible. Please keep me informed of your progress and let me know if there is anything further I can do for you.

Sincerely,

Hafiz Pashayev
Ambassador

927 Fifteenth Street, N.W., · Suite 700 · Washington, D.C 20005 · Tel: 202-842-0001 · Fax: 202-842-0004

Jeffrey Werbock: Thank you Samir and Fatma for giving this opportunity to me. I shared my ideas thanks to your interview. And I want to thank your ADA school, especially my dear friends Hafiz Pashayev, Fariz Ismayilzade, and Shafag Mehraliyeva. Hafiz Muellim was ambassador to the USA for 13 years, we met often and had good times together. I hope that the reputation of Azerbaijan will be helped by the existence of the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy and University, which is a fantastic institution.

Mr. Samir: Thank you. InshALLAH we will meet face to face in Baku soon and we will have a great talk again!

ADA SCHOOL

Established in 2019, ADA School offers education in English and Azerbaijani languages for Grade 10 and education in English for Grade 11. Combining national curriculum of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the academic experience of ADA University, ADA School curriculum enhances learning experiences with skills and values. The curriculum offers a breadth of knowledge in multiple disciplines combined with communication and leadership skills much needed in the 21st century. With the global outlook and traditions of academic excellence, the school alumni become competitive in admission processes to universities, whether through State Examination Center (SEC) or SAT exams. ADA School alumni are also eligible for admission to ADA University on special terms.

Photo by Leyla Kazdal 10B1

Qarabağım - Ana Yurdum mənim

«Bu məqaləmin davamını Qarabağda yazmaqdır arzum...» Rəşidə Şahmalıyeva

Qarabağım - Ana Yurdum mənim. Budur, bitdi neçə illik həsrətimiz. Bizimlə- övladlarınla birgə yeni, bambaşqa bir həyat səni gözləyir. Heç bilmirik ki, neçə ilin həsrətini tez bir zamanda necə söndürəcəyik. Hər bir övladın Sənin hər bir qarışın üçün çox darıxıb. Ən əsası isə o dillərə dastan olan təbiətin, havan və suyun üçün.

Bizlər - yeni nəsil Azərbaycan gəncləri Sənin haqqında çox eşitdik və indi də o gözəllikləri görmək üçün gəlirik. Şüşə kimi təmiz dağ havanı, suyunu, dünyanın ən nadir bitkisi olan xarıbülbülünün qoxusunu ciyərlərimizə çəkib atlarını sürmək üçün səbirsizliklə evimizdə oturub günlərimizi sayırıq. Bəli, nə qədər çətin olsa da buna cəhd göstəririk. Böyüklərimizin dilindən düşməyən həmin yerləri - Şuşa qalasını, Cıdır düzünü, İsa bulağını canlı şəkildə seyr etməyə bir addım yaxınlığındayıq. Səbirsizliklə gözləyirik. Bilirsiniz heç niyə bu qədər səbirsizliklə gözləyirik?! Axı dünyanın ən qeyri-adi, öz qoxusu ilə insanı valeh edən bitkisi, süratı ilə seçilib yaraşığı ilə hamını heyran qoyan atının və özünə məxsus flora-faunası olan diyarımızdan söhbət edirik. Dünyanın ən qədim yaşayış məskənlərindən biri olan Azıx mağarasının yerləşdiyi torpaqlardan söz açırıq.

Saymaqla bitməyən gözəlliklərini, təbiiliyini hər bir vətənpərvərimiz öz qəlbində canlandırır və sanki təbiətinin qoynunda oturmuş kimi hiss edib mənim hal-hazırda bu sözləri yazarkən yaşadığım hissləri yaşayır. O qürur, təbəssüm, sevinc hissi ki hər dəfə adın çəkilən zaman üzümüz və könlümüzdə yaranır. O hisslər ki doğulduğumuz andan bizimlə olub Səni qəlbimizdə özəl hiss etdirir.

Bu günlərdə həmin həsrət hisslərimiz tamamilə sevincə və səbirsizliyə köklənib. O dillərə dastan olan təbiətini eşidib oxuduqlarımla deyil də, canlı-canlı Cıdır düzündə yazmaqdır arzum. Gözəlliyindən doyub bu sözlərimi davam etdirməkdir ən böyük arzum. Bu məqaləmin davamını Qarabağda yazmaqdır arzum...

Rashida Shahmaliyeva **11B4**

Photos by Etibar Javarov

Karabakh horse breed is called one of the oldest in the world. The homeland of this breed is the highlands of Karabakh. The most typical representatives of this breed were kept at the Agdam stud farm, which is considered the breeding core for the Karabakh breed.

Karabakh stallion Ada
Photo by Simone Kochanek

KARABAKH HORSES

Silke Ehrenberger and stallion Ada

Modern Karabakh horses are medium-sized animals, about 144-154 cm high at the withers, with a neck of medium length, a small head, a deep and wide chest, and well-developed muscles. Horses of this breed are distinguished by clear and fast movements, harmonious physique. Precisely because of this, in folklore, the horses of the Karabakh breed were often compared to gazelles. Karabakh horses have a beautiful color. The color of the Karabakh breed can be red, buckthorn, brown, bay, gray or golden-red, which is also called the «golden glow».

ADAlilar editorial board members met with some experts in Azerbaijan and Germany and talked about Karabakh horses, their history and breed kharacteristics. The more we talked about these beautiful enimals, the more we loved them. Let us introduce our experts and what they talked about Karabakh horses.

MEET OUR EXPERTS

Verena Scholian
President of IG Karabagh and Eurasian horse breeds

Bahruz Nabiyev
Chief Secretary of Equestrian Federation of Azerbaijan Republic

Silke Ehrenberger
Vice-president of IG Karabagh and Eurasian horse breeds

Interview with Verena Scholian, the President of IG Karabakh and Eurasian horse breeds.

ADAlilar: What features differ them from other breeds?

Verena Scholian: First of all, in my opinion, I would say «I can discover a Karabagh horse out of hundreds of other horses, because of his beautiful special appearance». I once saw a stallion in my neighbourhood, looking like a Karabagh, I asked the owner of the stable, if he could tell me, which horse breed I saw in his stable: he said - «It´s a horse from Russia but please ask his owner. I asked and... it was a Karabagh!

ADAlilar: What are the main three characteristics of Karabakh horses?

1. Karabagh horses has a noble, royal exterior with metallic shiny fur, sometimes with a forth gait (Yorga).

2. Karabagh horses are sure footed, especially in mountains and you may trust each step of your horse.

3. Karabagh horses will not get into panic, or if, they only stop and wait what will happen.

ADAlilar: How long have you been selecting/cultivating Karabakh horses?

V. S.: My first Karabagh horse was a stallion «Inturist», I bought him because he was (although stallion!) very calm, kind and friendly. I bought him without knowing, that he was a Karabagh, because his passport was written in cyrillic letters. After I learned Russian and translated his document. Then I began to know: he was a Karabagh. Since this time I have devoured everything that was explored about this breed. Unfortunately very less books.

ADAlilar: Are horses popular in Germany? Why?

V. S.: At this time in Germany riding on horse back was a sport, which was very popular and especially girls wants to learn riding. But unfortunately buying a horse and care for it is very expensive in Germany, so you can only keep a horse, when you have a good job.

ADAlilar: If there would be a scale of animals with high intellect, on which place you would locate horses?

V. S.: Horses are animals which would be not in high rank in intelligence, they are not as intelligent as dogs or dolphins, but you can teach them some tricks easily, when you take advantage of their natural instinct.
They can carry blankets, buckets, can play football, can jump through a ring of fire, lay down or do some other things they had learned. I guess, horses, especially Karabagh horses like to please their owners.

ADAlilar: What should we do to make Karabakh horses more popular in the World?

I myself have tried to make the Karabagh breed well known since 30 years, wrote articles, published internet website and have bred about 25 foals so far.

Qarabağ atları

Qarabağ atları... Azərbaycan xalqının dünya atçılığına bəxş etdiyi, alovlu qızılı – kürən rəngini günəşdən, güc və qüdrətini dağlardan alan bir at cinsi...

ADAlılar jurnalının redaktə kollegiyasının üzvləri Azərbaycan Respublikası Atçılıq Federasiyasının Baş katibi Bəhruz müəllim Nəbiyevin də mütəxəssis rəyini öyrəndilər.

ADAlılar: Biz bu yaxında Qarabağ uğrunda gedən müharibədə möhtəşəm bir qələbə qazandıq. Qarabağı qaytardıq. Bəlkə də çoxları bilmir ki, Qarabağ torpağı özünün zəngin mədəniyyəti, tarixi abidələri, təbiəti, mətbəxi ilə yanaşı, atları ilə də məşhurdur. Qarabağ atları barədə daha ətraflı Sizdən öyrənmək istəyərdik.

Bəhruz Nəbiyev (B.N.): Qarabağ atları dünyanın ən qədim mədəni at cinslərindən biridir. Azərbaycanın ayrılmaz hissəsi olan Qarabağ bölgəsində formalaşmışdır. Əsas mənbəyini eramızdan əvvəl mövcud olmuş Nesey atlarından götürmüşdür. Qarabağ atçılığının "qızıl əsri" XVIII - XIX əsrlər hesab edilir. Cinsin ən tipik nümunələri Qarabağ xanları Pənahəli xanın, Mehdiqulu xanın, İbrahim xanın, Cəfərqulu-Cavanşir xanın, Xan qızı Xurşud Banu Natəvanın at zavodlarında yetişdirilmişdir.

Alyetmez, from the stud of Khurshidbanu Natavan, a daughter of the last khan of the Karabakh Khanate Mehdigulu Khan Javanshir (1772–1845)

Qarabağ müharibəsi dinc əhalimizin kütləvi soyqırımı, bir milyona qədər qaçqın və məcburi köçkünlər ordusunun yaranması ilə yanaşı, ölkə iqtisadiyyatına, təsərrüfat sisteminə, o cümlədən, atçılığa da ağır zərbə vurmuşdu. 1993-cü ilin avqust ayında Ağdam atçılıq zavodu erməni işğalçıları tərəfindən qəsb edildi. Təcavüzkar erməni qoşunları Ağdam rayonunun ərazisinə soxulan zaman onları ilk növbədə maraqlandıran obyektlərdən biri məhz atçılıq zavodu idi. Lakin ermənilər bu istəklərinə nail ola bilmədilər. Fədakar atçılarımızın sayəsində Qarabağ atlarının döyüş bölgəsindən çıxarılması təmin edildi.

Döyüş bölgəsindən çıxarılan Qarabağ atları əvvəlcə bir müddət Yevlax rayonunda, sonra Bakı Cıdır Meydanında yerləşdirildi. Lakin həmin yerlərin təbii şəraiti Qarabağ atları üçün əlverişli olmadığına görə atlar zavodun Ağcabədi rayonu ərazisindəki Lənbəran qışlağına köçürüldü. Əslində Lənbəran qışlağının da torpaq və bitki örtüyü, təbii şəraiti (xüsusilə, yay dövründə) Qarabağ atlarının doğma yerləri olan Ağdam atçılıq zavodunun yerini vermirdi. Bu isə cinsə artıq sağalmaz yarasını vurmuşdur...

This Karabakh horse was given to the Great Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna on 1 May 1892.

2018-ci ildə Azərbaycan Respublikasının Prezidenti İlham Əliyevin iştirakı ilə baş tutan Qarabağ Atçılıq Kompleksinin açılışı Qarabağ atlarının qorunub saxlanılmasında və yetişdirilməsində əvəzsiz addım olmaqla, cinsin inkişafı yolunda yeni bir mərhələnin əsasını qoymuş oldu. Lakin Qarabağın işğaldan azad edilməsi ilə Qarabağ atlarının vaxtilə saxlandığı Ağdamın Eyvazxanbəyli kəndində yerləşən atçılıq zavodu kompleksinin yenidənqurulması və bu atların öz doğma yerlərinə qaytarılması cinsin həyatında yeni mərhələnin başlanğıcı olacaq.

ADAlılar: Qarabağ atlarını digər cinslərdən fərqləndirən əsas üç cəhət hansılardır?

B. N.: Qarabağ atlarını digər dünyəvi at cinslərindən fərqləndirən cəhətlər çoxdur. Bunları 3 qrupda sistemləşdirsək birinci qrup xüsusiyyətlərə xarici görünüşü ilə səciyyələnən, təkrarsız alovlu qızılı-kürən rəng örtüyünün, proporsional, yığcam və əzələli bədən quruluşunun olmasını aid etmək olar. İkinci qrup xüsusiyyətlərə bu atların ali sinir fəaliyyətləri ilə səciyyələnən yüksək "intellektini", xoş və mülayim xasiyyətini, sahibinə itaətedəcək dərəcədə tabe olmalarını və vəfalılığını, üçüncü qrup xüsusiyyətlərə isə çevik və dözümlü olması, yüksək iş qabiliyyətinə malik olmasını aid etmək olar. Bütün bu özəlliklər Qarabağ atlarından cıdır və idman yarışlarında (ilk növbədə uzaq məsafələrə "endurans" yarışlarında), milli atüstü oyunlarda, turizmdə, ippoterapiyada, sərhəd və patrul xidmətlərində, kənd təsərrüfatı işlərində geniş istifadə edilməsinə imkan yaradır.

ADAlılar: Sizcə, Qarabağ atlarını bütün dünyaya tanıtmaq üçün nələr etmək lazımdır?

X. R.: Qarabağ atlarını dünyada tanıtmaq üçün ilk növbədə çox sayda və cinsin tələblərinə uyğun çoxlu at yetişdirmək lazımdır. Bunun üçün elmi əsaslandırılmış seleksiya işləri aparılmalıdır. Əlbəttə ki, cinsin genetik imkanlarının üzə çıxarılması üçün müxtəlif istiqamətli məşqlər, idman yarışları, şou-perfomanslar və təşviq işləri...

2013-cü ildə Azərbaycanın Atüstü Milli oyunu "Çövkən"in Qarabağ atı ilə vahid element kimi YUNESKO-nun Təxirəsalınmaz Qorunmağa Ehtiyacı olan Qeyri-Maddi Mədəni irs siyahısına daxil edilməsini, habelə 2013-2014-cü illərdə Polo üzrə dünya çempionatının "Polo vətəninə qayıdır" devizi altında Azərbaycanda keçirilməsi, Qarabağ və Dilbaz atları üzərində Çövkən oyncularının dünya poloçuları ilə yarışması və Azərbaycan komandasının Amerikanın polo komandası üzərində qələbəsini nəinki Azərbaycanın, dünya atçılıq tarixinin ən önəmli səhifələrindən hesab etmək olar.

Azərbaycan Respublikasının Prezidenti İlham Əliyev və birinci xanım Mehriban Əliyeva "Qarabağ Atçılıq Təsərrüfatı" Məhdud Məsuliyyətli Cəmiyyətinin Qarabağ Atçılıq Kompleksinin açılışında.

Qarabağ cinsli atların beynəlxalq səviyyədə idman atları kimi tanıdılması istiqamətində daha bir uğurlu addım olaraq milli atçılıq tarixində ilk dəfə Rusiyanın Ryazan şəhərində 80 kilometr məsafədə təşkil olunan uzaq məsafə üzrə beynəlxalq yarışda Qarabağ atının uğurlu iştirakını qeyd etmək olar. Yeddi yaşlı "Gafağlı MNM" ləqəbli Qarabağ atı ilə çıxış edən rusiyalı idmançı Maya Novikova yarışları beşinci yerdə başa vurub. Avqustun 29-da həmin at Ryazanda keçirilən növbəti yarışda da iştirak edərək 2-ci yeri tutmuşdur.

2012-ci ildən etibarən ölkəmizin dəvət aldığı Böyük Britaniya və Şimali İrlandiya Birləşmiş Krallığında Kral ailəsi üzvlərinin şərəfinə ənənəvi olaraq təşkil olunan "Vindzor Kral Atçılıq Şousu" bu qəbildən olan nümunələrdəndir. Son 5 ildə Azərbaycan Respublikası Atçılıq Federasiyasının təşkilatçılığı ilə Dövlət Sərhəd Xidmətinin süvarilər dəstəsi ölkəmizi və Qarabağ atlarını bütün dünyada qürur hissi ilə təmsil edirlər. Qeyd etmək lazımdır ki, bu tədbirlər Azərbaycan atçılıq tarixində ilk dəfə olaraq reallaşdırılmışdır.

The show-composition «The Kelaghayi and the Karabakh horses of Azerbaijan», dedicated to the memory of the Queen Victoria, who was the most powerful throne holder in the United Kingdom

Qeyd olunanlarla yanaşı, süvarilər dəstəsinin Qarabağ atları ilə göstərdiyi möhtəşəm şou digər ölkələr tərəfindən də izlənilir və tamaşaçıların dərin rəğbətini qazanır. Bunun nəticəsidir ki, süvarilər dəstəsi Qarabağ atlarımızla artıq bir neçə ölkənin beynəlxalq mədəniyyət tədbirlərinə dəvət almışdır. Buna misal olaraq 2019-cu ilin oktyabr ayında Türkiyənin İstanbul şəhərində təşkil olunan 4-cü Beynəlxalq Etnospor Festivalını göstərmək olar. 16 ölkənin iştirakı ilə keçirilən tədbirdə Dövlət Sərhəd Xidmətinin süvarilər dəstəsi ölkəmizi təmsil etmişdir.

