

AZERBAIJAN-IRAN RELATIONS (1918-1920)

Shabnam Yusifova

(Ms.), ANAS, The Institute of History, AZERBAIJAN, email shebnem-yusifova@mail.ru

Abstract

This article was devoted to the theme of “Azerbaijan-Iran relations (1918-1920 years). So, after declaring of the independence on May 28, 1918, Azerbaijan proclaimed the establishment of friendly and fraternal relations with neighboring states and also the recognition of sovereignty in the international community as main aims. In the article the Azerbaijan-Iran relations are divided into three parts and each period is analyzed separately. In initial stage, the first attempts of Azerbaijan representatives towards friendly relations with Iran resulted in failure. Although the appeal was sent to the Iranian Consulate for the recognition of Azerbaijan’s independence in Istanbul in July 1918, the Iranian Consul rejected this appeal, even pretended territorial claims against Azerbaijan in the next meetings. Of course, there were several factors that caused to hesitant stance of Iran toward Azerbaijan. In the second stage of relationship some improvements have been achieved and mutual negotiations have begun to be implemented between two countries. With the sending of special delegation led by Ismail khan Ziyadkhanli and Adil khan Ziyadkhanli to Iran by Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs the first diplomatic relations were established. Continuation of negotiations was held in Paris Peace Conference. As a result, Azerbaijan-Iran joint commission was created in Paris and the four-point treaty was signed. Finally, since the beginning of 1920, relationship reached its peak. Iran’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a special diplomatic delegation led by Sayyid Ziyaeddin Tabatabai to Azerbaijan. The negotiations which lasted for a long time, ended successfully and Iran recognized the independence of Azerbaijan de-jure on March 20, 1920. During the short period of time from the recognition of Azerbaijan sovereignty until the overthrow of independence on April 28, 1920, 6 treaties on trade, telegraph, customs, transit and other issues were signed between Azerbaijan and Iran. In the article the establishment of the mutual political and economic relations, the hesitant attitude of Iran towards Azerbaijan independence, positive developments in relations and the factors that lead to it, different position of other states, especially Russia and England to the recognition of Azerbaijan independence by Iran are investigated and analyzed.

Keywords: Azerbaijan, Iran, relation, establishment, independence, contract