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## THE DAMAGE CAUSED TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE GARABAGH REGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN BY ARMENIA AND ITS ELIMINATION

*The Karabakh region is one of the parts of the Republic of Azerbaijan with ancient history, rich traditions. The Armenian allegations concerning this region have led to the emergence of the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the Karabakh war. The war seriously damaged Azerbaijan's, especially the Karabakh region's socio-economic life. A great deal measures have been taken and important works are being done by the Azerbaijani state and some international organizations to improve the socio-economic situation in the Karabakh region.*

*Key words: Azerbaijan Republic, Karabakh war, Karabakh region, socio-economic, conflict.*

The Garabagh region is one of the components of the Republic of Azerbaijan with ancient history, rich traditions. The Armenian allegations concerning the Karabakh region caused to the establishment of Daghlig-Garabagh conflict between Armenian-Azerbaijani, and finally to the Garabagh war of 1991-1994.

War claimed territorial pretention against the Republic of Azerbaijan which has recently restored state independence regarding Daghlig Garabagh, they persued policy of state separatism and the war damaged Daghlig Garabagh region in socio-economic point of view to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Nagorno-Karabakh War violated the economy of the Upper Garabagh (Nagorno-Karabakh) region and the surrounding regions, damaged the social life of the population. The social life of the population was under hard condition. The existing sovereignty of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region of Azerbaijan SSR has been conceled the internal structures of commodity-trade, logistics, transportation-freight relations, scientific-technical, state and cultural-educational relations with Azerbaijan. The unified transport and communication system that has been operating for years in the occupied regions has collapsed as a result of Armenia's aggression [4].

As a result of Armenia's military aggression, 900 settlements, 150,000 houses, 7,000 public buildings, 7,000 industrial and agricultural enterprises, 1,025 schools, 798 health centers and 855 kindergartens were destroyed. There was a serious problem on 2670 km highway, 160 bridges, 23,000 km of water line and 15,000 km of electricity lines, 2,000 km of gas line rehabilitation, 1 million ha. land for agricultural purposes, 1200 km irrigation system, 280 thousand ha of forest, 220 thousand cattle-breeding.

Besides, rehabilitation of the damaged 2500 transformer substations, sewer lines which total length 240 km, 160 water container, 34 gas distribution devices, 35 thousand number telephone stations, 4 airports, Baku-Agdam, reconstruction of Horadiz-Ordubad part in Baku-Sharur railway are also included among these problems [8].

If we take into consideration that, It will not be possible to eliminate the problems in a short time, it is not difficult to imagine how hard it is to reconstruct.

The positive thing is that the government of Azerbaijan has been increasingly engaged in solution of problems concerning refugees and internally displaced persons and raising the political, economic power and social life of the republic as well [5; 10]. The following amount were spent for social protection of refugees and internally displaced persons: 969.3 million manats allocated from the state budget for social protection in 1993-2009, in 2001-2009, 612.9 million manats allocated from the State Oil Fund for the purpose of their living conditions improvement [7, p. 269]. in 2003, one State Program on the Solution of Social Problems of Refugees and IDPs and two additional supplements (anexes) were adopted. In total, 45 decrees and orders were signed, 141 decrees were adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers and 9 laws were adopted by National Parliament [10]. This initiative has spread since 2003. Due to the order of President Ilham Aliyev dated on 1 July 2004 (№ 298), the issue on solving all social problems of refugees and internally displaced persons, including their place of residence were identified. This was reflected in «State Program for the Improvement of the Living Conditions and Increasing the Employment of Refugees and IDPs» and the Action Plan approved by the Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 4 November 2004 (№ 232) [2].

Individual houses were built and put into operation in Mehdiabad settlement of Absheron district for 39 IDP families who temporarily settled in Garanfil sanatorium in Sabunchu district of Baku in 2006. At the same time, a new settlement was built in Ramana settlement of Sabunchu district for 450 IDP families who temporarily settled in «Zugulba» sanatorium in Khazar district of Baku (May 4, 2007) [5].

In general, the living conditions of refugees and internally displaced persons for 2001-2010 were improved – 67 new settlements and individual houses were built and commissioned for 20,000 families [5]. After successful implementation of the First State Program on Regional Development in the Republic on April 14, 2009, the «State Program on Socio-Economic Development of the Regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2009-2013» was approved and the tasks set out in the program were successfully completed and implemented.