«Sarhadchi» Cavalry Team in 35th Snow Polo St.Moritz

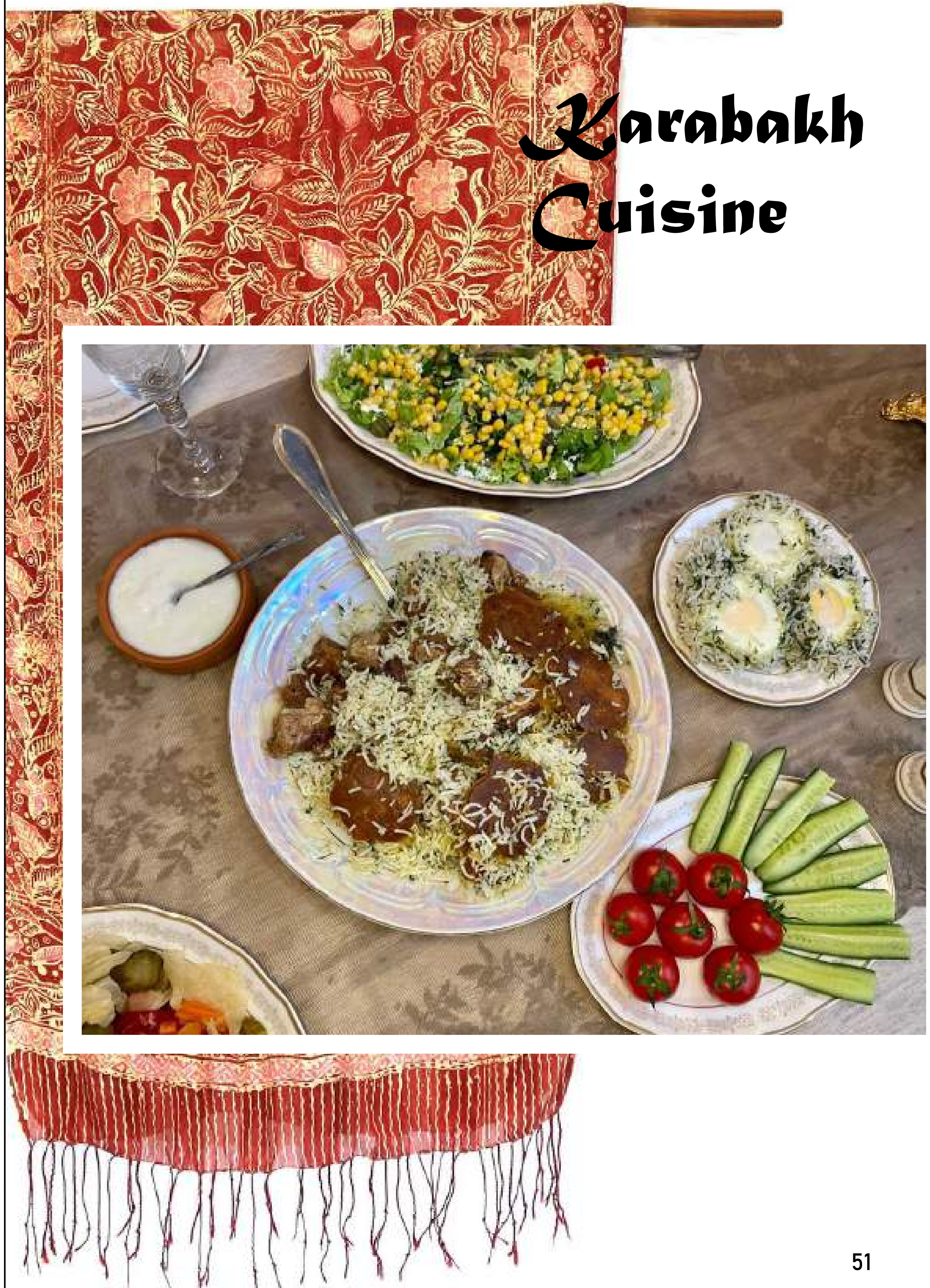
Stallion **Ada**

Karabagh stallion Ada was born in 2000 at the National Stud in Azerbaidjan and came to Germany in 2006. In 2007, he was licensed for breeding by the Hessian Horse and Pony Breeders Association in Alsfeld and entered in the Stallion Stud Book 1. 2009, he completed the stallion quality test 'Western' at ZSAA in Kreuth with an overall note of 7.23 and 9.0 character points. 2013, he received the recognition from the Bavarian Breeders Association for Small Horses ans Special Breeds in Munich-Riehm. Ada was continuously placed in Western competitions from 2008 to 2012 and participated successfully in multiple Endurance Races in the 40km-60km distances class.

Ada has produced 10 prodegnies – both his sons out of Sirli, Shahin (born in 2014) and Saravan (born in 2015), have been selected as premium foals at the foal shows in 2014 and 2016 respectively, as well as both being voted winnig foals in the section 'Special Breeds'. Shahin is now also licensed for breeding. Ada's owner Silke Ehrenberger is truly proud to own this rare and amazing stallion, who has been her trusted companion for the past 14 years. She displays Ada at national horse events as the representative for the rare Karabagh breed as well as Azerbaidjan. For this, she is dressed in the national azerbaijan dress, which was tailored for her in Azerbaidjan. The Azerbaidjani flag completes the picture. In those displays, she also raises awareness for the breed itself and aims to contribute to saving this breed from extinction.

In 2017, she met Cathy Field and together, they created the highly successful 'Showteam Allegria'. This equestrian showteam is now specializing in entertaining their audiences with fire displays, mounted games, mounted archery, skills-at-arms – and both have a lot of fun!

Silke Ehrenberger and her stallion Ada



Karabakh Cuisine

SHUYUD PLOV

Dill pilaf

Mən Zenfira Orucova 1952-ci ildə anadan olmuşam.
Şuşa şəhərini mən çox sevirəm. Ora gedəndə biz qayıtmaq istəmirdik. Şuşanı gəzməklə qurtarmaq olmaz. Havasını, suyunu, dadlı yeməklərini heç vaxt unutmaq olmaz. Biz yay vaxtı Şuşaya gedəndə heç vaxt rəngimiz qaralmırdı, əksinə gözəlləşirdi. Şuşa şəhərindən çox danışmaq olar. Cıdır düzü, İsa bulağı... sayıb qurtarmaq olmaz. İgidlərimiz artıq Qarabağı işğaldan azad etdilər. Qarabağ bizimdir!
Sağ olsun prezidentimiz İlham Əliyev cənabları. Qarabağ bizimdir, Qarabağ Azərbaycandır!

Zenfira Orucova, grandma of Fuad Orujov 11C1

Şüyüdlü plovun hazırlanması

Tərkibi:

Uzun düyü - 1 kq
Şüyüd - 5 dəstə
Kərə yağı - 200-250 qr
Duz - 2 x/q
İstiot - zövqə görə əlavə olunur
Zövqə görə mal əti və ya toyuq əti əlavə olunur.

Hazırlanma qaydası:

Düyünü duzlu suda isladırıq. Suyu qaynadıb düyünü qazana tökürük. Şüyüdü yuyub incə-incə doğrayırıq. Düyünü süzdükdən sonra aşsüzəndə üzərinə doğranmış şüyüdü tökürük. Asta-asta qarışdırırıq ki, düyü əzilməsin. Qazana qazmağı qoyub düyünü tökürük. Ərinmiş yağı tökub dəmə qoyuruq. Əti doğrayıb soyutma bişiririk. Qazanın dibini yağlayıb qazmaqları yığırıq, üstən bir az düyünü birdə əti yığırıq üzərinə, yerdə qalan düyünü ətin üzərinə yığırıq. Ən axırda düyünün üzərində yuvalar açırıq hər yuvaya 1 dənə yumurta əlavə edirik. Sonra üzərinə duz, istiot əlavə edirik. Yağı üzərinə əlavə edib 30 dəq dəmə qoyuruq. Sarımsaqlı qatıqla birlikdə süfrəyə verilir.

Karabakh Kyata

My grandmother is from Shusha.

I grew up on stories about Karabakh and the beauty of its nature. I always represented the beautiful Garabagh horses, Jydyrduzu. I missed a city I have never been to. I cried tears of happiness when I found out that I could go there. Perhaps it sounds strange for foreigners, but every Azerbaijani will understand what I mean.

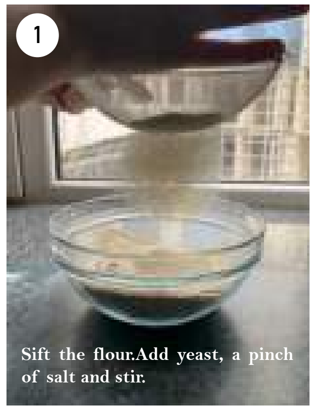
Therefore, on the day of the liberation of Shusha we had a great holiday at home. I first cooked this sweet on this very day - 8th November 2020. This is our family recipe, which was passed on to us from my great-grandmother. I think that our cuisine is one of the most delicious in the world. And it is youth's job to bring our heritage to the world.

Firuze Mammadova 10D Class

Ingredients

Dough:
- 225 gr flour
- 1/2 teaspoon dry fast-acting yeast
- a pinch of salt
- 1 egg
- 50 ml milk
- 25 g butter
- 1.5 tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon saffron tincture

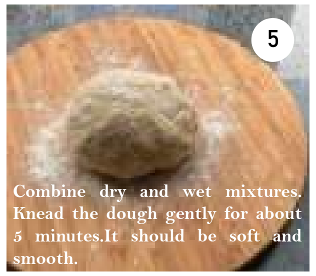
Filling:
- 150 gr flour
- 150 g sugar
- 50 gr butter
- +egg yolk and a teaspoon of saffron tincture


1 Sift the flour.Add yeast, a pinch of salt and stir.

2

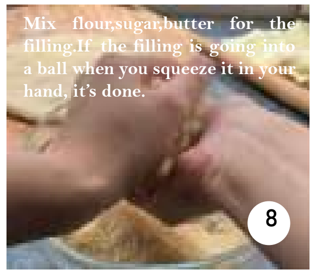
3

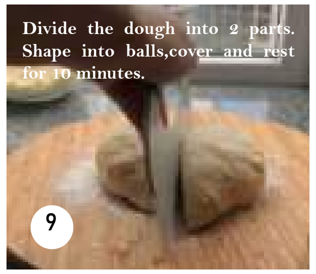
4 In a separate bowl, beat the egg,sugar,melted butter and saffron tincture.


5 Combine dry and wet mixtures. Knead the dough gently for about 5 minutes.It should be soft and smooth.

6 Send the dough to a warm place for an hour and a half.

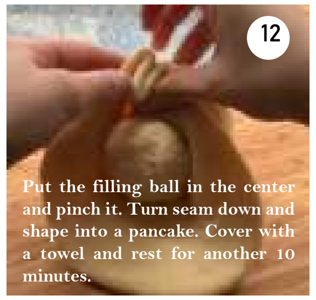
7

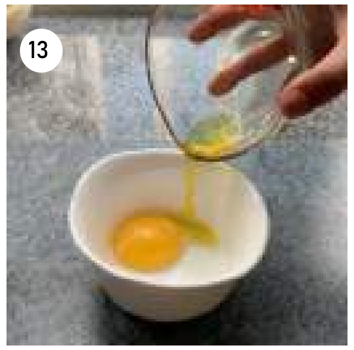

8 Mix flour,sugar,butter for the filling.If the filling is going into a ball when you squeeze it in your hand, it's done.


9 Divide the dough into 2 parts. Shape into balls,cover and rest for 10 minutes.

10 At this time, collect 2 large balls from the filling.

11 Roll out the dough of medium thickness


12 Put the filling ball in the center and pinch it. Turn seam down and shape into a pancake. Cover with a towel and rest for another 10 minutes.


13

14 For the greasing mix together egg yolk and saffron infusion.

15 Grease kyatas with mixture

16 and apply the traditional pattern with the back of the fork.

Puncture in several places

Send to oven preheated to 180' for 20-25 minutes

Brew delicious tea and enjoy

Firuza Mammadova 10D

QARABAĞ XALÇALARI

Qarabağa aparan qədim naxışlar

ADAlılar Rifah Zeynalov (10C1), Aylin Baktaşı (10B4) və Fatimə Xubyarova (10A2) Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyinin direktoru Şirin xanım Məlikovanın dəvəti ilə muzeydə qonaq oldular. ADAlılraımız həm muzeyin eksponatlarına baxdılar, həmdə Şirin xanımla xalçalar barədə maraqlı söhbət etdilər...

Rifah Zeynalov (R.Z.): Salam Şirin xanım. Vaxt tapıb bizimlə görüşə razılıq verdiyiniz üçün Sizə təşəkkür edirik. Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyinin bu cür gözəl məkanda və müasir üslubda yaranması xalça sənətinin Azərbaycan üçün necə bir yüksək milli dəyər olduğunun göstəricisidir. İstərdik ki, bu möhtəşəm muzeyin rəhbəri kimi muzeyin yaranması və fəaliyyəti barədə bir qədər danışasınız.

Şirin Məlikova (Ş.M.): Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyinin tarixi 1967-ci ildən başlayır. Muzeyin ilk ekspozisiyası 1972-ci ildə İçərişəhərdə yerləşən, XIX əsr memarlıq abidəsi – Cümə məscidinin binasında açılmışdır. Muzeyin açılışında Azərbaycan xalqının ümummilli Lideri Heydər Əliyev iştirak etmişdir.
2007-ci ildə Azərbaycan Respublikasının prezidenti İlham Əliyevin sərəncamı əsasında xüsusi olaraq xalça muzeyi üçün yaradılmış yeni bina Heydər Əliyev Fondu, Mədəniyyət Nazirliyi və YUNESKO-nun birgə layihəsinə çevrilmişdir. Açılan sehrli xalça formalı bənzərsiz tikilinin memarı – məşhur avstriyalı arxitektor Frans Yansdır. Yeni binanın təntənəli açılışı 26 avqust 2014-cü il tarixinə təsadüf edir. Artıq bu məkan şəhərimizin simvollarından birinə çevrilmişdir.

Muzeydə gözəlliyi və çeşidliliyi ilə heyrətləndirən 10 mindən artıq eksponat qorunub saxlanılır.

Muzeyin ekspozisiyası Azərbaycanda xalçaçılıq sənətinin tarixini, müasir vəziyyətini və inkişaf tendensiyalarını, kompozisiya tiplərini və ornamentlərini əks etdirir. Muzeydə həmçinin Azərbaycan xalqına xas digər tətbiqi sənət növləri də geniş təqdim edilir.

Photo by Fatima Khubyarova 10A2

Aylin Baktaşı (A.B.): Eyni zamanda Siz Beynəlxalq Muzeylər Şurasının Azərbaycan Milli Komitəsinin sədrisiniz. Bu Şuraya üzvlük Azərbaycan üçün hansı imkanlar açır?

Ş.M.: İlk növbədə qeyd edim ki, ICOM-un üzvü yalnız muzey əməkdaşları ola bilər. İCOM üzvləri dünyanın əksər muzeylərini ödənişsiz ziyarət edə bilərlər. Bununla yanaşı, muzey peşəkarları üçün bir çox imkanlar yaradır. Belə ki, müxtəlif beynəlxalq və milli komitələr çərçivəsində onlar öz sahələri üzrə konfrans və treninqlərdə iştirak edir, öz iş təcrübələri ilə bölüşür, müxtəlif muzeylərlə birgə layihələr təşkil edirlər.
Bununla yanaşı, 2017-ci ildən İCOM-un bir neçə beynəlxalq komitələrinin illik konfransları Azərbaycanda təşkil olunmuşdur. Avropa, ABŞ və Asiyanın muzey nümayəndələri, İCOM-un prezidenti həmin konfransa qatılmışdır. Bu da ölkəmizdəki muzeylərin işinin dünya səviyyəsində təbliğində çox yaxşı imkandır.

R.Z.: Necə oldu ki, Siz incəsənətin bu sahəsini seçdiniz?

Ş.M.: Mən özüm ziyalı ailədə göz açmışam, məni daim incəsənət əsərləri əhatə edib.
2001-ci ildə Azərbaycan Dövlət Rəssamlıq Akademiyasını "İncəsənət tarixi və nəzəriyyəsi" ixtisası üzrə magistraturanı fərqlənmə diplomu ilə bitirmişəm. "Azərbaycan XVI-XVIII əsrlər bədii parça və tikmələri" mövzusunda dissertasiya işini müdafiə etmişəm. Sənətşünaqlıq üzrə fəlsəfə doktoru, dosentəm. 2008-2012-ci illərdə Azərbaycan Dövlət Mədəniyyət və İncəsənət Universitetinin "Sənətşünaslıq" kafedrasında, 2012-ci ildən isə Azərbaycan Dövlət Rəssamlıq Akademiyasının "İncəsənət tarixi" kafedrasında dərs deyirəm.
Yəni, incəsənət, dekorativ-tətbiqi sənət və onun ayrılmaz hissəsi olan xalça sənəti mənim üçün uşaq yaşlarından çox yaxındır.

A.B.: Dünyada ilk xalçanın yarandığı dəqiq tarix bəlkə də heç kimə məlum deyil. Sizcə, xalçalar nə zamandan sadəcə yerə sərilərək insanlara istilik vermək funksiyasından əlavə, bir incəsənət əsəri kimi dəyərləndirilməyə başlanıb?

Ş.M.: Təbii ki, ilk yaranan xalçanın tarixi məlum deyil. Azərbaycan dünyada ən qədim xalçaçılıq regionlarından biridir. Arxeoloji qazıntılar zamanı aşkar edilmiş müxtəlif alət, eləcə də parça qalıqları müasir Azərbaycan ərazisində xalçaçılığın Tunc dövründə meydana gəldiyini deməyə imkan verir.
Cənubi Azərbaycanın Maku əyalətində aşkar edilmiş gildən hazırlanmış, üzərində ov iti, ceyran və quş, habelə gül və budaq naxışları ilə bəzədilmiş çul olan at fiquru (e.ə. II minillik), Urmiyə gölü yaxınlığındakı Həsənli təpəsində aşkarlanmış, kürəyində çul olan aslan təsvirli qızıl cam (e.ə. I minillik) Azərbaycan xalq sənətinin bir qolu olan xalçaçılığın qədim tarixə malik olduğuna dəlalət edir. Xalçalar yarandığı vaxtda həm utilitar, həm də sənət əsəri kimi dəyərləndirilib. Təqribən 2500 yaşı olan dünyada ən qədim xalça Dağlıq Altayda Pazırıq kurqanında tapılmış və hal-hazırda Sankt-Peterburqdakı Dövlər Ermitajında saxlanılan unikal xalçadır. Sankt-Peterburq şəhərinə səfər edən hər bir kəsə Pazırıq xalçasına tamaşa etməyinizi tövsiyə edirəm.

