

Armenian Atrocities Against Azerbaijanis in the Ancient Oghuz-Turkic Homeland of Zangazur at the Beginning of the 20th Century (Based on Archival Materials)

Abdulla Mustafayev¹

Article history: Received: 7 April 2025, Accepted: 2 June 2025
Published: 1 July 2025

Abstract: It was mentioned in the article that the Armenians, who were resettled in the lands of ancient Azerbaijan under the patronage of Tsarist Russia at the beginning of the 19th century, completed their military, political, economic, organizational and ideological preparations to seize these lands and started provocative actions from the beginning of the 20th century. They used various means to create fear among the population, and took advantage of the indifference of the tsarist authorities to become even more perverted. Finally, trying to take advantage of the conditions created by the first bourgeois-democratic revolution in Russia, they began to implement the first stage of the genocide and deportation policy that they would carry out against Azerbaijanis at various times throughout the 20th century.

Purpose: This article investigates the systematic violence and atrocities committed by Armenian armed groups, particularly the Dashnaksutyun party, against Azerbaijanis in the Zangezur district at the beginning of the 20th century. The aim is to bring international attention to this overlooked historical episode and examine the policies of ethnic cleansing and demographic manipulation carried out against the Azerbaijani population.

Design/Methodology/Approach: This study adopts a qualitative historical research method by analyzing

¹ associate professor of "General History" department, Nakhchivan State University | abdullamustafayev@ndu.edu.az

archival materials, periodicals, and works of both Azerbaijani and Armenian authors. It employs document analysis to explore multiple narratives and reconstruct the events that transpired in the South Caucasus region during 1905–1907.

Findings: The research reveals that Armenian militias, aided by Russian imperial authorities, launched coordinated attacks on Azerbaijani settlements, resulting in mass killings, forced displacement, and the destruction of over 40 villages. Despite local resistance and organized counterattacks by Azerbaijani defense groups, many villages such as Qatâr, Okchu, and Shabadek fell under siege and witnessed horrific massacres. The violence altered the ethno-demographic balance in favor of Armenians, with a significant decline in Azerbaijani presence in the Iravan governorate.

Originality/value: The article contributes original insights by presenting underrepresented Azerbaijani perspectives, substantiated through rarely accessed archival records. It challenges dominant narratives that overlook these atrocities and exposes the long-standing effects of Armenian expansionist nationalism and Russian imperial complicity. The study underscores the need for historical justice and a re-evaluation of early 20th-century Caucasus history to foster reconciliation and understanding.

Keywords: West Azerbaijan; Zangezur district; Iravan governorate; Dashnaksutyun; ethnic violence

Paper Type: Research-Article

Introduction

As it is known, genocide is the purposeful actions aimed at total or partial extermination of any national, ethnic, racial population groups or peoples. Researching the history of genocide is very relevant for all eras, including our modern era. France committed genocide against the Kanaks in Algeria and today in Caledonia, hundreds and thousands of civilians were killed as a result of the genocide committed by Russia in Baku on January 20, 1990, and today in Ukraine, Armenians carried out in stages against the people of Azerbaijan, to whom I belong, throughout

the 20th century (Marsoobian 2023; Bahramov 2022; Stepanyan 2021). If we consider massacres, genocide, deportation policy, we will see how important and urgent it is to investigate this problem.

The purpose of writing the article is to bring to the attention of the international community the policy of genocide carried out against the Azerbaijani population in Western Zangezur in 1905-1907 by the Armenians, who were relocated from the territories of the Qajar and Ottoman states at the beginning of the 19th century with the help of Tsarist Russia, and settled in the lands of ancient Azerbaijan in 1905-1907, based on archival materials, it is to show the inner faces of Armenians who try to show them as "tormentors".

There is some information about the massacres carried out by Armenian armed groups against Azerbaijani Turks in Zangezur district of Yelizavetpol (Ganja) governorate in 1905-1907 in archival funds, periodicals and works of individual authors. Thus, "Kaspi", "Novoye obozrenie" published in Baku at the beginning of the 20th century, "Tiflisskiy listok" published in Tbilisi, etc. the events of that period were reflected in the newspapers.

