

HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES OF THE AGDAM REGION

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Summary. Aghdam is a historic and strategically significant city in the Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The city was occupied by Armenia in 1993 and was completely destroyed during the occupation, earning the nickname «Hiroshima of the Caucasus». After the 44-day Patriotic War in 2020, Aghdam was liberated from occupation. Aghdam holds an important place in Azerbaijan's history, economy, and culture. It is known as the birthplace of the Karabakh Mugham school and is home to historical monuments such as the Imarat Complex of the Karabakh khans and the Shahbulag Fortress. Before the occupation, Aghdam was a developed center for agriculture and industry. Currently, extensive reconstruction efforts are underway in Aghdam. The city is being rebuilt according to the «Smart City» concept, with new industrial parks and tourism hubs being established. Aghdam is considered a symbol of Azerbaijan's resilience, the restoration of historical justice, and the future development of Karabakh.

Key words: Aghdam, Karabakh, history, cultural, progress.

Geographical position and climatic conditions. Agdam district is located in the western part of Azerbaijan, at the foot of the Karabakh mountain range. The territory of the district is mainly plain and has fertile soils.

- Area: 1,150 km².
- Population: According to 2025 data, more than 100 thousand people live in the district.
- Climate: A temperate-warm semi-desert and dry steppe climate prevails. Summers are hot and dry, and winters are mild.

History. The history of Aghdam dates back to ancient times. The city has witnessed various historical events since the time of Caucasian Albania. In the Middle Ages, caravanserais and fortresses were located in the territory of Aghdam. In the 19th century, the city became a center of trade and agriculture. (Administrative-territorial division of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Collection of information. Baku, 2013).

In the 20th century, Aghdam began to develop rapidly. The city became both an industrial and cultural center. Factories, plants, cultural centers, schools and hospitals operated here.

Occupation and destruction (1993-2020). In 1993, the city of Aghdam was occupied by the Armenian armed forces. As a result of the occupation, the city was

completely destroyed and was called the «Hiroshima of the Caucasus». After the occupation, the city was turned into ruins and military fortifications were built here.

The Azerbaijani Army liberated Aghdam in 2020 as a result of the 44-day Patriotic War. On November 20, 2020, the city of Agdam and the rest of the district came under the control of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces.

Restoration and reconstruction of Agdam. After liberation, the Azerbaijani government began the restoration of Agdam. Large-scale reconstruction work is underway in the city. This includes:

- Implementation of the «Smart City» concept,
- Construction of new roads, schools, hospitals and parks,
- Restoration of historical monuments.

One of the most important projects built in the city after the occupation is the Karabakh Agdam Stadium. Agdam Park is also being created, and industrial production will be carried out here.

Economy. The main occupation of Agdam society is agriculture. Viticulture, grain growing, cotton growing, livestock breeding and beekeeping were developed here. Currently, agriculture is being restored in the territories liberated from occupation.

- Industry: Agdam's industry is mainly related to the processing of agricultural products.

- Agriculture: Vineyards, wheat and barley fields, and orchards formed the basis of Agdam's economy.

Cultural and historical monuments. Agdam has a rich cultural and historical heritage. There were many historical monuments in the city at one time:

1. The Emirate complex – the tombs of the Karabakh khans were located here.
2. Aghdam Mosque – a famous mosque dating back to the 18th century.
3. Shahbulag Fortress - built in the middle of the 18th century.
4. Aghdam Drama Theater – one of the most famous theaters in Azerbaijan (Gasimli Musa. History of the Republic of Azerbaijan (1991-2021). In 2 volumes).

Unfortunately, most of these monuments were destroyed during the occupation. Currently, the Azerbaijani government pays special attention to the restoration of historical and cultural heritage.

Culture and cuisine. The Aghdam region was also one of the important centers in the field of music and art. Famous performers of Karabakh mugham came from Aghdam.

Agdam cuisine is also rich. Among its traditional dishes:

- Karabakh pilaf,
- Shorgogali,
- Dovga,
- Sazh dishes,
- Kebab varieties are famous.

Symbols of Agdam:

- Agdam Tea: A type of local dessert;

- Mugham music: Agdam mugham masters have made great contributions to the mugham art of Azerbaijan;
- Agdam Brewery: A famous enterprise during the USSR.

Current situation and future prospects. The Azerbaijani government plans to develop Agdam as one of the main economic, cultural and industrial centers of Karabakh. New residential buildings, tourism facilities, industrial enterprises and social infrastructure projects are being implemented here.

Agdam International Airport will also be built, giving a boost to the economy and tourism potential of the region.

Conclusions and suggestions. Agdam city occupies a special place in the historical, cultural and economic life of Azerbaijan. The city, restored after the occupation, will become one of the important centers of Azerbaijan in the future. The infrastructure projects established here and the restored historical heritage will make a great contribution to the revival of Agdam. Agdam city occupies a special place in the historical, cultural and economic life of Azerbaijan. The city, restored after the occupation, will become one of the important centers of Azerbaijan in the future. The infrastructure projects established here and the restored historical heritage will make a great contribution to the revival of Agdam.

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МОНІТОРИНГ ЯКОСТІ ПІДЗЕМНИХ ВОД ІЗ ЗАЛУЧЕННЯМ ШКОЛЯРІВ ДО КРАЄЗНАВЧИХ ДОСЛІДЖЕНЬ

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Вода це найважливіша корисна копалина, тому роль гідрогеологічних досліджень неможливо переоцінити. Саме підземні води є основним ресурсом питної води. Враховуючи процеси децентралізації, гідрогеологічні дослідження стали важливими не лише на рівні області, але і на рівні об'єднаних територіальних громад (ОТГ) і, навіть, окремих сіл [2]. Оскільки звичайний аналіз води є недешевим, то і гідрогеологічні дослідження вимагають значних коштів. Тому, як ніколи, актуальне питання здешевлення, принаймні, попередніх досліджень. Адже попередні дослідження можуть чітко окреслити обсяг подальших робіт, що приведе до значної економії коштів. Запропонована