R.Z.: Azərbaycanın xalçaçılıq sənətində Qarabağ xalça qrupunun xüsusi yeri vardır. Qarabağ xalçaları digər xalçalardan hansı xüsusiyyətləri ilə fərqlənir?

Ş.M.: Qarabağ Azərbaycanın ən qədim insan məskənlərindən biridir. Bu bölgənin bir çox şəhərləri xalça sənəti ilə məşhur olmuşdur. Onlardan Bərdə, Ağdam, Ağcabədi, Kəlbəcər, Füzuli, Laçın, Şuşa kimi şəhərlərin adını çəkmək olar. Bərdə şəhəri Qarabağın ən qədim mədəniyyət və incəsənət mərkəzlərindən biri olub, Albaniya dövlətinin Qəbələdən sonra ikinci paytaxtı olmuşdur. Qarabağda müxtəlif adlarda

xalçalar toxunur. Qarabağın ən məşhur xalçalarından “Bərdə”, “Xanqərvənd”, “Qoca”, “Buynuz”, “Dəryanur”, “Açma-yumma”, “Xanlıq”, “Muğan”, “Qasımuşağı”, “Bəhmənli”, “Lәmpә” və s. adlarını çəkmək olar.

Qarabağ, Təbriz qrupu istisna olunmaqla daha böyük ölçülü xalçaların mərkəzi hesab oluna bilər. Burada XVII sonu – XVIII əsrin əvvəllərindən başlayaraq üç, bəzən də beş hissədən ibarət dəst xalı-gəbələr toxunmuşdur. Halbuki nəinki Azərbaycanın digər xalça qruplarına aid olan məntəqələrində, hətta cəsarətlə demək olar ki, dünyanın heç bir yerində dəst xalı-gəbələr toxunmur. Dəst xalı-gəbələrə “ortalıq” xalı və onun iki yan tərəfinə salınan gəbələr aiddir. Ortadakı xalı yan gəbələrə nisbətən 15-20 sm enli olur. Bəzən bu üçlüyə “başlıq” və “qapıağzı” deyilən ayaqlıq hissə də əlavə edilir. Bu nadir hallarda olur. Hər 3 və yaxud 5 xalı-gəbənin rəng, kompozisiya və naxışları eyni olur.

Qarabağ xalı-xalçaları az sıxlığa (25x25 sm, 30x30 sm, 35x35 sm) malik olub, xov hündürlüyü 6-10 mm-ə çatır. Qarabağ xalçaları əlvan (qırmızı, sarı) və kontrast rənglərdə toxunur. Ara sahə yerliyi ənənəyə uyğun olaraq qırmızı və qara rəngdə olur. Qarabağ xalçalarında klassik, totem və işarə xarakterli stilizə edilmiş elementlərlə yanaşı, ən çox Təbriz xalça kompozisiyaları da toxunur. Lakin, istər Təbriz, istərsə də Avropanın xalça, parça və süfrələrindən götürülən naxışlar stilizə edilərək yerli naxış üslubuna tətbiq edilir.

A.B.: Muzeydə sərgilənən Azərbaycan xalçaları sırasında Qarabağ xalçaları təmsil olunubmu? Onlar hansılardır?

Ş.M.: Qeyd edim ki, dünyada Qarabağ xalçalarının ən zəngin kolleksiyası bizim muzeydədir və bu xalçalar bütün kompozisiyaları əhatə edir. Burada XVII əsrin “Xətai” xalçalarından tutmuş XX əsrin əvvəlinə aid süjetli xalçalar qorunur. Bu qrupun kompozisiyaları sırasında “Baxçada güllər”, “Balıq”, “Buynuz”, “Bəhmənli”. “Qarabağ”, “Qoca”, “Qasımuşağı”, “Lənbəran”, “Muğan”, “Talış”, “Lәmpә”, “Malıbəyli”, “Xantirmə”, “Xanlıq”, “Çələbi”, “Şabalıdbuta”, “Naxçıvan” və digərlərini sadalamaq olar. Maraqlıdır ki, muzeyin əldə etdiyi ilk xalça 1967-ci ildə alınmış, XIX əsrin sonuna aid Qarabağın “Balıq” xalçasıdır.

R.Z.: Məşhur Çələbi xalçaları barədə eşitmək maraqlı olardı.

Ş.M.: “Çələbi” və ya “Bərdə” adlı xalça kompozisiyası Qarabağın ətraf kəndlərində, o cümlədən Bərdənin 10 km şərqində yerləşən Çələbi kəndində toxunmuşdur. Görkəmli xalça tədqiqatçısı Lətif Kərimovun fikrinə əsasən, türk xalqlarında “Çələbi” sözü bəy, əfəndi, həmçinin yüksək mənsəb sahiblərinə verilən fəxri titul idi.

Xalça tək göl kompozisiyası əsasında tərtib olunmuşdur. Ara sahənin mərkəzində “Çələbi” xalçalarına xarakterik olan eyni quruluşlu göl elementi verilir. Qarabağ xalçaçılığında geniş yayılmış “Günəş” və ya “Çələbi” adlı göl elementi hər tərəfə şüalarını yayan günəşin rəmzi olub, həm də ilahi nura işarədir.

On iki ləçəkli oxşəkilli, girintili və çıxıntılı formalardan ibarət olan bu göl elementi XIV – XVI əsrlərin peşəkar rəssamlarının yaratdıqları medalyonları təqlid edir və Qarabağ növlü xalçaların digər qrupları arasında da istifadə olunurdu.

A.B.: Qarabağımız nəhayət ki, düşmən işğalından azad olunubdur. Qarabağda, xüsusilə də Şərqin mədəni beşiyi sayılan Şuşada xalça muzeyi yaratmaq planları varmı?

Ş.M.: Bilirsiniz, hələ 1987-ci ildə Şuşada muzeyimizin filialı təntənəli surətdə açılmış və 1992-ci ilə qədər fəaliyyət göstərmişdir. Qeyd edək ki, 1992-ci ildə Şuşa filialından 246 eksponatdan 183 eksponat təxliyə olunaraq bu günədək Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyində qorunub-saxlanılır. Hal-hazırda Şuşaya aparılacaq eksponatların siyahısı yenilənir. Yenidən fəaliyyəti bərpa olunan filial Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyinin qabaqcıl iş prinsipini özündə əks etdirməsi üçün xüsusi proqramlar işlənib-hazırlanması nəzərdə tutulub.

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R.Z.: Məlumdur ki, xalçaların toxunmasında ornamentlərin xüsusi rolu var. Ornamentlər regiondan regiona fərqlənirmi? İnsanların yaşadıqları coğrafi məkan (məsələn dağlıq və ya aran zonası) xalçaların ornamentlərinə təsir göstərə bilirmi?

Ş.M.: Əlbəttə, təsiri var. İnsanlar xalçaya onları əhatə edən təbiəti, əşyaları, öz inanc və duyğularını ilmələr vasitəsi ilə həkk edirlər. İlk öncə qeyd edim ki, naxış, ornamaent mövzusu çox geniş mövzudur və o bir müsahibəyə salına bilməz.

Naxış qismində mən əjdaha ornamentini misal gətirmək istərdim. Özündə qoruyucu mənanı əks etdirən simvola biz əksər Qarabağ xalçalarında rast gəlirik. Bunu “Xətai”, “Qasımuşağı” kimi xovlu və vərni kimi xovsuz xalçalarda rast gəlirik.

A.B.: İstənilən xalçanın dəyərini təşkil edən əsas 2 amil hansılardır?

Ş.M.: Xalçanın dəyərini təşkil edən əsas iki amil – onun toxunmasında istifadə olunan xammal və toxunmanın keyfiyyətidir. Xammal dedikdə, biz xalçanın toxunmasında istifadə olunan yunun keyfiyyətini nəzərdə tuturuq. Toxunmanın keyfiyyəti – kompozisiyanın düzgün alınmasıdır.

R.Z.: Sərgilərdən danışaq. Bilirik ki, Azərbaycan xalçaları bir çox ölkələrin sərgi zallarında nümayiş etdirilir. Keçirilmiş sərgilər barədə öyrənmək maraqlı olardı.

Ş.M.: Azərbaycan xalçaları demək olar ki, bütün dünyada sərgilənib. Təşkil olunan sərgilər daim böyük maraqla qarşılanıb. Bu gün bizim xalçalar müvəqqəti sərgilərlə yanaşı, dünya şöhrətli muzey ekspozisiyalarının daimi eksponatları sırasındadır.

Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyinə gəldikdə, son illərdə bizim silsilə sərgilərimiz İstanbul, Moskva, Tbilisi, Pekin, Sofiya, Belqrad və digər şəhərlərdə təşkil olunub. Onlardan Türk və İslam Əsərləri Muzeyində təşkil olunan sərgini xüsusi vurğulamaq istərdim. 13 mart 2020-ci ildə AMXM “Azərbaycan Respublikasında xalça sənətinin qorunmasına və inkişaf etdirilməsinə dair 2018-2022-ci illər üçün Dövlət Proqramı” və Azərbaycan ənənəvi xalçaçılıq sənətinin YUNESKO-nun Qeyri-maddi Mədəni İrs üzrə Reprezentativ Siyahısına daxil edilməsinin 10 illiyi çərçivəsində “Türk və İslam Əsərləri Muzeyinin kolleksiyasından Azərbaycan xalçaları” adlı sərgi və eyni adlı kitab-kataloqun təqdimatı təşkil olunmuşdur. XVII-XIX əsrlərə aid olan on iki ədəd nadir və indiyə kimi heç vaxt sərgilənməyən Azərbaycan xalçaları ilk dəfə nümayiş etdirildiyi bu sərgi izləyicilər tərəfindən böyük maraqla qarşılanmışdı.

A.B.: Bildiyim qədəri ilə, xalçaların toxunmasının iki

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üsulu var - əllə toxunma və maşın toxunması. Bunların arasında fərq nədədir?

Ş.M.: İlk növbədə maşın xalçasına əl vurduqda onun maşınla toxunmasını hiss etmək olar. Belə xalçaların arxa tərəfi sürüşkəndir və onlardan kimyəvi yapışqan iyi gəlir. Əllə toxunan xalçaların isə arxa hissəsində ilmələri aydın şəkildə görmək olur və onlardan təbii yun iyi gəlir.

R.Z.: Dünyada kompüter texnologiyası hər bir sahədə tətbiq olunur. Süni intellekt az qala incəsənətdə də insan əməyinin yerini tutmaq istəyir. Necə düşünürsünüz, gələcəkdə xalçaların toxunmasında kompüter texnologiyasından istifadə ehtimalı varmı?

Ş.M.: Artıq uzun illərdir ki, rəssamlar öz təcrübəsində kompüter imkanlarından istifadə edərək müxtəlif kompozisiyalı xalçalar yaradırlar. Hətta bizim muzeydə də vaxtı ilə uşaqlar üçün belə bir kompüter oyunu tətbiq olunmuşdur. Burada ara sahə, haşiyələr üçün müxtəlif naxışları, rəngləri seçərək öz xalçanı yaratmaq mümkündür.

A.B.: Dünyada ən baxalı / dəyərli xalça hansıdır?

Ş.M.: Yəqin ki, bu suala dəqiq cavab vermək çətindir. "Şeyx Səfi" xalçasını desəm səhv etmərəm.

R.Z.: Bəzi xalçalar öz rəsmlərində və ornamentlərində bir növ şifrlənmiş mesajlar daşıyır. Sizcə, bir ekspert kimi, təsvirlər vasitəsilə ötürülən hər bir mesajı anlamaq asandırmı?

Ş.M.: Hazırlıqlı, müəyyən biliklərə malik tamaşaçı üçün əlbəttə ki, bu mesajları anlamaq mümkündür. Amma adi bir tamaşaçı üçün yox. Xalçalardakı bir çox naxışlar – qədim damğalar, öz mənasını itirmiş işarələrdir. Və onların düzgün anlanması üçün tarix, arxeologiya, sənətşünaslıq, dilçilik, mifologiya, dinşünaslıq və digər elm sahələrində biliklərə malik olmaq lazımdır.

A.B.: Bilirik ki, Azərbaycan xalçaları dünyanın bir çox ölkələrinin muzeylərində nümayiş etdirilir və ya şəxsi kolleksiyalarda saxlanılır. Sizcə, ölkənin milli sərvəti sayılan dəyərli qədim xalçalar öz yarandığı vətənində saxlanılmamalıdırmı?

Ş.M.: Xarici muzeylərdə qorunan Azərbaycan xalçaları ən qiymətli eksponatlar sırasındadır. Viktoriya və Albert, Metropoliten İncəsənət, Luvr və bir çox digər muzeylərin daimi kolleksiyasında onları görmək, burada "Azərbaycan" adının qeyd olunması özü-özlüyündə ölkənin təbliğində rol oynayır. Ancaq biz tez-tez belə hallarla qarşılaşırıq ki, bu xalçaların toxunma məkanı kimi "Qafqaz", "İran" və ya "Ermənistan" qeyd olunur. Bu gün xalça muzeyinin ümdə olan vəzifələrindən biri elmi dəlillərlə bu xalçaların Azərbaycana aid olmasını sübuta yetirmək və muzey mətnlərində düzəlişlər etmək durur.

O ki qaldı, şəxsi kolleksiyalara – biz kolleksionerlərlə sıx əməkdaşlıq edirik, artıq bir neçə xarici kolleksionerlər öz kolleksiyalarında qorunan nadir Azərbaycan xalçalarını bizə hədiyyə edib və ildən-ilə onların sayı artmaq üzrədir.

R.Z.: Ən qədim xalçanın neçə yaşı var?

Ş.M.: Yuxarıda qeyd etdiyim kimi, dünyada ən qədim xalça – e.ə. V-IV əsrlərə aid Pazırıq xalçasıdır. Azərbaycan Milli Xalça Muzeyinə gəldikdə - ən qədim xalçalar – XVII əsrə aid Şirvanın "Şamaxı", Qarabağın "Xətai" və "Əjdahalı" xalçalarıdır.

A.B.: Mənfur qonşumuz Ermənistan bizim mədəni sərvətlərimizi, tarixi abidələrimizi, musiqimizi, mətbəximizi tarix boyu oğurlayıb mənimsəməyə çalışıb. Maraqlıdır, Azərbaycan xalçalarını da özlərinki kimi dünyaya göstərməyə cəhd ediblərmi?

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Ş.M.: Əlbəttə! Onlar bu təbliğat işini uzun illərdir ki, aparırlar. Son illərdə biz belə desək "xalça cəbhəsi"ndə vuruşur və xalçalarımızı geri alırıq.

Onlar bir çox xalçalarımızın adını dəyişdirərək öz adlarını, məsələn, "Çələbi" xalçasını "Çelabert", "Xətai" xalçasını "Vişapaqor" və s. kimi təqdim edirlər. Biz də xarici muzeylərdə erməni adı ilə tanınan Azərbaycan xalçalarını elmi dəlillərlə bizə aid olduğunu sübuta yetirərək yaranma yeri kimi Azərbaycanın qeyd olunmasına nail oluruq.

R.Z.: Xalçaçılıq kimi qədim incəsənət nümunəsinin bugünkü gənclər arasında təbliğ olunması üçün, Sizcə, hansı işlər görülməlidir?

Ş.M.: Bizim muzeydə bugünkü gənclər arasında xalça sənətinə maraq yaratmaq üçün bir çox proqramlar işlənib hazırlanmışdır. Amma ən əsası sizin muzeyimizə gəlməyinizdir. Muzeyimizdəki mütəxəssislər sizdə bu sənət haqqında müfəssəl məlumat yaradacaq və bu sənəti sizə sevdirəcəklər.

A.B.: ADA Məktəbinin şagirdlərinə nə arzulayardınız?

Ş.M.: Pandemiya ilə əlaqədar hər birinizə ilk növbədə cansağlığı, təhsilinizdə uğurlar, daha çox öz üzərinizdə işləməyi, qarşınıza qoyduğunuz məqsədlərə çatmağı və Vətənimizə layiqli övlad olmağı arzulayıram.

Gördüyünüz və görəcəyiniz işlər həqiqətən də çox maraqlıdır. Azərbaycanın milli mənəvi dəyərlərinin qorunub saxlanılmasında, eləcədə Azərbaycan incəsənətinin incisi olan milli xalçaçılıq sənətinin dünyaya təbliğ edilməsində Sizə uğurlar arzulayırıq.

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NATIONAL MOVIES

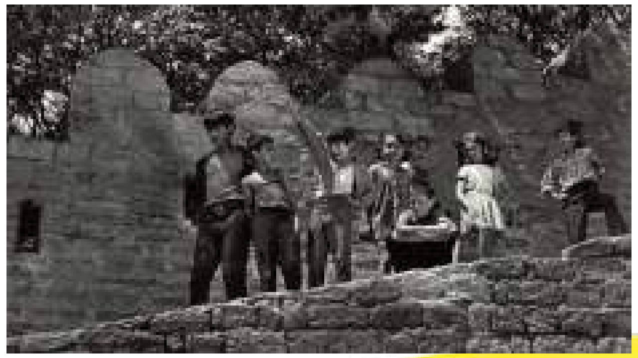
Movies are an indispensable part of our lives. We often approach them in order to make our day more interesting. Getting the effect we expect from a movie, instantly makes us happier. Mostly real-life films have a greater impact on us. When we see events that had happened, in a 2-3 hour frame, different emotions come into view. Each genre of film has its own characteristics. Films depicting wars in history are made more delicately. It is very important to convey every event to the audience correctly and clearly. The masterpieces created by our film studio have a special place in the history of cinema. Now let's take a look at some of those masterpieces.