In addition to the periodical press, a number of authors, for example, M. S. Ordubadi in the work "Bloody years" in the copper mines located in Okchu valley and Qatar village, in the work "Armenian-Muslim conflict in 1905-1906" by M. M. Navvab, in Vagudi of Garakils (now Sisian) district of Zangezur district. and the Armenian atrocities that took place in other villages were mentioned.

In the works of a number of Armenian authors, the events that took place in that period were also mentioned. For example, Armenian author Ovanes Ter Petrosyan, nicknamed A-do, published in Yerevan in 1907 "Armenian-Turkish clashes in Yerevan in 1905-1906", S. Zavaryan published in St. Petersburg in 1907 "The economic situation of Karabakh and 1905 - Famine in

1907” etc. it can be shown that the events of that period were illuminated in these works.

Through an analysis of the violence that occurred in Zangezur and its impact on ethnic relations in the Caucasus, it becomes evident that these events are part of a long-standing conflict that has persisted for centuries in the region. The efforts to alter the ethnic composition of Zangezur and its surrounding areas, carried out by Armenian groups, illustrate the interconnectedness of violence and ethnic politics, shaping a social reality fraught with tension. Despite its considerable power in the Caucasus region, the Russian Tsarist government demonstrated weaknesses in addressing ethnic issues and social justice, ultimately exacerbating the existing tensions. It is crucial to recognize that these violent events did not merely end in 1906, but continued to influence the political and social dynamics of the Caucasus in the decades that followed. By studying these occurrences, one can better understand the importance of peace and reconciliation in resolving ethnic conflicts, which often worsen the social and political conditions in regions prone to ethnic tensions.

Methods

The research method employed to analyze the incidents of violence and ethnic conflict in the Caucasus during the early 20th century is qualitative historical research. This approach focuses on the collection and analysis of historical data from various primary sources, such as government archives, newspapers, official documents, and literary works that recount these events. The researcher utilizes document analysis to identify narratives formed from diverse perspectives, including police reports, newspapers, and firsthand testimonies, which depict inter-ethnic violence and political tensions of the time.

Discussion and Findings

Starting from the beginning of the 20th century, the Armenian gangs, having completed their military, political, economic, organizational and ideological preparations, began to expand their acts of sabotage against the local population. Starting from 1903, the “Dashnaksutyun” party began to implement their pre-prepared plans against the Azerbaijanis. In one of the documents of the Baku police department, it is stated that in March 1904, during the “Shahsey-Vahsey” events held by the local population in the month of Muharram, the Armenians threw bombs among the Muslims (Nuriyeva 2023) and wanted to kill the population and in the end throw it on the gendarmes (Bahramov 2022). They tried to instill fear in the population by various means, especially through riots, demonstrations, boycotts, and terrorism against officials. They did not hesitate to carry out terrorist acts not only against tsarist officials, but also against Armenians who did not want to cooperate with the “Dashnaksutyun” party.

Thus, taking advantage of the fact that tsarism not only did not react to the criminal actions of the Armenians, but also took an interest in the intensification of inter-ethnic enmity, the Armenians began to implement their main goal from the first days of 1905, i.e. the process of expelling Azerbaijanis from their lands. In areas where Armenians live compactly, especially Baku, Iravan, Kars, Shusha, Nakhchivan, Zangezur, Tbilisi, etc. massive beating and massacre of Azerbaijanis took place in these places.

