

Fundamental Aspects of Iran and Azerbaijan Relations through Contemporary Time

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ABSTRACT

The present research intends to explain all political, economic, cultural relations and different solutions for expansion of relations between the neighboring country accompanied with providing the strategic & geopolitics situation of Iran & Azerbaijan in creation of peace and safety locally and internationally without interfere in domestic affairs of each other and/or other countries. There were suitable facilities from both quality and quantity viewpoints in international relations and in spite of common ups and downs and wide scope of resources and subjects. Therefore these potential resources with effective nature made the research method as easy as possible in relations between Iran & Azerbaijan and the world as well.

KEY WORDS: Azerbaijan, Iran, Political relations.

INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Any research about mutual relations between Iran & Azerbaijan in current time shows that we have required considerations and a lot of available resources in the field of political sciences and relations with a lot of written books in this regard. One of the mentioned works is "Heydar Aliyev & East" book with the efforts of two political men of Republic of Azerbaijan in the names of Vahdat Soltan Zadeh (2005) and Gali Allah Verdioev and by the help of Consulate of Islamic Republic of Iran. This book has a general view of developing relations between both countries within recent decades.

Professor Aghalar Abbas Bili (1995) has written a book under the title of "Azerbaijan in current period" which is about mutual relations and international basic problems of both countries.

Followings are different works written in this regard:

"Four days of history" written by Professor Aliyar safarli, Hassan Alibayli (1994) which has been prepared in framework of official travel of Heydar Aliyev in 2000 to Iran on 29.June.1994 and further results of speeches and news conferences of the heads of both countries. "History of International Relations" written by Professor Mahir Abdollah U(2000). And "Foreign policy of Azerbaijan" written by the efforts of Professor Ismaeil Mousa U(2001). And also "International Relations System of Azerbaijan" written by Professor Jamil Hassanli (1993). And "Strategic policy & National Safety" written by nice efforts of Abbas Piri U (2005).

All of mentioned books are intending to study mutual relations between Iran and Azerbaijan and international relations. Also Iranian writers have written a lot of books about creation and development of relations between Iran and Azerbaijan as follows:

"Iran & Azerbaijan" written by Bahram Amir Ahmadian (2005). It is a book about political, economic and cultural problems and strategic situation of both neighbor countries. "Republic of Azerbaijan and a glance to future" is another considerable work written by Hamid Mollazadeh (1994) and with a wide and critical viewpoint to social problems and political problems and cultural common items in both countries. Such as: "Basics of General International Rights" written by Parviz Zolein. (1988), "Daste Doosti" written by Rasoul Ismaeil Zadeh.(2004), "Soviet Union of Russia from the creation up to collapse" written by Elaheh Koolaei.(1997), "Foreign policy of Islamic Republic of Iran" written by Amir Mohammad Haji Yousef.(2005), "Changes of United Nation" written by Houshang Moghtader.(1978), "Basics of International Policy Analysis" written by Halensi (1996) and "Iran & Southern field of Ex-Russia" written by Edmond Herzik.(1996). Also there are tens of other works which are about both Iran & Azerbaijan relations. Of course in his considerations, the writer tries to benefit from various conferences of heads of both countries, magazines, newspapers and internet which are necessary for such a matter.

Basic framework of the research: Appearance of various accidents in 20th century including collapse of Socialist system and Russia at the peak has its effect on international relations structure. Newly independent republics of ex-Russia found a new position in the international scope due to the both number and separation from socialism system and finding a new position in international scope and entered into the international political, economic and cultural field. Such a non-expected process which started quickly in different republics of Russia not only provides new problems for newly independent countries with common territories, but provided a lot of problems for them. One of the specifications of that

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period was powerful and expert players of international relations who may benefit considerably from created political gap in ex-Russian lands in order to find their own interests and economic, political, military and international relations.

As one of the republics of ex-Russia, Azerbaijan government confirmed officially its independency on 18.Oct.1991. Therefore it could enter into international society as a government with governing right. Through the mentioned transferred period with a lot of quick accidents, Iran was interested in Southern Caucasian and central Asia with rich and ancient records of government and a specified position in international society. Naturally the position of Republic of Azerbaijan was so much important for foreign policy of Islamic Republic of IRAN. That was firstly because both countries had neighboring & common territories. Secondly due to some common aspects that may connect both countries. Such a connection is based upon fundamental aspects including: Religion, Language, Rich cultural heritage, customs and ceremonies. These factors have a considerable effect on mutual relations between Iran & Azerbaijan because the authorities believe in mutual relations based upon good neighboring, friendship and international rules and under-development.

Although diplomatic relations between both countries started through establishment of Azerbaijan Democratic Republic within 1918-1920 with wide networks of diplomatic representatives of Iran at Azerbaijan and vice versa, but after occupation of Azerbaijan in 1920 by Red army, all these relations were stopped up to 1991. Upon finding its self-rule on 18.Oct.1991 and after collapse of Russia Soviet Union, that time again it Iran which firstly approved the self-rule of Azerbaijan. As a result both countries embassies started their work accordingly (Iranian embassy at Baku and vice versa).

Official startup of the work at embassies and in capitals of both countries changed their mutual relations which were led to practical solving of probable problems on development way of relations. Furthermore it was a legal and valid process with required conditions for development of relations at both countries. According to the international charter, one of the basic factors of growing relations between governments is concluding different legal procedures such as contracts, agreements, memorandums and letters of understanding which should be naturally reflected in major attitudes of Iran & Azerbaijan.

As a result both countries managed to create a legal procedure by the help of diplomats and experienced specialists which are about one hundred documents signed accordingly. The volume of these diplomatic documents shows a development in relations between both countries. One of the natural advantages of international relations in current time is cooperation of heads of governments in both countries relations. Progress and technological development in current time will provide suitable conditions for mutual travels of the heads which were important on Iran & Azerbaijan relations. Official travels of ex-presidents (Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani, Hojatol Islam Seyed Mohammad Khatami) and current president of Iran (Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad) to Azerbaijan and official travel of time presidents of Azerbaijan Mr. Heydar Aliyev and Ilham Aliyev to Iran were considered as important factors of development of both countries relationships.

The other specified problem in relations of both countries, Iran & Azerbaijan is disputes of Armenia and Azerbaijan in which Iran has always confirmed the land entirety of Azerbaijan and believes that mentioned dispute is solvable only through discussion and notified its cooperation for settlement of any disputes. One of the special factors with considerable and acceptable effect on development of both countries relations is cultural relations. This type of relations has an ancient history due to the initiation from great groups of people which is named as international public diplomacy. It is an end to Seizer and Communist Russia.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

After collapse of Soviet Union of Russia, newly self-ruled republics from ex-Russia found a new position in international life for themselves. As one of the republics of Soviet Union of Russia, Azerbaijan government confirmed its self-rule officially on 18.Oct.1991. Then Iran government with powerful and ancient governing customs and special position in international society has included in the list of those countries that have firstly approved the self-rule of Azerbaijan.

As a result both countries' embassies started their works in Iran and Baku accordingly. About one hundred contracts, documents, agreements, memorandum and letter of understanding signed between both countries. Then it was the time of mutual travels of the heads of both countries with a lot of considerable effects on mutual relations. Any development of cultural relations between both countries has an ancient history which has been originated from among great groups of people with a determining role in further relations.

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