Shared Bread (Sharikli Chorek)

The film «Shared Bread», which introduces us to the background through the eyes of children, was first demonstrated in 1969. The events take place in May 1945. Both of his parents show us the difficulties of little Vagif, who went to the front. Despite his young age, he tries to stand on his own two feet in the streets of the Old City, selling water in the market. In those days, people could buy bread only by «card», and each family was given bread according to its size. At the beginning of the film, the hero loses his card and can't get bread. Because he is hungry, he satisfies himself with less than a teaspoon of sugar he finds at home. As the audience looks at this scene, they become

speechless. Because in the film, the difficulties of the war could only be worked out so dramatically. Vagif works in

various jobs throughout the film. One of them was to be a servant to Kirchi Mohammad. In addition to the scenes that burn the hearts of the audience, there are many scenes full of satire. The dialogues between the weaver Mohammad and Vagif make us smile when we watch the film. Kamran



Rajabli, who plays Vagif, said in an interview: «Everyone probably remembers our meal with Fazil Salayev (Kirchi Mohammad). The one-piece of tomato bread I ate on that stage was the most appetizing meal I had ever had. At that time, we could hardly find such food, and that was the scene I enjoyed the most. « One of the interesting facts is that the scenes in the film were sometimes shot without the children's knowledge in order to make them more natural. One of such scenes is Tuna Namazova's portrayal of a doll at Leyla's feet. Filming in the wonderful streets of the Old City, on the tram, in the Friday mosque adds to the film. Towards the end of the film, Vagif finds the lost card in his book and goes to buy bread. After receiving the bread, he shares it with the children instead of taking it home. Finally, at the end of the war, under the raindrops, they all danced to the tune of «You, Childhood.» The film's director Shamil Mahmudbeyov and screenwriter Alla Akhundova were awarded the State Prize for the film. The composer of the film is Vasif Adigozalov, and the background music is «You, childhood» performed by Ogtay Agayev.

Scream (Feryad)

It is safe to say that this film is the most difficult and dramatic in the history of cinema. The film was shown in

1993, and the lead role and director is Jeyhun Mirzayev, known as «Ismayil» from the film «Stepmother». The subject of the film is a soldier Ismayil, who was captured by armenians during the Karabakh war. Yes, Stepmother is the same character as Ismail in the movie. Because Jeyhun Mirzayev wanted to present this film about the war that little Ismayil grew up and went to serve his homeland. The film clearly shows how the armenians treated the captives and what the disabled did to the people so that not everyone could bear to watch this film. Some film critics have called it the hardest film in our history. It is not the job of every director to convey the atrocities committed by the enemy to us to such an extent. The residents who play the role of Khojaly residents who were shot and wounded in the film are in fact refugees from Khojaly in real life. Malik Dadashov, who played one of the most brutal roles in the film, said in an interview: «One day, as I was walking on the road, a woman started shouting, «Oh, people, this is an armenian!», then a policeman came to me and asked who

I was. I told him, «My son, I am an actor, not an Armenian.» You probably don't know me because you're young, I just portrayed an armenian in the film. ‘ Even the armenians wanted to accept the actor as a national hero for this image. The actor is shocked by this incident and expresses his regret for playing this character in the film. Dubbing was added to the voices of the actors playing armenian roles in the film, but Malik Dadashov was such a great actor that even if he did not know the language, he could speak without mistakes.

Jeyhun Mirzayev was taken to the hospital due to concussions. During the filming of the film, he cried remembering the events in Khojaly. He really wanted to watch the finished version of the film, but he couldn't watch it. At the end of the film, Ismail escapes from captivity and leaves with the soldiers to be reunited with his family, which is his only great dream. The director of the film is Suleyman Ahmadov, and the author of the screenplay is Vagif Mustafayev. Background music by Javanshir Guliyev – «March». The film has won awards at many festivals.

Dada Gorgud

The film is based on the epos «Kitabi Dada Gorgud». It covers 2 branches of the saga and was shown in 1975. The struggle of the Oghuz people against foreigners is very clearly presented in the film. The film is the first 2

series of our film history. The main characters are Hasan Mammadov, Rasim Balayev, Leyla Shikhlinskaya, and others. Actors and actresses took special classes in the film for horseback riding and archery scenes. But the most difficult of them was Rasim Balayev, who played the role of «Beyrak». He said in an interview – «I could not shoot a horse, I could not shoot an arrow. Somehow I learned to ride horses. Shooting would be a tragedy. There is a scene in the film. Beyrak says, «Son of a pig, does a man shoot an arrow like that?» teaches Yalıncı to shoot an arrow. A lot of people were lined up when the scene was filmed. Among them was Shafiqa Mammadova. When I took the reading from Yalıncık's hand and threw it, it hit Shafiqa

khanum's arm. Arm bled the doctor came. Fortunately, it wasn't her eye. Then he said that you did it on purpose. I said, why would I do it on purpose? I shot and threw it to the other side, it flew to her. However the second time I hit the target.»

One of the most interesting scenes in the film is the battle scene of Lion and Beyrak. The actor asked to remove this scene from the script, but the screenwriter did not accept it. He says that this was the most difficult scene in his life. Nadezhda Ismayilova, the wife of the film's cameraman Rasim Ismayilov, recalls interesting moments about «Dada Gorgud»: «First of all, I must say that the film had a great team and crew. I was very happy to read Anar's script. There was no need to work on the script, no change. Because it was very well written. When I started reading, I couldn't leave. Moreover, it took courage to talk about such a subject at that time. In this sense, the theme, language,

and style of the script were new. Anar was in favor of using fantasy in the film. So were we. Mr. Tofig Taghizade was a realist. There was a disagreement between the director and the screenwriter. But later Tofig agreed with that idea. The film is a bit of a fairy tale. In this case, the name of Togrul Narimanbekov should be specially mentioned. His film sketches were so beautiful that they were used at the beginning. This gave a certain fairy-tale tone to the film.»

Fatma Hajiyeva, 10A1

SAMAD BEY **MEHMANDAROV**

«We have never been and never will be under the yoke.»

«If the enemy does not surrender, they destroyed.»

Heroes are people who have become unforgettable for their courage, achievements, and contributions. These heroes write the history of the country and the people.

Are heroes memorable? Of course, they are unforgettable. We must not forget themand their contribution. One of such unforgettable heroes is Samad bey Mehmandarov. This biography is about a real Azerbaijani hero, Samad bey Mehmandarov, who is engraved in the history of the Azerbaijani people and nation with his unparalleled services.

Samad bey Mehmandarov was born on October 16, 1856, in Lankaran. He is originally from Shusha. He first studied at a gymnasium in Baku, and then at the age of 16 entered the II Konstantinovka Artillery School in St. Petersburg. In December 1875, he received the rank of lieutenant colonel and was awarded the Order of St. Stanislav of the third degree. He was promoted to captain in 1890, a lieutenant colonel in 1898, a colonel in 1901, and a major general in 1904. Samad bey Mehmandarov, who showed great courage in the Russo-Japanese War, was awarded the rank of full artillery general in 1908.

Samad bey Mehmandarov's family life was also relatively rough. At the age of 48, he married Elizaveta Nikolayevna, a nurse at the Port Arthur Military Hospital. He had been married to Elizaveta Nikolayevna for less than a year. During this war, Samad Bey once said to his wife:

- I received permission from the command to return to St. Petersburg. Get ready, I'll see you tomorrow or the next day.

Elizabeth looked at her husband's face:

- Samad bey, - she said, - if there is a war in the country, where do you think a soldier should be?

- Of course, on the front!

«Look, I'm on the front line, too, or do you see me as a woman and doubt that I'm a soldier?»

- After all, you have to be a mother...

- Let's not return to this conversation. Promise me? Get rid of this subject, my dear! Without you, I do not need St. Petersburg, nor Paris.

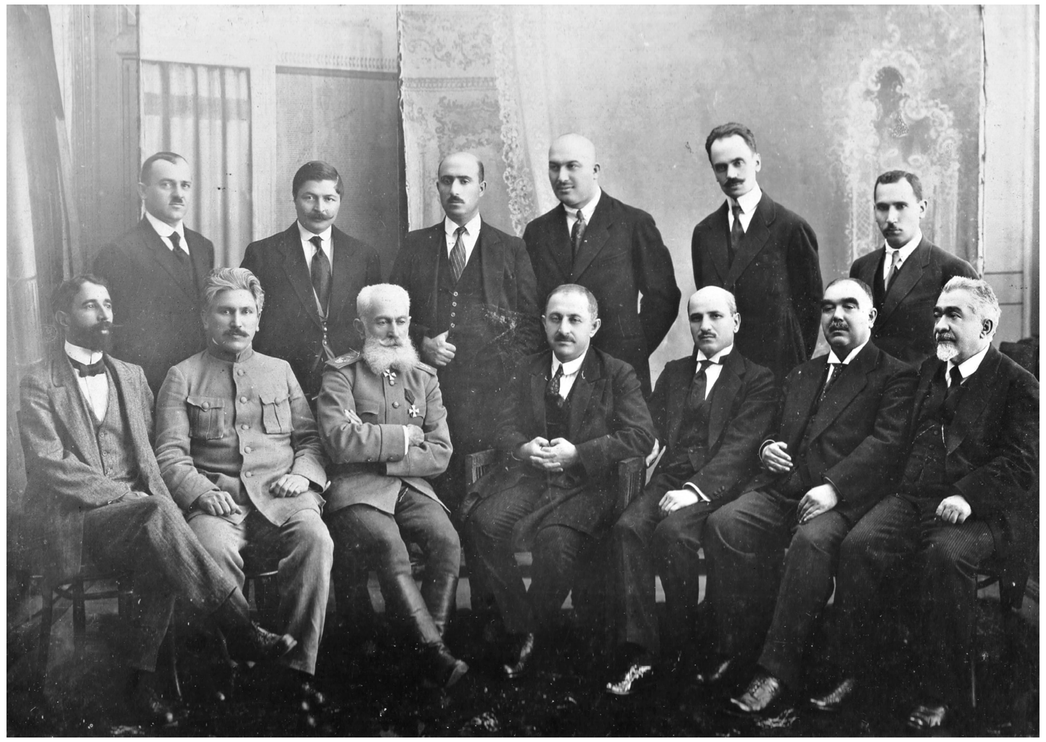
Thus, their son was born in 1907 and they named him Pir. Even the meaning of the name Pir was an unusual discovery, so Samad bey was happy to give this name to his son. However, later Samad Bey changed his son's name to Igor Samedovich Mehmandarov, taking into account that his wife was from a noble family. Igor was a Russian-speaking man who said, "My mother and I were often beaten by NKVD (People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs of the USSR) officers. «The reason is that he is the son of a minister. Samad Bey's son and his wife were first exiled to Kaliningrad, and then by train to Siberia when the war broke out. At that time, Mehmandarov's wife was killed in a German airstrike on a train, but his son survived. He later married a woman named Igor Iza Polagina, but they had no children. This was Igor's second marriage. Even Samad bey Mehmandarov never got acquainted with his bride Iza Polegina.

Samad bey Mehmandarov's bravery and support for the state and the people did not go unnoticed. Igor was invited to Baku by the late President Heydar Aliyev in 1970 and was given a house in Baku by our national leader. From then on, he lived with his wife in Baku and died in August 1989. His grave is located in Yasamal cemetery.

In general, Samad bey Mehmandarov took part in the Port Arthur battles and the First World War throughout his life and was especially distinguished for his activity during the Popular Front. Aliaga Shikhlinsky, who witnessed that Samad bey Mehmandarov did not lose even in the most dangerous battles during the Port Arthur battles, writes:

«On October 14, when the fortress came under artillery fire, Samad bey Mehmandarov came to my position. The position was fired upon by the Japanese with a variety of artillery, from an eleven-button wholesale to a small naval cannon of seventeen millimeters. This position was also under Japanese rifle and machine gunfire. At that moment, a six-inch shell exploded near Mehmandarov and black mud rose from the ground and covered him, but he was not injured. Mehmandarov did not pay any attention to it, took out a white handkerchief from his pocket with great coldness, and began to wipe the mud splashing on his new coat.

Samad bey Mehmandarov (sitting, 3rd from the left) with the members of the 4th Cabinet of Ministers of ADR. December 1919



For his bravery during these battles, Mehmandarov was appointed chief of the Eastern Front, which is considered the most important front. Because the Japanese were attracting their strongest forces here. After that, the captured Russian soldiers were given a written undertaking not to take part in the war against Japan, but Mehmandarov did not agree to this insulting promise. He was captured and returned to Russia in 1906.

Upon his return from captivity, Samad Bey was appointed commander of the Eastern Siberian Artillery Brigade and was soon given a more responsible position. He became an artillery chief in the Third Siberian Army Corps. During World War I, General Mehmandarov gained special fame during Operation Lodz on September 15, 1914. In the end, he was awarded orders from Russia, Britain, France, and other countries for his participation in the First World War.

Major Hajiaga Ibrahimbeyli wrote about him: «General Mehmandarov gained great fame during the First World War. In the most frightening moments of the fighting, his unparalleled composure and extreme courage were known in the Russian army. He loved and helped people who were naturally just, honest, and truthful, and he was cruel to those who were dishonest. Everyone who obeys him fears him, but they love him and believe in him.»

When the bourgeois revolution took place in 1917, Samad Bey was in the Caucasus. In April of that year, he resigned permanently, lived in Vladikavkaz for a while, and then came to Azerbaijan.

During the APC, on December 25, 1918, he was appointed Minister of War. Together with Aliaga Shikhlinsky, he created an army of 35,000 in a short time. It commands greetings after the army is formed. He orders each of the soldiers to greet in Azerbaijani Turkish, to say «hello» in response to the word «hello», and to say «thank you very much» in response to the word «hello» during the awarding ceremony. It was obvious how loyal he was to his mother tongue. He complained about the looting and reconnaissance of British troops in Azerbaijan during the Popular Front, and in protest, asked the Azerbaijani government to return to the British government the orders given to him by the British government during the First World War.

After the establishment of the Soviet government, Mehmandarov resigned. After that, he was successively arrested, lived in Moscow for a year, and then returned to Baku to work as a teacher at the United Commanders School. He even took an active part in military events in 1924-1927.

Towards the end of his life, he studied Islamic history and philosophy. He died on February 12, 1931 in Baku and was buried in Chambarakand cemetery. Even if he dies, his memory is always remembered, and anniversaries and anniversaries are celebrated. In addition, the streets of Baku and one of the tankers of the Azerbaijan Caspian Shipping Company are named after Mehmandarov. A number of films about the life and work of the hero were also made. These included «I loved you forever», «Samadbey», «He was considered the God of artillery», «Lonely light», «Generals of the Republic», «Sardar» and others. movies can be taken as an example. In addition, Samad bey Mehmandarov is depicted in Alexander Stepanov's novels «Port Arthur» and «Zvonaryov family».

Even if Samad bey Mehmandarov dies as a hero, his memory and every word he says will always live in our hearts. May God have mercy on him!

S. Mehmandarov:

«If the enemy does not surrender, they are destroyed.»

«We have never been and never will be under the yoke.»

Lutfiyya Mirpashazada, 11C2

Architecture of Baku
BEFORE *and* TODAY

In the foreground, gorgeous Maiden Tower surrounded by fertile trees and old houses with ancient carpets, depicted as mirrors of history, on their terraces. Meanwhile, in the background, breathtaking trio of skyscrapers, Flame Towers. The contrast between two entirely different historical periods constructions could not be better. But would you like to look at the history of the creation of this architecture in Baku? If yes, let's start our journey with identifying through which periods did Baku's architecture passe.