Armenians tried to make up for the heavy defeat they suffered in Shusha and Aghdam by attacking Zangezur district of Yelizavetpol (Ganja) governorate (Mustafayev and Sadigova 2022). The Zangezur accident occupied a special place in the plans of Dashnaksutyun's party (Markhulia 2022). The main obstacle in the realization of these plans was, without a doubt, the dominance of Azerbaijanis in the accident. In order to change the ethnic landscape of the region for their benefit, the Armenians, who had the opportunity in 1905, sent military forces and ammunition from

different parts of the Iravan province, and drew up various plans to seize the upper hand. For this purpose, the Armenians began to gather together the Armenian armed groups scattered in other regions and mobilize their forces. They gathered all their forces in the Armenian villages of Barabatum and Çekedak, located near the village of Qatar, and planned to launch attacks on the Turkish-Muslim villages of Zangezur district from here (Ghulyan 2023). However, since the road from Iravan to Zangezur passes through villages inhabited by Azerbaijanis, the Armenian commanders wanted to capture these villages first.

The Armenians, in league with the government troops, caused tragedy in the villages of Khanliguk, Itqiran, and Jahri, and tried to seize the villages of Dirnis, Unus, and Pazmari of Ordubad in order to overthrow Zangezur, but they could not succeed (Sadigov 2021). Armenians started extensive military preparations to capture the villages of Okchu, Shabadek, Pirdavud, Atgiz, which are considered the key to Zangezur. On the one hand, they gathered their forces in the Gafan district, and on the other hand, they trained the volunteers brought from Iravan, Alexandropol (Gumru), Abaran (Aparan-apar-avar+an plural suffix-AM), Shuragöl in Aylis, Kalaki, Danakirt villages of Ordubad where Armenians live. Armenian armed groups were planning to attack Okchu-Shabadek from here. At the same time, regular Armenian forces that were defeated in Shusha gathered in the direction of Qatar.

On July 29, 1906, at noon, Armenian armed groups of 5 thousand people attacked Karkhana and destroyed the village. The people of the village could not withstand so many armed groups of Armenians and left their homes and retreated to the mountains. The Armenians, chasing the population fleeing the Armenian brutality and taking refuge in the village of Qatar, besieged the village. Hearing the cry of a small child among those

hiding behind the rocks, the Armenians brutally killed all 30 people hiding (McCarthy, Miller, and Miller 1994).

On that day, the Armenians who killed the entire population of Karkhana killed the majority of the population of Lov, Khalaj, Saldashly, Injavar, and Dashnov villages of Zangezur and destroyed the villages. As it was mentioned above, the Armenians, who were chasing the population who took refuge in the village of Qatar, surrounded the village and set it on fire. The people of Qatar bravely resisted numerous Armenian armed groups. The Armenians, who did not have accurate information about the number and ammunition of the defenders of the village, did not dare to attack the village. Therefore, the enemy, who got information as a result of the treachery of the bailiff Sakharov, who was in league with the Armenians, organized an attack on the village with a force of 8,000 people (Nuriyeva 2024). It was not possible to help the completely besieged Qatar village from any villages inhabited by Azerbaijanis. The villagers who resisted the enemy for 9 days are betrayed by the Iranian workers working in the copper mines. Hearing that they were coming to the village saying "Ya Ali", the population thought that help was coming and let the Iranian workers into the village. The Iranian workers started to blow up and burn the houses with the oil and dynamite they brought. However, even this betrayal could not break the resistance of the village defenders. According to the order received from Yerevan, the Armenian forces in Aylis and the Armenian forces besieging Qatar united in Panuslu on August 8, 1906 and attacked the Azerbaijani villages again (Akin 2022). On August 8, the Armenians, who attacked the village of Qatar from all sides, suffered a heavy defeat and retreated. The Armenians, who took advantage of the negligence of the village defenders, who left their positions and retreated to their homes, confident of the victory they achieved on August 9, captured all important strategic positions. This results in the defeat of the defenders of

Qatar. The Armenian aggression, which started on July 29, ended with the capture of the village of Qatar on August 9. The population is forced to leave the village and retreat to Kalladag.