In accordance with this program, 1,747 IDPs were employed in 2009, 563 were given unemployed status, 680 were granted unemployment benefits. 467 refugees and internally displaced persons were enrolled in vocational training courses and 253 were paid for public works. Payments of average monthly salary to more than 14,000 IDPs employed at the enterprises financed from the budget have been ensured [9, p.262].

339.1 million manat was spent on elimination of social problems of refugees and internally displaced persons in 2010. 207.1 million manat is from the budget, 105 million manat is allocated by the State Oil Fund and 27 million manat is the funds of international humanitarian and development organizations [9, p.262].

Due to the order of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan İlham Aliyev, two five-storied building for 155 IDP families in Gabala region on February 27, 2010, consisting of multi-storey buildings built for 612 IDP families in Yevlakh region on 10 November 2010 (10 689 internally displaced families (651 settled in the Finnish settlement of the settlement and 38 IDP families in school buildings) in the Agdam region on November 11, 2010, Construction of a new settlement near Quzanlı settlement has been completed. Internally displaced families have been relocated to residential and residential buildings in those multi-storied buildings [9]. 60,000 ha of land plots have been allocated from state and municipal funds for temporary use for internally displaced persons, and 760 farms, covering 47,000 immigrants have been set up. The National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support provided a loan of 3.4 billion pounds to 150 families [9, p. 263].

In total, 4.3 billion manat was spent on the solution of social problems of refugees and internally displaced persons in 1993-2012. From it 2 billion manats are allocated from the state budget, 1.5 billion manat from the State Oil Fund and 0.8 billion from the funds of international organizations functioning in our country [3].

The National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support under the Ministry of Economic Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan provided 32.2 million manat for the investment project of 1534 IDP entrepreneurs in 2004-2012, including 226 million manats to 874 IDPs in 2012 and given \$ 9.3 million credit for 3 investment projects based on new technologies [3].

40 community microprojects with a total value of \$ 2,45 million (1,92 million AZN) were implemented by the Social Development Fund of the IDPs of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the frame of the cooperation between World Bank and the Government of Azerbaijan, and signed agreement (Assistance Project for Economic Development of IDPs «) on credit in 2012 [3].

Totally, 520 different types of micro-projects have been adopted and implemented in the past nine years, with 310,000 beneficiaries and 30 million manat in the last 9 years. Throughout the year, various international humanitarian and development projects have been implemented as a result of their transparent, free and efficient created conditions by 49 international and 43 local humanitarian organizations coordinated by the International Commission on Humanitarian Aid. At that time a full legal basis was established in accordance with international norms on the social protection of refugees and internally displaced persons [2].

Ümumiyyətlə, Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin 2004-cü il 1 iyul tarixli 298 nömrəli Sərəncamı ilə qəbul edilmiş «Qaçqınların və məcburi köçkünlərin yaşayış şəraitinin yaxşılaşdırılması və məşğulluğunun artırılması üzrə Dövlət Proqramı», eləcə də, 2007-ci il 31 oktyabr tarixli 2475 nömrəli və 2011-ci il 21 fevral tarixli 1346 nömrəli sərəncamları ilə təsdiq edilmiş həmin Dövlət Proqramına Əlavələrlə əlaqədar həyata keçirilən tədbirlər nəticəsində həmin Dövlət Proqramı, ona edilmiş Əlavələr və digər normativ aktlar uğurla icra edilmişdir. Təsadüfi deyil ki, bununla əlaqədar olaraq məcburi köçkünlər arasında yoxsulluq həddi 75 %-dən 15 %-ə düşmüşdür [11].

In 2012, 4553 families or 22,765 IDPs improved their living conditions. 6 new housing complexes with a total area of 296,000 square meters were created during the year, 4553 IDP families with 22,765 were relocated to new homes, and 6 schools were built for 3,300 students. On that year, local school with 1300 places for internally displaced persons was built in Mushfigabad settlement of Garadagh district [3].

The measures taken by the state to improve the socio-economic situation in the Garabagh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan continued in 2013. In 2013, 5741 families or 28,700 refugees and internally displaced persons improved their living conditions, which contributed to the overall improvement of their social conditions

During the year, 6 new residential complex with an 292 thousand square meters area are built, 5 schools with 2736 places were reconstructed, as well as art school, Palace of Culture with 500 places, 4 kindergartens, 5 medical centers, 4 club – community centers, 4 administrative building 18 water reservoirs, 9 pump stations, 18 complete transformer substations with 30.7 km of roads, 54 km water line, 117 km of electricity lines, 42 km of gas lines, 8 km of heat lines, 25 km sewer line built [3].