The medieval/Islamic period: until 1860

The Old City (Icheri Sheher) is considering as an example of one of the most ancient medieval architecture constructions of Baku, Azerbaijan. The stones full of history houses in Old City dates to the 12th century and even earlier. Maiden Tower is one of the most valuable monuments of Azerbaijan, the history of which is still unknown. While trying to not get lost in its labyrinths you will notice many Islamic styles, for instance the Palace of the Shirvanshahs (it is a significant historical evidence telling about the independence of Azerbaijan in the past since the state of Shirvan was an independent from 9th century till 16th century).
Interesting fact: in December 2000, the Old City of Baku, including the Palace of the Shirvanshahs and Maiden Tower,

Photo by Fatima Khubyarova, 10A2

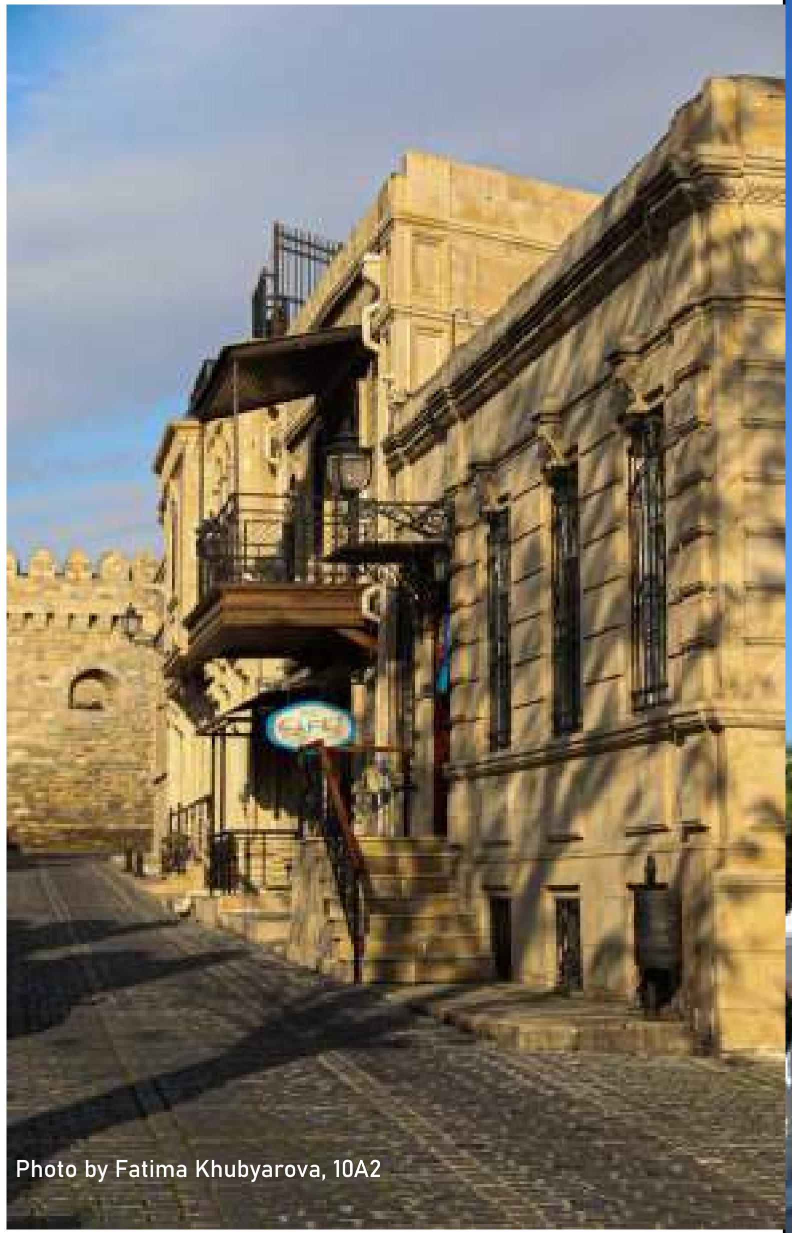


Photo by Fatima Khubyarova, 10A2

became the first location in Azerbaijan to be classified as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Russian empire and the first oil exploitation: the latest XIX century-the early XX century

While Azerbaijan was a part of Russian Empire, the income from the first oil boom in the beginning of the 19th century in Baku gave a chance to the capital city to grow and enrich its architecture. The rich barons such as Agha Musa Naghiyev and Haji Zeynalabdin Taghiyev were ones who could influence the development of lavish constructions of Baku.
Fountains square is a public square in downtown Baku, construction of which started in 1803. It is one of the most favorite places of the population where they can do shopping, gather in cafes etc. and marveling amazing residences with blossomed balconies.

Photo by Khadija Ahmadova, 10C1

Fun fact: the square previously called "Parapet". Nowadays it is named Fountains because of the dozens of fountains constructed there during Soviet period.

Soviet architecture: XX century

During the Soviet period the capital city was enriched by a number of unusual building and palaces, which are well known for their incredible design. The wonderful examples of those period are Azerbaijan State Academic Drama Theatre, Government House, Nizami Cinema Center etc.

Luckily, nowadays, we are able to see both ancient and modern buildings with incredible designs.

Our collumnist Humay Sadig (10A1) asked Ms. Puste Babayeva (General Director of ARPA Consulting, institutional company providing engineering services, including design and management of projects) about the state of architecture in Baku and some other curious questions.

Humay Sadig (H.S.): How do you think, which constructions, which were built before the XXI century, still play a significant role in the economy and tourism of Azerbaijan?

Puste Babayeva (P.B.): Well, Azerbaijan has an extremely rich architecture and infrastructure. The constructions in Azerbaijan typically combine styles and elements mainly from East and West. And you can see masterpieces of different architects in Azerbaijan from German, Russian, Italian, local, and other architects.
But we have our style and typical architecture, which relevant only to Azerbaijan.
Many construction treasures of Baku such as the Palace of Shirvanshakhs, Maiden Tower, Mardakan Castle, Palace of Sheki Khans, Ismailliyye (building of the Academy of Sciences), Palace of Happiness, were all built before the XXI century, still provide a significant impact on tourism. Icheri Sheher itself is one of the greatest examples of great architectural concepts. They are the centers, which are still attracting lots of tourists. Lots of people coming to Baku to create some other products inspired by these constructions and these buildings.
Lots of landmark architectural buildings in Baku were built at the end of the XIX century, beginning of the XX century. This period was rich with Azerbaijani millionaires, who invested in the appearance of the Baku city after the Oil Boom. Ismailliyye Palace (the present building of the Academy of Sciences), Palace of Happiness, and all others belong to that period and still play a significant role.

H.S.: What has become an important source of money that the government has given much for the architectural improvements in Baku?

P.B.: Historically, our rapidly developing construction and architecture in Azerbaijan were mainly supported by stable oil production. However, the government created quite an attractive investment climate, which attracted also lots of foreign investments.
At the present moment, Azerbaijan's economy is

Photo by Khadija Ahmadova, 10C1

Photo by Leyla Kazdal, 10B1

Puste Babayeva
Photo by Khavar Kalantarli, 11A2

sustainably developing not only in oil and gas but also in non-oil sector fields such as agriculture and food production, manufacturing, telecommunications, and tourism. All those generate income, so the government can support its maintaining of architectural buildings and constructions and invest in the appearance of Baku, other cities, and villages.

So, the effectiveness of the economic policy provides a variety of opportunities to maintain large infrastructure projects, sport and leisure facilities, entertainment centers which become sound attractive touristic centers.

H.S.: What would you say about the well-known Flame Towers?

P.B.: Well, Flame Towers is one of the amazing contemporary landmarks of Baku. It is quite attractive and nice.
The three symbols are the symbols of flame, which are mainly connected with Zoroastrianism, the predominant religion of the territories of Azerbaijan before the Islamic religion.
As we know, the name of «Azerbaijan» comes from the Persian language and is translated as the «protector of fire». But why fire? Because we live in the country, where we have oil and gas and in ancient times people, who were worshipping Zoroastrianism, thought that the flame coming from the earth is something amazing and special.
So, the flame is associating with Zoroastrianism. Of course, there is no such religion in Azerbaijan right at the moment but we have lots of nice traditions, landmarks, and monuments coming from that time. For example, Ateshgah is a good reminder to us about that period.

H.S.: What can you tell us about the impact of the Centre of Heydar Aliyev?

P.B.: The Center of Heydar Aliyev is one of the unique contemporary architecture and art, designed by the talented Zakha Hadid known as the «Queen of the curve». The Center of Heydar Aliyev expresses not only iconic geometry, curves, and waves famous in Zakha Hadid's signature buildings, but also provides an innovative approach in the use of space. The impact of the Center of Heydar Aliyev on the social, cultural, and touristic life of the city is amazing since it serves as the combination of the cultural center, museum, exhibition scene for the world-class art, concert, and conference hall.
This is the modern art concept, which is incorporated very nicely into the landscape and total look of Baku city.
A lot of locals and people from abroad come to the Centre of Heydar Aliyev also to take different conversations over there, make friends. Also, and people gather there to shoot some videos. So, of course, its impact is quite huge.

H.S.: In your opinion, the designs of which architects (local/foreign) will serve the population of Baku well into the future?

P.B.: Well, there are a lot of talented local and internationally known architects, who already made their inputs into the architectural heritage of Baku. In my point of view, it is really time to provide opportunities for the young and talented new generation of architects. In this regard, it is necessary to underline the approach of the State Committee of Architecture and City Planning and their recently announced competition «Absheron Simasi» (Face of Absheron) which provides quite a good example of the eagerness to attract young talents to the creation of upcoming architecture.

H.S.: How do you imagine the future architecture of Baku?

P.B.: I do believe that the future architecture will be based on some really important principles, like green technologies, smart innovations, and energy-efficient infrastructure.
I do really believe that our future architectural concepts will be based on these three main directions. And whatever it is, no matter it is a big or small building, they will be more convenient and smarter.

Humay Sadig, 10A1

Humay Sadig, Puste Babayeva and Ilham Karimli
Photo by Khavar Kalantarli, 11A2

Humay Sadig, 10A1
Photo by Khavar Kalantarli, 11A2

Photo by Fatima Khubyarova, 10A2

Mr Summer Xia:

«I would love to visit ADA School and look at what we can do together.»

Recognizing that we have many students in ADA School who aspire to study abroad, we have decided to conduct an interview with the Country Director of the British Council in Azerbaijan, Mr Summer Xia.

The British Council is the UK's international organization functioning to strengthen cultural ties with countries all around the world while providing educational opportunities. Summer Xia has worked in a variety of roles in the British Council global network including its headquarters in London, branches in Indonesia and Thailand. Before taking up his role as Country Director of British Council Azerbaijan in 2018, he was based in Singapore. Summer is a strong believer in Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI).

Summer is passionate about the role cultural relations play in the modern world and looks forward to strengthening the Azerbaijan-UK relationship.

Our international relationships director of ADAlilar Magazine Aylin Ismayilova (11A2) met with Mr Summer and talked about British Council's current activities and future plans.

Aylin Ismayilova (A.I.): What is the main mission of the British Council?

Summer Xia (S.X.): The British Council is the UK's leading culture relations organization. We try to create links between the UK and other countries so that we could create dialogues between people create opportunities. So, there are three areas that underpin our work in Azerbaijan and globally. The first one is English language. The UK is the place where the English language originated from. That's why we see ourselves as the expert to promote the learning and assessment of English. The second area is education. Education is really important for the future of any country to develop its human capitals. That's why we work globally, including here in Azerbaijan, to create educational opportunities. And the third area is arts and culture. This is where we bring the best cultural assets from the UK in terms of films, music, performing arts and share that with other countries to develop in their arts and cultural field, especially with a focus on making this world a more inclusive place.

(A.I.): Are there any specific activities that are unique to British Council branches in Azerbaijan compared to those abroad?

(S.X.): Increasingly, a lot of our programs are conducted on a regional level. In the past it was country-specific, so we would have a dedicated program just for Azerbaijan. But now we realized that if we have a program for a number of countries this means that not only would they get to benefit from the expertise from the UK, but also from the other countries. Increasingly, our programs are not only for Azerbaijan but also for the neighboring countries such as Georgia, Turkey, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. These countries are probably facing similar challenges and we can create a platform to talk to counterparts in Georgia and Turkey. There is still a small number of things we do just in Azerbaijan. For example, one thing is what we call the UK Alumni Awards. This is a global program, but only a small number of countries will choose to have a country competition and ceremony. We are one of the countries because I recognize the importance to celebrate the achievements of Azerbaijanis who have studied in the UK and have since come back to Azerbaijan. Even though it's a regional program, we partner with local partners. For example, in all the projects we'll talk about today we work directly with the Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Culture and other institutions such as ADA University and the State Examination Center.

(A.I.): Could you give an example of partnership with educational facilities and what you have achieved?

(S.X.): One of the best examples is a program we call "Creative Spark". This is to look at how we can enhance enterprise education programs at university level with a focus on the creative industry. We recognize that for countries like Azerbaijan, you have an ambition to diversify the economy. Through this program we want to create opportunities for students to think about the prospects of becoming an entrepreneur so they can start their own business. In Azerbaijan, we have established seven partnerships between Azerbaijani universities and institutions in the UK, and that includes ADA university. Through these partnerships there will be an exchange of faculty members, students and capacity building. We have a competition as a part of the program that is called "Big Idea Challenge". This is where students can come up with an idea that they think would be a viable business and we select these ideas and help them materialize it by giving them funding and expert support. What's really made me proud was that this program is a regional program, so seven countries are a part of this program. Last year during the "Big Idea Challenge" competition, the winner from

Photo by Fatima Khubyarova, 10A2

Azerbaijan eventually became the winner on a global level. So that really demonstrates how much creativity there is from Azerbaijan. That idea, actually, is specifically about adaptive fashion brand that will help disabled people. This really sends out a very strong message from Azerbaijan that not only are we creative and innovative here, we're also very keen to improve equality and embrace diversity so we could achieve inclusion.

(A.I.): The British Council has been active in Azerbaijan for a few decades now. How would you rate the level of English proficiency among the population?

(S.X.): It's quite difficult to get an official level. It involves a lot of testing and sampling. My impression is that it's rather inconsistent. Some students I've come across speak perfect English. There are other times where the level of English is relatively low. I can see a difference between Baku and in the regions. That really has prompted us to work more to promote these opportunities beyond the capital city so that people from the regions will also be able to improve their English. Specifically, following what happened last year we're really keen on working together with the Ministry of Education to look at how we can support people from the liberated territories. Back to the formal assessment and sampling, we recently launched together with the Ministry of Education a program called "Future English". We want to get more data to answer this question: what is the level of English proficiency among school children in Azerbaijan? We will have a test of English for students from 150 schools. That research will then give us a better idea what the gaps are and what we can do to address these gaps. So come back to me in a year's time and I will be able to tell you more.

(A.I.): The UK Universities such as Oxford, Cambridge and so on are among the top-rated universities in the world. What qualities do you think make them so appealing to students worldwide?

(S.X.): There are several things that makes the UK higher education sector so popular amongst international students. I think the first one is about the approach to higher education. It's not just about learning the knowledge from professors, it's also about challenging the status quo, getting the students to come up with their own narratives. The second thing is about the innovation the UK higher education institutions focus on. A good example is how they have responded to COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, every university has adopted a different approach how they can maximize the limited face to face interaction to continue the education for students. That requires a lot of innovation, creativity, lots of cutting-edge technology. The third area is the research capacity. So, it's not only about academic achievement, it's also about how well the universities can do research and use the research to come up with solutions. Again, this pandemic has showcased the UK's research capacity, as we know the Oxford vaccine has now been launched in the UK and several other countries. The final thing is about that experience in the UK. It's about the cultural experience that students will get to have in the countryside of the UK, in cities like Coventry or Birmingham, or the metropolitan such as London and Manchester. It's about experiencing the home of Shakespeare, Harry Potter, Premier League. It's also about getting the opportunity to experience firsthand working in international organizations and companies. For example, last year we reintroduced the Graduate Route which means that all students this year going to study in the UK will be given 2 years to stay in the UK after they graduate to look for a job and gain work experience. Those are some of the highlights of why the UK higher education is well-known for its quality and creativity. That's also why 1 in 7 world leaders have studied in the UK.

(A.I.): There's a lot of students in Azerbaijan that aspire to study in the UK. What are some base level requirements that they should expect?

(S.X.): It depends on whether you're going to study an undergraduate program or a post-graduate program. First, you need to have your school-level academic results. Usually, the UK universities would be looking at A-Level results or IB results. If it is post-graduate study, then they will expect the student to have a first degree from a university. Second is about the English language level. IELTS is the usual test that people take to demonstrate their English level, so for post-graduate studies the score universities would ask from students is 6.5. For undergraduate it's slightly less, around 6. Third one is about finances. You need to have the finances to pay for the school fees and cost of living in the UK. Universities have scholarships as well. That's something people perhaps don't know. There are various universities offering different scholarships to students, including the UK government scholarship from our Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office which is called Chevening. We give about 10 scholarships every year to Azerbaijani students who want to study their Masters in the UK. The detailed requirement for each program and each university varies. I would really encourage any student who wants to study in the UK to do their research thoroughly. One thing I would recommend is that the British Council has a dedicated website to provide students with such information. It's called Study UK, so people can google study-uk.britishcouncil.org and access that website. All the questions about tuition fees, choosing a program, choosing a university, choosing a city, living in the UK – all those questions will be answered.

(A.I.): What advice would you personally give to someone who wants to study in the UK?

(S.X.): There's a few things. The first thing is you must go prepared. As I said earlier, you need to do your research and don't always follow others. Some people may talk about Oxford and Cambridge. But actually, there's a lot more universities in the UK. I think higher education is a match between you individually and the university. I would encourage all students to do their research to find the right course for themselves. People really need to understand their own passion and then use that to select the right university for themselves. It also depends on what kind of cultural experience people want to have. As I mentioned earlier, you could choose to study in a metropolitan area like London, you could also choose to study in the countryside, Scotland for example. You need to be happy when you're doing your degree. It's not a short time. Undergraduate will take 3 years, post-graduate will take 1 year. The final thing is to prepare and read the criteria, so that you don't have any disappointment. I talked about IELTS, and the British Council administrates IELTS from our office in a safely manner every day. There is the newly introduced computer delivered IELTS. Make sure you go to our website, book your test in advance so that you have plenty of time to prepare your application and don't miss the deadlines.

(A.I.): What partnerships does the British Council have with ADA University in specific?

(S.X.): With ADA university, the "Creative Spark", as I already mentioned, the enterprise education program. We are working together to bring more capacity-building, training and exchange from the UK universities to ADA university. The second thing is also in higher education. We have another program called Higher Education for Employability. We want to look at how we can improve the prospects of students when it comes to employment because this is why people invest in higher education. They need to make sure they have a good employment afterwards. We look at it from an angle of quality assurance. How can we improve the quality of higher education? We look at it from an angle of graduate outcomes. What are the things we can do to enhance our service for the students, collect and analyze graduates' data to identify gaps and feed that into the curriculum development? ADA University is one of the partners in this program where we work together to look at the quality improvement of university programs, specifically EMI programs (English as a Medium of Instruction).

(A.I.): Would you like to partner with ADA School in the future given the chance?

(S.X.): Sure. I would love to visit ADA School and look at what we can do together. It sounds like a really exciting initiative. You are the direct target audience of the British Council, so we would love to see what we can do together.

(A.I.): What are some future projects of the British Council that are in development right now?