After capturing the village of Qatar, the Armenian bandits, armed with the most modern weapons produced in Russia and France, attacked the villages of Zangezur, Okchu, Shabadek, Pirdavud, Atgiz, but were defeated. The defenders of these villages not only forced the Armenians to retreat to the village of Gijavan, but even captured and destroyed this village. However, the Armenians were able to capture the positions around the villages of Panuslu, Girdakhan, Gijelan and occupy the mountains of Okchu-Shabadek. The population left in a difficult situation retreats to Saqqarsu. Taking advantage of this, the Armenians captured the villages of Okchu, Shabadek, Pirdavud and Atgiz and massacred the population who could not escape. Armenians killed 62 people around Saqqarsu and piled them on top of each other. In another direction, Armenians beheaded 15 children. Thus, from August 9 to 15, in addition to the above-mentioned villages of Zangezur, Khalaj, Karkhana, Qatar, Injavar, Çöllü, Yemezli, Saldaşlı, Mollalar, Batuman, Züzul, Güman, Iyilli, Sanali, Minavvar, Farjan, The villages of Galaboyun, Ajabli, and Bugaag were victims of Armenian brutality.

The tragedy of Okchu-Shabadek caused great excitement among the people of Ordubad. The people of Ordubad sent up to 100 telegrams to the general governors of Iravan and Ganja and complained about the Armenians (R. F. Melson 2020). After those telegrams, a company of dragoons came to Orduba and tried to take the refugees to their villages. However, since the Armenians captured the entire Gafan district, they prevented the Muslims from returning, and even killed two Azerbaijanis in front of the cavalry.

The presence of so many refugees in Ordubad created many problems in the district itself. Since relations with Karabakh were

severed, trade activities declined, and there was a lack of food to provide for the refugees. On the other hand, there were no conditions for the refugees to keep their livestock in Ordubad. Winter was coming ahead. It is true that the people of Ordubad did all they could to help the refugees. However, after making sure that the refugees were determined to return to their homeland, the Ordubad people took it upon themselves to return the refugees. Because they understood well that the official authorities had no intention of punishing Armenians.

Finally, it was decided to supply a trip to seat the Armenians in their seats. Seeing that the ruling circles of Russia not only did not take any measures to prevent these atrocities of the Armenians, but even fully defended them, Karabakh Beys, the owners of 64,000 desyats of the 68,443 desyats of agricultural land in Zangezur district, after consulting with Ahmed Bey Aghayev, were created to protect the Azerbaijanis from Dashnak oppression (Nuriyeva 2023). With the help of "Difai" defense organization, they prepared and started implementing measures against Armenians. Thus, the created volunteer group of 800 people joined with the volunteer group of 1000 people gathered from Ordubad and started a counter-attack operation. The army was divided into divisions and subordinated to the commander-in-chief. For the successful completion of the operation, a military plan was prepared, and reconnaissance and liaison units were formed. On September 16, the army was instructed to move in two directions and capture the Armenian village of Girdekan and Panuslu. The third division of 500 people was supposed to take a position in the mountains of Lec and Tashtin and block the way of the Armenians coming to help from Mehri and other villages.

Early in the morning on September 16, the village of Girdekan was fired upon by the order of the command. Four or five minutes later, the unit near Panuslu also started fighting. After a fierce four-hour battle, the Armenians attacked and tried

to cut the communication between our units, but they were repelled by the attack of the reserve unit in Atgiz village. Bayandur, Gorus, Eyvazlar, and Davudlu villages were among the villages subjected to atrocities in the Zangezur district of Armenians. As a result of the plans prepared by the Dashnaks and carried out by the Khumbas (Armenian drujinas), they were completely looted, and their inhabitants became refugees (Bayramova 2020).

After a battle that lasted up to twelve hours, the Muslim villages were liberated. Only after the news of the arrival of five hundred government troops, the Azerbaijanis retreated to Saqqarsu, where they had their general headquarters. After the government troops arrived, the people of Okchu-Shabadek returned to their villages. Thus, after the defeat of the Panuslu-Girdekan battles on September 16, 1906, the plans of the Armenians to capture Okchu-Shabadei were overturned. As M. S. Ordubadi noted, "The zeal of the people of Ordubad and the district drew a red line with a golden pen on our national pages, decorated it and put a price on it" [Ordubadi, M. S. (1991): 140].