The implementation of the State Program on Socio-Economic Development of the Regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2014-2018 has also played an important role in improving the socio-economic situation in the Garabagh region. In 2014, the living conditions of 4450 families or 22,000 IDPs have been improved [3].

Totally, 5,1 billion manats were spent on social protection of refugees and internally displaced persons. 2.3 billion manats from it are the state budget, 1.8 billion manat to the State Oil Fund, and one billion manat to international financial institutions and international organizations functioning in our country, which has contributed to the improvement of the social conditions of the population.

In 2014, due to the Credit Agreement signed between the World Bank and Azerbaijan State the projects titled «Support Living Conditions and of Income of Internally Displaced Persons» for Social Development Fund of the IDPs of the Republic of Azerbaijan provided 73 thousand beneficiaries in 2014. Micro projects have played a major role. At the same time, 430 internally displaced people and 1500 were provided seasonal jobs in order to improving the socio-economic situation of the population.

In addition, as a result of interaction with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population and its structural divisions 1787 people were provided permanent jobs, 403 unemployed were granted, 513 unemployed benefits were assigned.

Also, a total of 7.7 million manat preferential credits were issued to finance the investment project of 317 IDPs in the frame of the National Entrepreneurship Support Fund of the Ministry of Economy and Industry of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in result in 545 new jobs, which resulted in the improvement of material well-being of a large part of the population [3].

By 2015, 46,000 families or 230,000 refugees and internally displaced persons' living conditions have improved, which 42,000 families or 210,000 (91 %) people are in the last 11 years. For this purpose, the President of the country signed 54 decrees and orders, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted 194 decrees and orders and National Parliament adopted 11 laws [3].

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev said at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly on 20 September, 2017: «The main goal of our policy is to improve the welfare of our citizens. Since 2004, wages have been increased by 5.6 times in Azerbaijan, 8,2 times. more than in 2001. Without foreign funding and support, we have opened approximately 100 new settlements and camps for refugees and internally displaced persons who have suffered from the Armenian occupation. so far, more than 250,000 people have improved their living conditions and have been given new homes and apartments, with 152 schools in those towns and settlements, 59 medical centers and 60 kindergartens were built» [4].

In general, much work has been done to prevent the damage caused to the Republic of Azerbaijan in the Garabagh war and to improve the socio-economic situation, and important measures have been implemented. A residential complex consisting of 100 modern settlements and multi-storey buildings with more than 30 million square meters of land in all 30 cities and districts of the republic has been built For refugees and internally displaced persons.

There are 152 schools, 6 music schools, 1 arts school, 1 culture palace, 50 cultural centers, 60 kindergartens, 59 medical centers, 2 Olympic sports complexes, 718 km of roads, 960 km of water, 1605 km of air power, 442 kilometers of gas, 66 kilometers of communication, 26 kilometers of heating, 89 kilometers of sewerage lines, 163 kilometers of drainage networks and 830 different power transformers have been installed. Overall, 49,000 families or 243,000 refugees and IDPs have improved their living conditions.

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**ЗБИТКИ, ЗАВДАНІ ВІРМЕНІЄЮ СОЦІАЛЬНО-ЕКОНОМІЧНОМУ ЖИТТЮ  
КАРАБАХСЬКОМУ РЕГІОНУ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНСЬКІЙ РЕСПУБЛІЦІ ТА ЇХ УСУНЕННЯ**

*Карабахський регіон є однією зі складових частин Азербайджанської Республіки, що має давню історію, багаті культурні традиції. Територіальні претензії вірмен на цей регіон призвели до вірмено-азербайджанському нагірно-карабахського конфлікту, карабахської війни. Ця війна завдала величезної шкоди соціально-економічному життю Азербайджанської Республіки, особливо карабахському регіону. Керівництво Азербайджанської Республіки і ряд міжнародних організацій з метою поліпшення соціально-економічного становища проводять в карабахському регіоні значну роботу.*

*Ключові слова: Азербайджанська Республіка, карабахська війна, карабахський регіон, соціально-економічне життя, конфлікт.*