(S.X.): Two things are coming soon which will be of interest for ADA students. First one is the British Film Festival. This is something we do every year. We bring the best British films of the year to Azerbaijan so that people can view them in their original language, English, and also provide subtitles in Azerbaijani. This is the first time we're doing it online in order to give more people access. The theme for this year's film festival is women. We recognize the important role women play in society. So that's why all the films showcased will be either produces or represented by women in the film industry. I would encourage all students from ADA to follow our Facebook page, British Council Azerbaijan, where you'll find more details about these films and how you can access them. There will be some online discussions we want to organize with the filmmakers as well. The second project that is coming soon as well is the Study UK Alumni Awards. This is the third year we're doing this in Azerbaijan. Its purpose is to recognize and celebrate the Azerbaijanis who have studied in the UK and come back to Azerbaijan and also to see what they have done to contribute to the development of this country. There are three categories: the first one is professional achievement, the second one is entrepreneurial and the third one is social impact. We talked earlier about studying in the UK. These alumni and their stories will hopefully become an inspiration to all those who want to study in the UK. You can see what they have done with their study experience in the UK and how they have developed themselves and this country. Stay tuned on our Facebook for this award ceremony. This will again be done online so that all the students can learn from their experience.

Photo by Fatima Khubyarova, 10A2

NIKITA GABURICI

« I inherited the love for motorsport from my father. »

As an MMA world champion Michael Chandler always says – Movement is Medicine. It is proven that sport gives us energy, fit and self-confidence. It helps us to succeed in other fields. Our today's guest is not MMA champion, but he is one of the fastest karting drivers. Please meet Nikita Gaburici from ADA School 10A2, who took second place in the Romanian Cup 2020 in karting. Our columnist Narmin Aliyeva (11A1) talked to Nikita online and asked about his sport achievements.

Narmin Aliyeva: How did you become interested in karting, what influenced you?

Nikita Gaburici: I inherited the love for motorsport from my father.

N.A.: Tell me more about the experience.

N.G.: My experience with karting began with rental karting, I would spend my weekends at the track as a kid and over time I grew to love it so much that anywhere I went I tried to find the best karting track and race on it. When I noticed that I was good at it I decided to try my luck in the national championship. I started in 2017 as a junior and as I grew, I transferred to the senior class in which I am competing today.

N.A.: What achievements are you most proud of?

N.G.: Although I am proud to be a three-time national champion the achievement I am most proud of is the amount of knowledge and experience I have gained over the years. I'm also very proud of the way I have progressed as a pilot and individual.

N.A.: What do you think people should be aware of before getting into karting?

N.G.: There are several things people should be aware of. Firstly, it requires more physical effort and endurance than people would normally expect. Secondly it requires great concentration, patience and a quick and clear mind that is ready to react to any situation that might happen on the track. And, of course, it requires a lot of dedication. However, most importantly it is a lot of fun.

N.A.: What kind of differences you noticed between ordinary driving and karting?

N.G.: First of all, karting is a competition, where within a certain set of rules you must put all you have on the table, you must be the fastest, the most fearless and the smartest driver. If in karting after 30 minutes of driving we get out of the kart exhausted, in a regular car you can drive for hours and not be as tired. Another difference is the perception of speed, 120kmh in a kart feel like 250 in a car.

N.A.: You took part in the Romanian National Karting Championship. Can you describe the event?

N.G.: It was a very challenging drive. Firstly, there were more pilots than in Moldova and every stage took place on a different track. It has been undoubtedly the toughest championship I have participated in but it has also been the most fun and the races I've won taught me a lot and the ones I lost taught me even more. I have made a lot of great friends this year participating in Romania and plan to participate in the 2021 season as well (N.A.: smiles).

N.A.: What challenges you faced and what kind of feelings you went through?

N.G.: I have gone through many challenges, technical ones like blowing engines, breaking parts, physical ones like breaking ribs, like being exhausted and wanting to quit. Unlikely, no challenge has been as hard as this years' of being present at classes during practice. Classes often would overlap with my practice runs and I would have to be both on the track and at the lesson. Being present both at school and on the track has been my biggest challenge so far, because both are important to me.

> *« be persistent and never give up. Success always comes to those who work hard for it »*

N.A.: In your opinion, is Azerbaijan a good place for motorsports?

N.G.: Yes, of course Azerbaijan is a good place for motorsport. It hosts the biggest event of motorsport. The Baku city circuit is my favorite city circuit. with great organization and international participation.

N.A.: In which countries the sport is most popular?

N.G.: Italy, Spain, England and other European countries.

N.A.: Do you plan to take part in other competitions in the future? Where?

N.G.: Yes, I am planning to participate in Romania this season, but I'm also looking for other competitions in Europe and maybe Turkey.

N.A.: Is it a pastime of yours or you are planning to build a career in motorsport?

N.G.: Karting has begun as a pastime but now I see it as a steppingstone into the world of Autosport. Karting is commonly perceived as the improvement and accomplishment of the higher ranks of motorsports, with former Formula One champions such as Sebastian Vettel, Nico Rosberg, Ayrton Senna, Lewis Hamilton, Michael Schumacher and Fernando Alonso having begun their careers in karting.

N.A.: What can you say, suggest to beginners?

N.G.: The advice I can give beginners is to have fun, challenge yourselves, be persistent and never give up. Success always comes to those who work hard for it and to those who want it bad (N.A.: smiles)

N.A.: Thank you Nikita! We wish you every success in ADA School and your sport activity!

INTERVIEW *WITH* AMINA AKBAROVA

by Leyla Saraj, 11A2

Some of the first graduates of ADA School now live and study abroad. One of them is Amina Akbarova, who studies Business Administration in Belgium University. Our columnist Leyla Saraj (11A2) talked to Amina.

Leyla Saraj (L.S.): Tell us a bit about yourself.

Amina Akbarova (A.A.): I am Amina. I am from Baku, Azerbaijan. I am seventeen years old. I was studying ten years in a public school in the Russian sector. Then, I decided to change my school for ADA School and now I am here in Brussels.

L.S.: How are your studies going so far?

A.A.: It's going pretty well, but now we have totally switched to distance learning, because it is lockdown here. Since many of us have been studying online since March, I am already prepared for it and, for me, it is okay. I attended classes on the campus for about one month; the lessons were twice or three times a week on campus- the rest was mostly online. I'm glad that I had a chance to visit it and to see my teachers and other students face-to-face.

> *I really miss the long walks in the city center of Baku- Icherisheher...*

L.S.: What was your first impression of Belgium?

A.A.: It was really quiet here. I arrived here from Istanbul - the very noisy Istanbul, and the streets were looking a little bit deserted here. As I found out later, it's really quiet here most of the time and in most places, except on Saturdays and some central streets. Also, I was really impressed by the people; during my first shopping trip here, I had some issues with translation and one woman from the cue helped me even though I didn't ask her for help.

L.S.: What is your favorite part of life in Belgium?

A.A.: The chocolate - really. As you may know, Belgium chocolate is one of the most tasty and best chocolate in the world. Chocolate is everywhere here in Brussels and I really like it. Also, I really like how different Brussels is and the way it includes many big European cities; it's a mixture of them. For example, the architecture and atmosphere here remind me of a mixture of France, Germany, and the UK - you can feel it everywhere. Another example of this, is that many buildings have tall windows. It creates a very romantic feel here that reminds me of Paris. The nature and the stately buildings in the center remind me of Germany. Brussels reminds of the UK with its weather; it's really rainy here most of the days.

L.S.: What do you miss most about Azerbaijan?

A.A.: I miss a lot of things about Azerbaijan - truly a lot of things. What can I say first? I really miss the sea. Belgium is landlocked. The nearest sea here is the North Sea and to see it you need to drive for more than one hour, as I have a lot of studying, I don't have the chance to see it. That's why I really miss the sea, sunsets on the beach, and Baku Boulevard. I really miss our national dishes; I can discuss them for forever - the list of the dishes that I miss. Also, I really miss the long walks in the city center of Baku- Icherisheher, the boulevard, and streets parallel to it - I really miss it. Since I was in quarantine, out of Baku since March, I didn't have a chance to even say goodbye to Baku. I just was once in Icherisheher, but I didn't feel comfortable there because everyone was in masks and it wasn't Icherisheher like I knew it before. But I hope that soon, everything will be back to normal.

> *My idea is to promote our Azerbaijani culture and painters.*

L.S.: What is one memory from ADA that you will never forget?

A.A.: There are so many memories of ADA. I mean that all of them are unforgettable in my opinion. I'm really grateful to the ADA staff members, to our teachers, and especially to my classmates for these memories. But the most special ones to me include the team-building games. Mr. Sani organized them for us after the midterms and I was managing the marshmallow challenge with a friend of mine. In my opinion, it was the way all the students and even the teachers were engaged in the process of the game that made it unforgettable. Also, I want to mention Fridays in the art and creativity club headed by Jamala Nakhchivani - especially our trip to the Museum of Modern Arts with the university students. It was truly an unforgettable experience; it was really interesting to hear the opinions of others about paintings and get acquainted with the modern artworks of our Azerbaijani artists.

> *You are responsible for so much here and for yourself.*

L.S.: How does high school and university life differ?

A.A.: There are a lot of differences. First of all, a high school teacher at least knows your name and knows you. Here, no. I believe that it is not a problem only found in Brussels. I was talking with friends of mine who are studying in ADA University right now and they say that they have around 200 classmates. That's why teachers can't remember all of the names. Also, high school's individual approach that we had is not as common in universities. Here you need to really rely on your self-consciousness and mostly work by yourself.

L.S.: What do international students know and think about Azerbaijan?

A.A.: I was talking about it yesterday with my classmates. We had a management project and were discussing it; they have a really good opinion about Azerbaijan. I was really happy because of it. For example, they say that our architecture is very nice. That Azerbaijan is technologically advanced. That Baku is a really beautiful city - I hear this everywhere. Many of them know about the conflict between us and Armenia so they ask about it, not in details, but they are asking. Many of them would be really happy to visit Azerbaijan when the corona virus situation improves.

L.S.: How are you going to promote your country in Belgium?

A.A.: I've already started. I started from social media; for example, I was increasing awareness on the conflict in Azerbaijan through my Instagram page. Also, I don't really like to reveal my future plans, so I will not go into detail, but I have an idea that hopefully will be created. The idea is to open an art club here, because they don't have an art club; they have a music club and debate club, but not art. My idea is to promote our Azerbaijani culture and painters, not only them, but to include it into the program.

L.S.: What advice would you give to students considering studying aboard?

A.A.: It is a little bit of a hard question. They should be morally prepared for any kind of difficulties - not only the difficulty with being away from home and away from parents, but also all the different kinds of difficulties. You are responsible for so much here and for yourself. Try your best. I remember a motivation quote from Mr. Sani - "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger". It's from a song and is a good quote, especially during studying for the first course.

Vagif Huseynov:

«nothing can be such best as ADA!»

That is wonderful to realize that ADA School graduates now study in different Universities through out the World. One of those people is Vagif Huseynov, a 2020 graduate from 11A1, ADA school. Currently, he is studying Business at the Middle East Technical University which is located in Ankara. Our columnist Aylin Baktashi decided to contact Vagif and ask him about his impressions.

Aylin Baktashi (Aylin): Hi, Vagif. Thank you for taking the time to talk with ADAlilar readers. You are probably living a very busy student life now. As I know, on graduating from the ADA school you had to choose between two Universities – ADA University and Middle East Technical University in Ankara. You chose the latter. What made your decision?

Vagif Huseynov (Vagif): Actually, studying in ADA school, for me was the same, as studying at ADA University. Programs were equal, even here I meet a lot of friends from school and university! Study abroad was my wish, but I know that nothing can be such best as ADA!

Aylin: How is your university life? Was adapting to lessons easy?

Vagif: My university life was easy to adapt to as with online education I get to learn in the comforts of my home. The classes I take are somewhat challenging, especially at my university, but I manage to study well due to the time management skills I acquired while studying at ADA School. Although I prefer real-life classes over online classes, with the right attitude and devotion, online classes work as well.

Aylin: What is the most difficult subject for you at the University?

Vagif: I am currently struggling with Calculus as the Turkish curriculum differs from our local curriculum. However, with the right time investment, I am managing. Other than that, since most of the classes are new- Financial Accounting, Fundamentals of Business, Psychology- they are not too challenging because of their distinct content.

Aylin: Were you in Ankara when the victory of the Azerbaijani army over Armenians was announced? What did you feel at that time?

Vagif: I was not there, I was with my family, we were celebrating it in Baku, but I believe that Turkey was also celebrating the greatest Victory day with us, and their heart was and will be with us.

Aylin: Do you have a language barrier when speaking with Turkish people?

Vagif: Actually no, I wasn't yet, in Ankara, because of the online educational system, I was able to stay here, and participate in the lessons. I was studying in English. I think my first adaptation to the Turkish language was a bit difficult. After communicating in a group with my group mates, my Turkish language started to develop. I think that Azerbaijani and Turkish is part of equal so, it is easy!

Aylin: What kind of challenges did you face in ADA school? Was it difficult to study in the ADA?

Vagif: It was the adaptation to so many classes because I was homeschooled the year earlier. Adjusting to these classes was something new for me. At first, it was a little difficult however I was managing because I'm a person that works hard. Having such amazing classmates and people who worked as hard as I definitely was a motivating factor for me.

Aylin: What skills did you acquire in ADA school? Can you see those skills reflecting themselves in university life?

Vagif: I could balance academic life with social life, finishing all successfully. I would join clubs, go out a lot, and could do extracurricular activities. At the same time, I maintained a pretty high GPA. This is important since multitasking is an inseparable part of University, in the future any cooperation will need a person that can communicate between social and academic life. Without this factor, it will be hard to graduate.

Aylin: Any tips for students preparing for midterms/finals?

Vagif: The goal is not to be in depression or stress, when you are stressed there is a high chance for you to confuse things that you know. I would advise turning off your social media for the time being. I will give an interesting piece of advice that I still use... Study in a cold place because your brain is more active when it feels cold. When I'm preparing for my exams I make sure that my room is cold, I open doors and windows because when you sit in a hot room, you want to fall asleep.

Aylin: Thoughts on ADA school?

Vagif: The curriculum is very modern, up to date. Adding that, some classes that I had here, come in handy in my faculty. As a high school, I believe that ADA is the best school in Azerbaijan that can teach you great skills. Teachers have strong values, materials are relevant.

Aylin: What did you enjoy the most about your education?

Vagif: I enjoyed the beautiful environment. I loved the support from both students and teachers. At first, my classmates were also struggling as much as I. Going through difficulties together gives you confidence, you feel like a part of the community and not lonely.

Aylin: Are you planning to come back to Azerbaijan after graduating the university, or to continue your education in Turkey?

Vagif: If I manage to acquire an internship/work at some international firm, I doubt that I will come back. Nonetheless, after a while, I will become homesick, so I will come back sooner or later. Since I am also planning to pursue my Master's degree abroad, I will be studying outside of Azerbaijan for a while. It is also important to mention how I have 1-year army service remaining, so I will most probably complete that in Azerbaijan after graduating.

Aylin: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Vagif: In 10 years, I see myself as an employee of a private corporation working in the strategic/ marketing sector. If all goes well, I'm planning to have an environmentally friendly startup in the field of biochemistry.

Aylin: Thank you very much, Vagif. That was a very interesting talk. We wish you the best of luck in your education and life.

Aylin Baktashi, 10B4

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Dear all,

Good day! I hope that all of you are doing well and safe! First of all, I want to thank you very much for such trust and support. Because of you, now, I am the President of the Student Council of our ADA School. It is a great pleasure and pride for me to serve in this position.

Unfortunately, according to the circumstances with the COVID-19 pandemic, we can't see each other in our beautiful campus, can't organize any live events, etc. But I think, we shouldn't see it as a problem, but as an opportunity for us to improve, to study, and learn something new. There are a lot of advantages of this "virtual" studying, let's be positive!
Being the leader of the Student Council, I am trying to fit the interests of each and all of you. As promised before, different interesting competitions, events, contests will be organized by our great team. As you may see in the next pages of our magazine, some events were already successfully organized. This is just the beginning!

In this difficult time, all of us should be strongly united! Student Council is waiting for your creative and fresh ideas! You are always welcome to ask some questions and give or take some advice! Please take good care of yourselves and stay safe!

Sincerely,

President of Student Council

Ilham Karimli

The memory of our martyrs is the legacy of our nation. On 20th of January, the very special day for Azerbaijani Nation, ADA School Student Council and some students visited the Alley of Martyrs to pay tribute to the honorable souls of them.

Photos by Fatima Khubyarova, 10A2

Photo by Khadija Ahmadova, 10C1

Photos by Khadija Ahmadova, 10C1

2020 year is not a usual year for our people, because after 30 years of patience we can see our homeland, our Karabakh. Today with big proud we can say that we have all 100 of 100 percent of our territories and this is the reason for our smile when today's quarantine is everywhere. Firstly when we hear the word Karabakh, we can imagine everything regarding that, but we will not forget how we returned our homeland. We returned with the help of our brave heroes who gave their lives for the sake of the people. Today there are a lot of such heroes, and we must not forget each of them.

On the occasion of the end of the war, we, as students of ADA, collected a certain amount and decided to help the native places of these heroes, namely their families. Firstly, toy gifts were bought for the children of these families, and then well packed envelopes were separated. After we went on a journey through different villages of the city of Baku. While we visited each family, we felt something different. It is painful to look at a child on his mother's chest, left without a father, or to look at the harassed and crying mother, who taught her son from his childhood to defend his homeland.Looking at all this and returning to our native places in future, we must never forget any of our heroes! Thanks to them we live on a peaceful our land!