Thus, Zangezur villages occupied by Armenians were freed from occupation. Although the Armenians suffered great losses in the battles, as in the case of the Patriotic War, which began in September 2020 and went down in history under the name of the 44-day war, at that time as well, the Armenians were saved from being completely defeated as a result of the intervention of the Russian government troops.

As mentioned above, the events that took place at the beginning of the 20th century were reflected in the work of the Armenian author Zavaryan entitled "Economic situation of Karabakh and famine in 1905-1907". Zavaryan showed that 43 Muslim Turkish villages were burned and destroyed in Zangezur in those years (Khoudinyan 2023).

In his work, Mayevsky examines the causes of the events that occurred in the South Caucasus in those years and concludes that the "trouble that occurred" could have occurred as a result of both the "criminal inactivity of the authorities" and the "criminal activity of the main figures of the conflict – Dashnaksutyun". What was the main reason for these two reasons? the questioning author answers: undoubtedly, the second reason (Sargent 2010).

Two years later, in 1908, he added the following thoughts to his article: "... I say with great insistence that "Dashnaksutyun" and similar societies are the main source of the misfortunes of the Armenian people both in Turkey and in the Caucasus. The existence of these organizations will constantly threaten the Armenian population with new disasters" (R. Melson 2017). In 1915, when the booklet was being prepared for printing, Mayevsky made an addition to it: "if there were no Dashnaksutyun and societies like it, how prosperous the Armenian nation would be, how brilliant it would be" (Markhulia 2022).

Vorontsov-Dashkov's report addressed to Witte also admitted that the Dashnaks are completely engaged in organizing the struggle against Muslims in the Caucasus. Confirming this opinion once again, Mayevsky notes that "When examining the main causes of the Armenian-Tatar massacre in the Caucasus, I firmly note that the culprits of this massacre were those secret organizations (Markhulia 2022) who moved their activities to the Caucasus "by fate".

The work "Bloody Years", written on the basis of 254 letters, reflects the bloody events that took place in all the districts of Yerevan governorate at the beginning of the 20th century. In this work, Ordubadi gave detailed information about the atrocities committed by Armenians in Zangezur district, which is part of Yelizavetpol governorate. We mentioned that the ruling circles of Russia hoped to wage war with Japan in order to prevent the

discontent against the tsarist absolutism and the revolutionary movement at the beginning of the 20th century, and to solve the social problems in the country with the compensation they would get if they won. But as it is known, Russia lost the war, and this defeat led to the growing discontent in the country. The tsarist government tried to use various methods to subjugate the peoples included in the empire. That is why the tsarism, which sowed the seeds of inter-ethnic enmity by transferring Armenians and settling them in Azerbaijani lands, ignited the enmity between the two peoples. It was Ordubadi in his well-known work that the reason for the conflict in the Caucasus was that the head of the central government was involved in suppressing the revolutionary movement, and that the arbitrariness of the Armenians was ignored, and no measures were taken to suppress the conflict (Allahverdiyeva 2022). In Ordubadi's work, after the events in Baku, he consistently noted the atrocities committed by Armenians in Nakhchivan and Yerevan.

One of the sources that provides information about the massacres committed by Armenians against Azerbaijanis at the beginning of the 20th century is Mir Mohsen Navvab's work entitled "Armenian-Muslim conflict in 1905-1906 (Musalı 2022). In his work, the author talked about the massacres that took place in several regions of Azerbaijan, including Zangezur. Apart from these works, there are also works by a number of Armenian authors that give information about the bloody events of 1905-1907. Thus, S. Zavaryan, I. In the works of Alibekov (Uryadova 2020), the events were reflected, albeit in a distorted form (Karimova 2023).