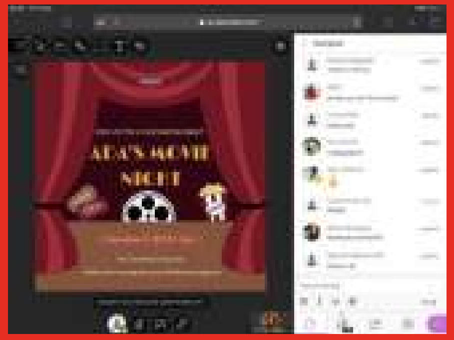
ADA SCHOOL'S

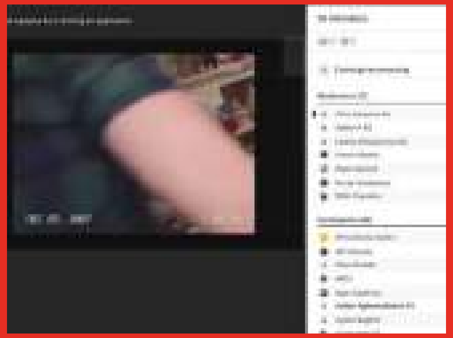
BRAIN RING

In the year 2020 ADA School's Brain Ring Competition was organized between students of ADA School by the ADA School Student Council. The first round of this event was held on December 19th by Kahoot. Almost all 10th and 11th grades are enrolled in this organization and overall 20 teams participated in the first round. StuCo team organized Zoom Sessions to explain the rules to the students. It was such a competitive organization between classes and after the first round, there were 7 winners from 10th grade and 6 winners from 11th grade as a team. The winners of the first round got an opportunity to take part in the next round.

The second round of Brain Ring was held on the 26th of December. All went smoothly and students did a great job. They brainstormed and worked in collaboration to answer the logical, hard, and interesting questions. After the 2nd round, the finalists of the last round were determined. There were 3 finalists from 10th grade and 3 from 11th grade. Eventually, on January 3rd the Final Round of ADA's Brain Ring was conducted. It was the day that everyone was waiting for. Additionally, teachers, administration members, and all students of ADA School were invited to watch this exciting event. The Teams that worked hard, put their all effort during these 3 rounds and won this competition were 10C5 and 11C2. Cannot go through without mentioning that, during 3 rounds, the teams that got the chance to participate in upcoming games showed so much emotional feelings, each of them showed their happiness and cheer in different ways. It was one of the unforgettable and memorable events of the Fall Semester!

MOVIE NIGHT





MOVIE NIGHT

by Stu Co

Movie night was the first event organized by new Student Council Members. The purpose behind this event was to reward students for their patience and hard work during Midterm exams and to congratulate them with upcoming New Year.

We, as the Student Council members and as students of ADA School, understand the hardships and obstacles that many students face during the lockdown and online studying.

That is why it is very important to keep students motivated, encourage them to study and achieve their aims anywhere and in anytime.

We believe that this kind of events make us more cooperative, they help us create friendly and positive atmosphere between students. Also, it is a reminder that we are not alone on this way, we are passing through it together. We - 438 students, that is a pretty huge number, right? So just keep going! We are strong and even stronger all together!

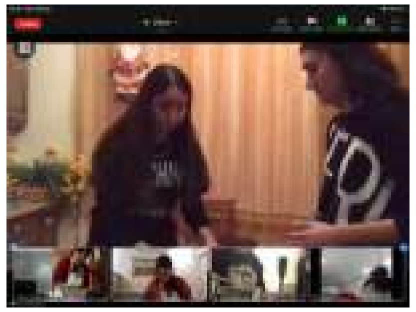
We are so happy that our first event was successful and went pretty smooth. Moreover, we received many positive feedbacks, which also inspire us to do more and to do better.

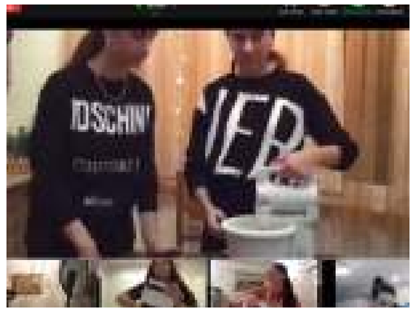
Thank you!

ADA's KITCHEN

Also, in December 2020, a new rubric "ADA's Kitchen" was launched by Student Council of ADA school. The aim of this project was to lift the New Year spirit and to create cozy, warm atmosphere. Due to the current circumstances we had to hold this project online by using Zoom application. Although the project was conducted online, we managed to convey a lot of positive emotions through the computer. Online event was conducted by Nurel Ismayilova and Aylin Aliyeva. The sweetness we made was icing ginger cookies. More than 50 students and even the administration members joined and cooked with us. During the preparation of the cookies, we had active conversation. At the end we received a lot of positive feedbacks, which motivated us very much to continue this project. Those who could not connect last time do not worry, you will be able to connect since we will continue this rubric every month.

Thank you for such active participation!





Recycle for Better Environment!

Lamiya Rzayeva, 10B4

Don't you want to see a clean environment when you look around? Isn't it so beautiful to even dream of seeing the deep blue sea instead of lakes full of garbage, a deep blue area instead of black smoke when looking at the sky, and parks surrounded by green trees?

In order to see all this, we must protect our environment. Of course, there are many methods for this. The most common method is not throw garbage around. However, in addition to this, using natural resources without wasting, using public transport for clean air, not cutting down trees, can be an example. But do you know what is the most important of these?

With recycling, we can make a great contribution to our environment. In fact, recycling can be done with many materials. But generally there are 4 kind of materials which can be recycled. These are metal, paper, glass and plastic. Recycling is enables the utilization of materials again and reduces the need for waste storage and incineration, contributes to the reduction of environmental pollution. So if we all reuse and contribute to recycling, we can ensure that the world's resources remain for future generations. Also recycling not only saves material, but also saves an energy.

Did you know that recycling is also used in art? Recycling has been used not only for the protection of the environment but also in art from past to present. This art is called recycled art. This method was used for the first time in one of the works created by Pablo Picasso. Around 1912, artist Pablo Picasso invented a process called collage, in this process he pasted together bits of paper, photos, newsprints and small objects to form a new image. With this work, which attracted a lot of attention at that time, recycled items gained great value. Also it takes a great deal of creativity and a degree of technique to work with these material. That is why this art is used even today. There are also some examples of the artists who were make recycled art are Subodh Gupta (Nature Morte), Vik Muniz (Marat), Nick Gentry (Life on Earth) etc.

As a result, if you want a clean future, you can contribute to recycling. Instead of throwing away your old items, you can do creative things from them. A bag can be made from an old piece of cloth, an ornament from an unused cd, and many other things. You can separate your garbage according to paper, plastic or glass. Thus, they can be easily recycled.

Book Reviews
Quick Quarantine Reads

To raise spirits during our seemingly endless quarantine, here are some short single book recommendations if you want a quick, interesting read to pass time.

By Leyla Saraj, 11A2

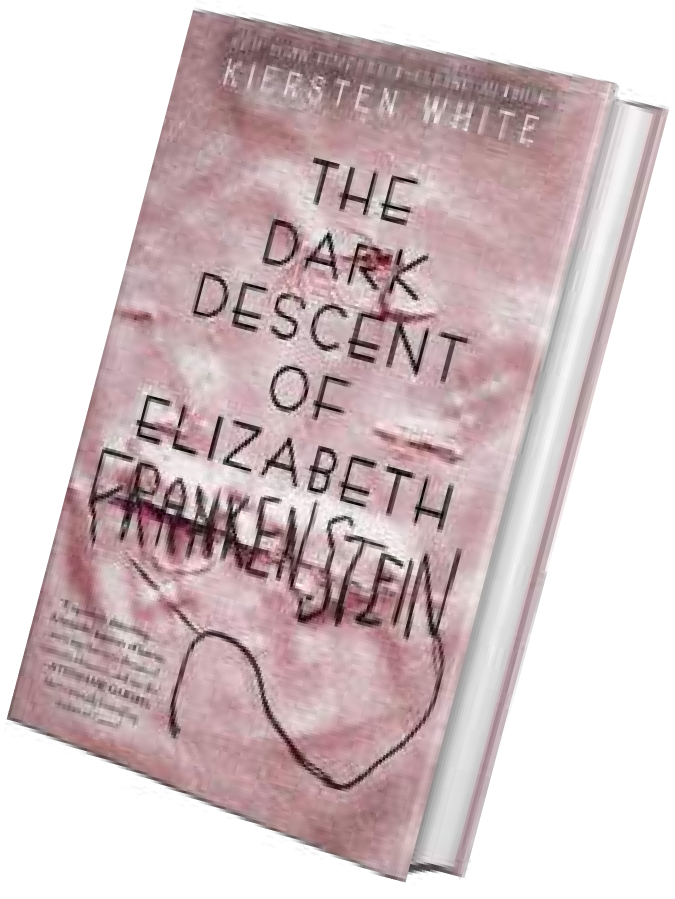
The Dark Descent of Elizabeth Frankenstein

Who has not heard of Mary Shelley's classic novel- Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus? The book is a benchmark in science fiction with timeless themes that continue to be discussed today. Discussions and representations of the story today mainly focus on Victor Frankenstein and his monster. But what about the side characters? What about Victor's young wife Elizabeth? This question is answered in Kierstein White's gripping novel that retells the infamous tale of Frankenstein through a female perspective- The Dark Descent of Elizabeth Frankenstein.

At first glance, Elizabeth Lavenza acts exactly the same as her counterpart in the original work- angelic, graceful, kind, and beautiful. She was taken in by the Frankenstein family to befriend their eldest, brilliant child- Victor Frankenstein. Yet, Elizabeth's graceful actions are all well thought-out, preplanned, and manipulative; it is only a part of Elizabeth's façade to keep her position in the Frankenstein family and make Victor happy and stable. She is a flawed and abused character willing to do anything to not return back to her past lifestyle. When Victor disappears, Elizabeth goes on the hunt for him while reflecting on the past and discovers his secrets along with the horrific truth.

White's writing skills definitely deserve praise. Her descriptions perfectly incapsulated the grime world where Frankenstein was set in and complemented the book's gothic fiction genre. Some may find the beginning of the book slow with its drawn-out descriptions, moderately paced plot, and flashback sequences, but, personally, it made me love the book even more. With each chapter, tension built up as the reader began to understand and discover more. While the book can be enjoyed on its own, the reading experience would most likely be improved with the knowledge of at least the plot of Mary Shelley's original work. Knowing how the story unfolds through Victor's perspective, adds new layers to Elizabeth's story- especially the twists, motivations, and ending. Having prior knowledge also amplifies one of my favorite themes in the book- feminism, the main focus is Elizabeth's perspective after all. The book delves into the struggles of being a woman during the time period and is inspirational for all.

If you are a fan of the original Frankenstein novel with its gothic features and moral questions, do not fret this book has its fair share of gore and existentialism that you will certainly enjoy. If you are fainthearted and do not enjoy violence, then I would not recommend this book because it has scenes with blood, mutilation, and animal and physical abuse, although none of these scenes are overly graphic- simply mentioned without much detail. Overall, the book was beautifully written and offers a unique new glimpse at a beloved tale with all the same intricacies and mood.



Quackery: *A Brief History of the Worst Ways to Cure* Everything

In the midst of a pandemic, I am sure we have all witnessed some quacks in action. Quacks, as defined by Lydia Kang and Nate Pedersen in their non-fiction comedy book Quackery, are those who prey on the public's health fears and concerns by offering their own, usually completely medically incorrect, solutions. The title of the book sums it up perfectly; it is a brief history of the worst ways to cure everything.

Compared to other books that I have read, Quackery certainly has a unique layout. The content is divided into clear sections- elements, plants and soil, tools, animals, and mysterious powers. With each major story or detail, there are photos and pictures to accompany them. This makes the book brighter and allows for a mental break from all the historical and medical texts. The book explores mercury poisoned murders, monarchs that were believed to cure disease, American politicians that poisoned themselves and others, the world's first surgeries, the world's most abused drugs, historical misconceptions, and much more. Chemical, religious, economic, and historical background are always given. Each topic is thoroughly described with jokes without feeling like a textbook and smoothly connects into the next.

Would I recommend this book to those interested in learning some fun, medical facts throughout history? Definitely. Would I recommend this book to those with weak stomachs? No. While the book does not go into explicit detail about all the grotesque medical practices, they are described. This includes a couple mentions of cannibalism and, what I found the most disturbing, drilling inside people's heads and swirling the brain tissue around. Once again, no one part of the book is overly explained and, if any section makes you queasy, you can always skip the section. That is another great thing about the book; it is all divided into clear sections, so if there is a part that seems uninteresting or simply unreadable, you can skip them without worry of missing any important details. If the book does recall back to a previous part, the page number is given. As for the two main selling points of the book- medical information and comedy, Quackery definitely delivered. All medical jargon and ideas were explained in a clear, easy-to-understand way and the pictures that went along with the text helped the understanding. These pictures were usually photos or drawings of the real product or practice at its time in history and were often followed by a funny punchline. I would not say that the humor in this book made me laugh out loud uncontrollably, but it did warrant some chuckles and was well balanced with the information. All and all it was a great, certainly unforgettable book that gave me bits of historical information that I will treasure and use to disturb others.

By Leyla Saraj, 11A2

Biz iqlim dəyişikliyini dayandıra biləcək sonuncu nəsilik!

Bunu bacara bilərik!

Lutfyya Mirpashazada, 10C2

Heç siz düşündünüzmü gələcəkdə bizi nələr gözləyir? Həyat bizim üçün necə yerə çevriləcək? Bunları düşünmüsünüzsə, əlbəttə, bunların çox hissəsinin biz insanların əlində olduğunu da bilirsiniz.

Gündən-günə iqlim dəyişikliyinin təsirlərini daha qabarıq şəkildə görürük. Bu artıq bizim sağlamlığımızda, həyat tərzimizdə və qərarlarımızda özünü əks etdirməyə başlayıb. Buna misal olaraq Kaliforniya və Avstraliya yanğınlarını, buzlaqların əriməsini, yeniyetmələrdə, habelə yetişkinlərdə yaranan psixoloji problemləri (depressiya, posttravmatik stress, narahatlıq) göstərmək olar.

Su buxarı kimi istixana qazları Yerdəki həyat üçün çox vacibdir, hətta belə deyim ki, əgər bu qazlar olmasa idi, Yer səthinin temperaturu indikindən təxminən 33°C aşağı olardı. Lakin bu qazların miqdarı yüksəldikcə temperatur lazımi səviyyədən çox artaraq təhlükəli həddə yaxınlaşır. Günəşdən gələn enerjinin böyük hissəsi Yerə yaxın qatlarda toplanaraq onun səthinin və atmosfer havasının qızmasına, dəniz səviyyəsinin yüksəlməsinə və əlavə olaraq əbədi buzlaqların əriməsinə səbəb olur. Bu buzlaqların əriməsi nəticəsində isə dörd milyon insan və qütb bölgələrində mövcud

olan infrastrukturlar üçün təhlükə yaradır. Belə deyək ki, planetin ən zəif bölgəsi Arktikadı, amma baş verən dəyişikliklər bütün Şimal yarımkürəsinin iqliminə təsir edir və mütəxəssislərin fikrincə, 2050-ci ilə qədər qış aylarında bu bölgələrdə temperatur selsi üzrə 3-5 dərəcə artacaq. Temperatur yüksəldikcə bir çox bitki və heyvanların yaşayış yerləri dəyişikliklərə məruz qalır və bunlardan bir çoxu dəyişən şəraitə uyğunlaşa bilməyərək məhv olur və bu ekosistemin tarazlığının pozulmasına səbəb olur.

Laqeyd olmayaq!

Biz hamımız heyvanları qoruyur və onlara bacardığımız qədər qayğı görsətməyə çalışırıq. İqlimdəki dəyişikliklər bizə təsir etdiyi qədər onlara da təsir edir. 2020-ci ildə ABŞ-da yerləşən Milli Elmlər Akademiyası tərəfindən bildirilib ki, iqlim dəyişikliyi davam edərsə, 2070-ci ildə heyvan və bitkilərin 1/3 hissəsi yox olacaq. Bu planetin biomüxtəlifliyi üçün ciddi təhlükə hesab edilir. Qütb ayıları, koalalar,

adelie pinqvinləri ilk yoxa çıxacaq heyvanlar sırasındadır.

Qlobal istiləşmə ilə bağlı, BBC-yə danışan məşhur ingilis yayımçısı və təbiət tarixçisi David Attenborough demişdir: "İlk televizor proqramınının yayımlanmasından indiyə qədər dünyadakı insan sayı 3 dəfə artıb, verdiyimiz zərərin indi fərqinə varırıq. Aldığımız hər nəfəs, qəbul etdiyimiz hər qida təbii yaşamdan gəlir, yəni birmənalı olaraq, deyə bilərik ki, təbiətə zərər versək, özümüzə zərər vermiş olarıq."

Karbon qazından istifadəni azaltmaq məsələni həll eləməyəcəkmi? Bəs planetin orbitinə güzgü göndərmək?

50 ilə yaxın buzlaqları müşahidə edən Kembric Universitetinin alimi Peter Wadhamsın fikrincə, qlobal istiləşmənin qarşısını almaq üçün karbon qazının miqdarını aşağı salmaq kifayət etməyəcəkdir. O,

planeti, iqlim dəyişikliyindən qurtarmaq üçün müxtəlif ssenarilərin olduğu bir kitab nəşr etdirib. Həmin kitabdan olan ən ekstremal üsullara nümunə olaraq: ***karbon tozsoranları, duz yayan gəmiləri*** və ***böyük kosmik güzgü üsullarını*** göstərə bilərik.

Karbon tozsoranları. Hal-hazırda karbon dərəcəsini azaltmaq üçün karbon qazından istifadəni azaltma cəhdləri gedir, lakin bu proses çox yavaşdır. Buna görə alimlər yeni texnologiyalar ixtira etməyə çalışırlar, bunlardan biri də karbon tozsoranıdır. Təbii ki, saxlayacaq yer olmasa, bu texnologiya absurd olardı. İslandiyada gedən layihələrdə onlar topladıqları karbon qazını yerin 610 metr dərinliyinə nasoslayırlar. Bu qazın milyonlarla il orda qalması gözlənilir.

Duz yayan gəmilər. əsasını Edinburqdan olan alimlər yaradıblar. Bu üsulun məğzi ondadır ki, okeanın üzərində olan buludlara duz yayılmalıdır. Beləliklə,duz kristallarının hesabına atmosferə əlavə enerji əks etdirmək mümkün olacaq. Nəticədə isə planet səthinə daha az istilik təsir edəcək.