In his work entitled "Armenian-Turkish clashes in the Caucasus", wrote about the events that took place in 12 districts of the South Caucasus, including the Zangezur district, and wrote that during these massacres, 7 cities were heavily destroyed, 252 villages were burned in 12 districts, and 10,000 people were killed.

hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis were displaced from their homes (Şekeryan 2020). As a result of the events that took place in A-don's work, it is shown that Azerbaijani Turks live in 959 (out of 1301 villages) villages in Iravan province and 314 (out of 406 villages) in Zangezur district. As a result, the entire population was expelled from the 1,273 villages where Azerbaijanis lived in the Iravan governorate and Zangezur (except Nakhchivan district).

In S. Zavaryan's work entitled "Economic conditions of Karabakh and the famine of 1905-1907", it is mentioned that 43 villages belonging to Azerbaijanis were completely destroyed in Zangezur district along with other villages (Astourian 2023). In Zavaryan's work, it is shown that socio-economic problems are the cause of the events. Of course, this idea is completely wrong. There is some information about the events that happened at the beginning of the 20th century in the state archives of Russia and Turkey. Thus, during the research conducted in recent years, materials were obtained from the archives of those states about the massacres of Azerbaijanis by Armenians. Thus, in the archives of Russia, there is information about the massacre of Armenians against Tatars-Azeris in Zangezur district of Yelizavetpol province. In one of these documents, the copy of the presentation of the prosecutor of Yelizavetpol District Court to the prosecutor of Tbilisi Chamber of Justice dated December 5, 1905, sent to the Minister of Justice, shows that despite the relative calm after the shooting on November 24, the tension still continued.

The processes taking place in Western Azerbaijan at that time, the increase of Armenian aggression, especially the events that took place in 1905-1906 had a serious impact on the ethno-demographic situation of the region (Shahbazov 2021). Genocide and deportation of the local population-Azeris led to a significant decrease in their number here. The number of Armenians artificially increased as a result of the suppression of Azerbaijanis

in separate districts of Iravan governorate. The indicators of 1886, 1897, 1908 and 1915 on the ethnic composition of Iravan governorate clearly prove this. If we look at the ethnic composition of Zangezur district alone, we will see that according to the 1897 census, 63,622 or 46.1% of the 137,871 people living here are Armenians, 71,206 or 51.6% are Azerbaijanis, 3,043 or 1 Kurds and other nationalities made up 8%. In general, while Muslims constituted 59.9% in 1886 and 57.2% in 1897, in 1915 they constituted only 45.5% of the population in Iravan district. Armenians, who made up only 38.3% of the population in 1886, were already 52% in 1915. In Etchmiadzin district, the percentage of the Azerbaijani population decreased from 35.7% to 31%, and the percentage of the Armenian population increased from 63.7% to 68.8%. As a whole, Azerbaijanis in the governorate made up 41.2% in 1886, while in 1915 they made up only 35.2. According to the Caucasian calendar for 1917, 423,123 Azerbaijanis (37.77%), 669,871 Armenians (59.79%), and 27,248 representatives of other nationalities (2.44%) of the governorate's population of 1,120,242 people. However, the number of Azerbaijanis in rural areas was still quite large. According to the indicators of 1908, the total population of rural communities of the province was 807,360, Armenians 366,088 (47.8%), Azerbaijanis 383,151 (45.1%), and other population 58,121 (0.7%). Azerbaijanis made up 55.1% in Iravan district.

According to the research conducted by the Russian historian S. Zelinsky, in 1886, out of 161 villages belonging to the treasure lands in Zangezur, 64 belonged to Azerbaijanis, 49 to Armenians, and 47 to Kurds. 38,712 Azerbaijanis and 30,850 Armenians lived in these villages. However, this information of S. Zelinski is not accurate, because in his work, the vast majority of villages inhabited by Azerbaijanis (for example, Bayandur, Binayeri, Jagazur, Garabayli, Chaikend, Khalaj, Sariyataq, etc.) are indicated as Kurdish villages. It should be emphasized that the

villages inhabited by Kurds were formed after the signing of the Gulustan and Turkmenchay peace agreements (Müller 2000). After certain agreements, the Kurds, like the Armenians, were relocated and settled in the lands of Azerbaijan, including in Zangezur district (Garayev 2023).