Böyük kosmik güzgü. Bu üsula əsasən planetin orbitinə böyük güzgü göndərmək lazımdır. O isə öz növbəsində planeti, gün

işığından qoruyacaq. Lakin Wadhamsın özü bu cür üsulun qeyri-real olduğunu hesab edir. Çünki hələ heç kim bu cür güzgünün planet orbitinə necə göndəriləcəyini təklif etməyib. Belə bir plan olsaydı belə, onun üçün külli miqdarda vəsait lazım olardı. Lakin mənim öz düşüncəmi söyləməyə ehtiyac gələrsə, onu deyə bilərəm ki, həyatda heç bir şey mümkünsüz deyil. Əgər bu üsul, həqiqətən də, qlobal istiləşmənin qarşısını alacaqsa, alimlər o güzgünün planet orbitinə necə göndəriləcəyi üçün təkliflər irəli sürməli və o külli miqdarda vəsaiti əldə etmək üçün bütün dünya ölkələri birləşməlidir.

15 Mart 2019-cu ildə 1.6 milyon insan küçədə iqlim dəyişikliyi ilə bağlı hərəkat keçirir. İndiyə qədər ki, ən böyük hərəkat olur. Bəs bu necə başlayır?

Belə böyük və vacib bir hadisə yalnız bir insanın- 15 yaşlı bir qızın təşəbbüsü ilə başlayır. Greta Thunberg 2003 təvəllüdlü İsveçdə doğulan bir qızdır. Autizmin bir növü olan Asperger xəstəsidir. İlk dəfə qlobal istiləşməni 8 yaşı olarkən, məktəbdə baxdıqları sənədli filmdən öyrənmişdi. Məktəbdə sinfin arxasında sakitcə otursa belə, şüphəsiz, ən çox təsirlənən o olmuşdu. "Mənim sinif yoldaşlarım filmə baxanda narahatlıq keçirmişdilər, lakin film bitdikdən sonra başqa şeylər haqqında düşünə bilirdilər, mən bunu edə bilmirdim. O təsvirlər mənim beynimdə həkk olunmuşdu",-deyə Greta qeyd edir.

İqlim dəyişikliyi onu o qədər narahat edirdi ki, 11 yaşına çatdıqda depressiyaya girir, hətta depressiyanın o həddinə çatır ki, artıq məkətəbə belə getmir. Təbii olaraq valideynləri narahat olurlar. Greta ilə söhbətdən sonra məsələ onlara aydın olur. Greta bir müddət idi ki, vegan idi, amma artıq valideynləri də ona qoşulur. O öz narahatlıqları ilə bağlı danışdıqda başqalarını dəyişiklik etməyə təşviq edə biləcəyini anlayır. "Mən o an başa düşdüm ki, dünyada necə dəyişiklik edə bilərəm. Belə hiss etməyimin yalnız vaxt itkisi olmasını və həyatımda daha çox yaxşılıqlar edə biləcəyimi anladıqda isə depressiyadan qurtuldum",- deyə Greta izah edir. 2018-ci il may ayında Greta "İqlim haqqında esse" yarışmasına qatılır və "Biz bilirik və indi nə isə edə bilərik" başlıqlı essesi ilə qaliblər sırasına daxil olur.

Gretanın məktəbə getməməsi

2018-ci il avqust ayının 20-si Greta məktəbə getməmək və İsveç parlamentinin qabağında əyləşmək qərarına gəlir. Əlində indi məşhur sözlərə çevrilmiş 'Skolstrejk for Kliamtet' (İqlim üçün məktəb hərəkatı) yazılı bir taxta parçası var idi. Əlində iqlim haqqında faktlar yazılan braşurlar da var idi. Həmin gün o, saat 8:30-dan 15:00-a qədər orda oturur, instaqram və tvitter hesablarında etdiyi paylaşımlar bəzi insanların və jurnalistlərin diqqətini cəlb edir. Növbəti gün o yenə həmin yerdə idi, lakin bu dəfə tək deyildi. İnsanlar Gretaya qoşulmağa başlamışdılar və bu İsveç Milli seçkilərinə kimi 21 gün davam etdi. Artıq insanlar onu tanımağa başlamışdılar.

Minlərlə insanların gözü qabağında olacaq İnsanların İqlim Marşında Gretaya çıxış etmək təklif edilir. Greta valideynlərindən bu haqda soruşur, lakin onlar həvəssiz idilər. Gretanın mutizmi bəzi situasiyalarda danışa bilməməsi, onları narahat edirdi. Greta Ted talkda mutizmi haqqında deyir: "Bu o deməkdir ki, mən yalnız zəruri

olduqda danışa bilirəm. İndi isə tam vaxtdır". O çox möhtəşəm danışıqla çıxışını tamamladı. İndi isə mütəmadi olaraq politiklərin, izdihamın və jurnalistlərin qabağında danışır.

15 Mart 2019-cu ildə "Məktəb Hərəkatı" çağırılır. 1.6 milyon insan bütün dünya ətrafından (128 ölkə 2233 şəhər) iştirak edir. 15 yaşlı bir qızın əlində taxta parçası ilə oturması Beynəlxalq Hərəkata çevrilir.

Lutfyya Mirpashazada, 10C2

The Glowing Lights

By Aliya Alizada, 10A1

Annie waited by the phone, curling her hair with her finger. Yesterday was her 15th birthday, and it went oh so different from her expectations. One thing for sure, she wasn't prepared to see hundreds of little sparkly balls of light scattered around her bedroom when she woke up. Annie tried showing them to her family, but the light balls seemed to be visible only to her. What also was surprising is that she was handling the whole nonsense rather calmly.

~flashback~

Annie opened her eyes, slowly sitting up and coming to her senses. She looked around her room, not noticing anything unusual at first. Suddenly there was a knock on the door.

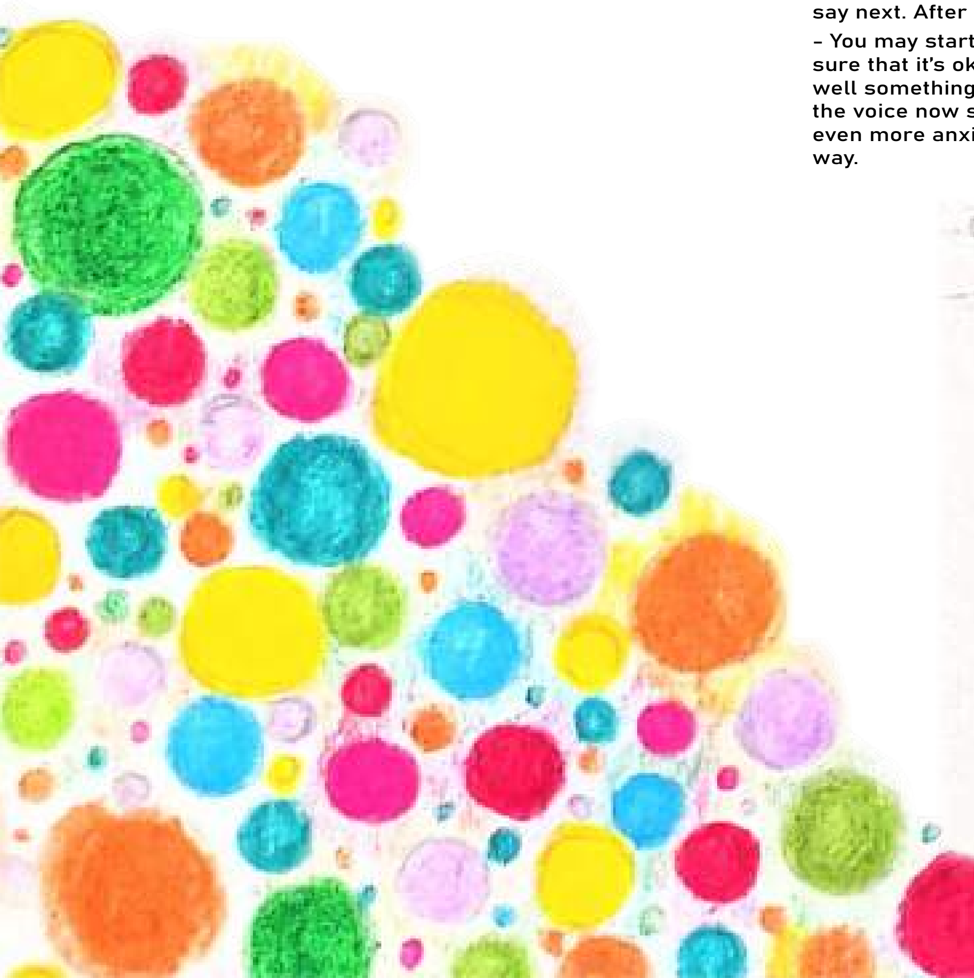
- Annie, are you awake? – she heard her sister shout.

- Would I be able to answer if I weren't? – the girl slightly scoffed back.

She got up, getting changed. That was when she noticed the strange pieces of light. Her eyes widened as she called:

- Mom! Come here, please!

Annie's mother entered the room, closely followed by her father and sister. - What are these? – Annie asked before anyone could talk.



-These? What are you talking about, sweetheart? – her mother said and she saw her father nodding questionably.

- Can't you see them? – the girl questioned, surprised.

- We don't understand what you're talking about. Now, I would ask you to join us at the table to have breakfast – her father told her, fixing his glasses.

~end of flashback~

The phone finally started ringing. Annie picked it up hurriedly, waiting to hear her friend talking to her.

- Hello? – she called hesitantly, after some moments of awkward silence.

But instead of her friend's happy voice, she heard a deep and mysterious one saying: "Are you ready to return to your true home at last?"

Annie flinched. The voice sent shivers down her spine. She opened her mouth to speak but couldn't. The person on the other side seemed to sense Annie's confusion. He sighed and called:

- Can you hear me?

The girl snapped out of her trance with a gasp and questioned sheepishly:

- Who... who are you? My friend was supposed to call me, but here you are ringing from her phone, whoever you are.

She heard a loud groan from the other side. Somehow it sounded exciting.

- Don't worry – was the next thing Annie heard – your friend is fine and no one's harmed.

Annie didn't find it convincing enough but was curious about what the mysterious person on the phone would say next. After a few seconds, she heard the voice again:

- You may start feeling somewhat strange now but be sure that it's okay. Nothing is going to happen to you... well something is, but it shouldn't be scary – the tone of the voice now sounded less confident, which made Annie even more anxious about the whole situation in some way.

Then she heard a soft sigh, after which a very strange thing indeed happened. The person started speaking again, but the difference that Annie felt was that this time the voice seemed unbelievably soothing... making her really sleepy... the last thing she saw was the balls of light slowly appearing all around her... she merrily drifted off to dreamland...

~time skip~

Annie opened her eyes, waking up for the second time that day. She sat up and rubbed her eyes, trying to remember the latest episode that happened. Her last conversation and the mysterious voice slowly came to her mind. Annie looked around, not recognizing where she was. It came to her realization that she actually was on the bed in her own room, still it didn't seem the same, something about it was... old-fashioned. Annie tried to process what was going on, noticing a rather kind-looking woman with a worried expression on her face sitting on a chair in the corner of the room. The woman slowly rose from her seat, intending to approach the girl. Annie backed up slightly, not knowing what to expect. The woman carefully sat beside Annie, not really paying attention to the girl's confusion and grabbing her by the shoulders gently.

- Are you feeling alright? How did it go? – she asked softly.

Annie felt even more confused, not understanding what she was asking about.

- How did what go? And who... are you? – The girl replied, struggling with managing her voice.

The lady's facial expression changed rapidly, now reflecting confusion and sadness with a drop of frustration. But before she could speak, a young guy entered the room.

- Mrs, from what I know, she shouldn't remember any part of the experiment – he said to her, clarifying something.

As soon as Annie heard his voice, she flinched, recognizing it. She shyly lifted her gaze, looking at the "mystery guy" and examining him. He turned to the girl, feeling that, and gave her a reassuring smile. Annie felt it making her less tense. Then he addressed her:

- Don't worry - he said - everything is going to be explained to you soon- Annie nodded, smiling awkwardly. The boy then turned to the "Mrs." again.

- My father should come any minute now. He'll thoroughly tell you everything.

The woman nodded, looking rather annoyed. The boy obviously noticed that and smiled at her shyly, trying to ease up the tension. They heard a knock on the door and the boy quickly went to open it, simultaneously escaping the worried lady's cold glance.

Soon they were joined by a rather formal-looking man, his appearance not matching the goofy face expression he was wearing. The man reminded Annie of fictional scientists.

He approached her, smiling brightly, and asked a question she got used to during the day:

- How are you feeling?

All of them stared at her expectantly. The girl scanned them standing around her and nervously replied:

- Um... weird.

The strange-looking man smiled once again and responded:

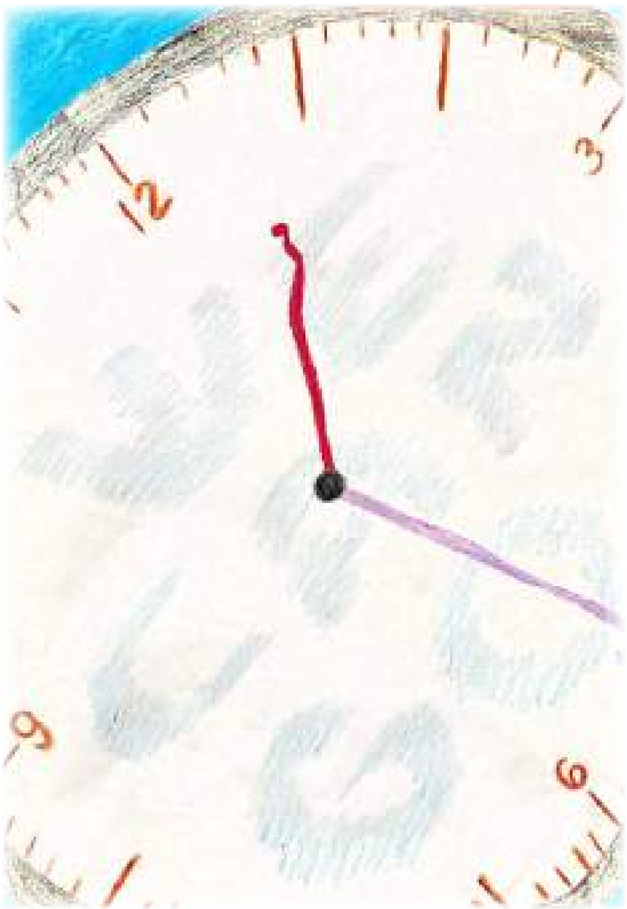
- That's okay. Now don't either of you worry - he said, addressing the woman as well - I'm going to explain everything right away. But before that Jemma dear, would you mind making me a cup of tea?

The boy tried to say something to prevent it, but the lady already went out of the room, huffing at the man. Annie literally just sat there, not having the faintest idea of what was happening.

The supposed scientist found his place in a chair near the bed, while the woman returned to the room giving him a cup and burning him with her gaze. He takes a sip before sighing softly. Then he looked around the room and began speaking, fixing his gaze only on Annie.

- So... basically you don't remember anything which is one of the side effects of my experiment – was the first thing he said. Annie was just wondering how on Earth she was not losing it by now. She was about to ask what experiment he was talking about when he proceeded with the explanation.

- You should however, be remembering some kind of glowing balls appearing around you, right? – the look in



his eyes now reflected expectance.

Annie nodded slowly, still curiously looking at the man from head to toe.

- Well, those light balls are basically my new...invention– that sentence at least made the girl sure that the man in front of her was indeed a scientist – their supposed function is... I'll put it in this way, time-traveling. I intended to transport you to the time 25 years after the current one. However, I think I made a mistake when I said that you don't remember anything, as I suppose the only part you do not remember is the people who surrounded you

during your "trip".

The girl thought about it for a minute.

- Well I do remember the places... the objects... yeah, everything apart from the people, I suppose – she replied.

The scientist nodded.

- Yes, as I've said before, you have just time-travelled. The reason for your "memory loss" is, as you might have already understood... or not, yet again because of my son's special ability... - he chuckled and pointed at the boy, who gave Annie a shy half-smile. He raised his hand a bit, as if asking for permission to speak, and then informed them:

- I decided to only make her forget the people and not the rest of the stuff so she could tell us about it... - he said softly, narrowing his head. The woman, who still was in the room, looked at him sternly, but before she or the man, who also looked like he was about to say something, the boy quickly went:

- I'm going to fix it right now though, Mrs.! – right after that Annie heard him speaking again, now hearing the familiar spell-like mystery and softness in his voice. She felt herself closing her eyes, opening them in some time with that weird feeling again.

She looked around her once again. The girl now recognized Mr. Luke Smith, a scientist and a good friend of her family from what she knew. She turned her gaze to the boy and saw Sam, Mr. Smith's son, whom she knew well. Only after that she noticed her mother also standing by the edge of the bed. Annie tried to get up to hug her, her mother noticed it and quickly pulled her into an embrace. A couple of minutes were spent like this. Suddenly, Annie remembered about the questions, the ones that were stored in her mind by now. She turned to Mr. Smith.

- Wait... did I actually travel in time or was it just some kind of... I don't know... hologramme? – she asked him in confusion.

- Well... I suppose it was just a filter representing my thoughts on it, but anything might happen...it could have been quite real- the man replied, clearly not feeling like spilling all the information on his experiment.

- If it was a... filter, then what about all the stuff like smartphones and other technologies that were considered modern during my "trip", will they actually be real one day?

Mr. Smith studied her carefully, fixing his glasses. Then a warm smile appeared on his face.

- Who knows, who knows... as I already mentioned, anything might happen - he said with a wink which only Annie noticed.

By Aliya Alizada, 10A1

Drawing by Aylin Alizada, 10A1

Photo by Leyla Kazdal, 10B1