The scientific innovation of the article and the obtained result is that we have shown, mainly referring to archival materials, existing literature, works of Armenian authors, and periodical press, that the Armenians committed “genocide” in the territory of the Ottoman state in 1915, allegedly without any historical facts (Şekeryan 2020). Contrary to their absurd claims about their exposure, in reality, Armenians, as we mentioned, carried out genocide and deportation policy against Azerbaijani Turks throughout the 20th century (Ghulyan 2023). As the most obvious example of this, after the collapse of the Soviet empire, again with the help of Moscow, the Armenians, with the help of Moscow, brutally expelled more than 250,000 Azerbaijanis living in the lands of present-day Armenia and ancient Azerbaijan from their native lands, in Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding areas. The Khojaly tragedy, one of the most terrible tragedies of the 20th century, with the help of Russia's “366th motorized rifle division” located in Armenia, which was disbanded immediately after the tragedy, completely wiped out our cities and villages, which they kept under occupation for more than 30 years, etc. we can show.

Conclusion

The events described in the early 20th century reflect the extreme violence and brutality perpetrated by Armenian groups, particularly the Dashnaksutyun party, against Azerbaijanis in the South Caucasus. The massacres and ethnic cleansing efforts began in 1903 and escalated with strategic attacks on Azerbaijani villages, including the notorious Zangezur district. The Armenians, supported by Russian imperial forces, carried out

coordinated assaults, resulting in widespread destruction and the displacement of local populations. Despite significant resistance from the Azerbaijani people, particularly in villages like Qatır, the Armenians managed to capture key areas, leading to further violence and oppression. The violence against Azerbaijanis was not isolated; it was part of a broader campaign to alter the ethnic composition of the region, aligning with the Dashnaksutyun party's goal of expelling Azerbaijanis. However, this campaign faced significant setbacks, including defeats in the battles of Zangezur, where Azerbaijani forces, bolstered by local militias, eventually repelled Armenian advances. Despite these victories, the involvement of Russian government troops and the failure of the tsarist authorities to curb the violence ultimately prolonged the suffering of the Azerbaijani population. Historical accounts, including those by contemporaneous observers like Mayevsky and Zavaryan, emphasize the pivotal role of the Dashnaksutyun party in fueling inter-ethnic violence, casting the group as a key factor in the calamities faced by both Armenians and Azerbaijanis. These events highlight the destructive consequences of political extremism and the failure of state authorities to prevent sectarian conflict.

Bibliography

- Akin, Ümit. 2022. "A View from Immigration: Karabakh Issue in Azerbaijan Magazine." *Journal of Turkish Studies* 17, no. 7: 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.7827/TurkishStudies.63170>.
- Allahverdiyeva, S.A. 2022. "About Armenian-Azerbaijani Conflict at the Beginning of 20th Century in the Work of Mahammad Amin Rasulzadeh." *Transcarpathian Philological Studies*, no. 1: 137–42. <https://doi.org/10.32838/2663-5984/2022/1.20>.
- Astourian, Stephan H. 2023. "Origins, Main Themes and Underlying Psychological Disposition of Azerbaijani Nationalism." In *Monuments and Identities in the Caucasus*, 206–36. BRILL. https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004677388_010.

- Bahramov, Jabi. 2022. "The Crime of Armenian Fascism Against the Azerbaijani People Based on Historical Facts." *International Scientific Journal "The Caucasus and the World,"* May (May). <https://doi.org/10.52340/isj.2022.24.16>.
- Bayramova, Rakhshanda. 2020. "Change of Government in the Guba Region of Azerbaijan and Its Tragic Consequences (1920-1921)." *Grani* 23, no. 9 (October): 83-91. <https://doi.org/10.15421/172086>.
- Garayev, Elchin. 2023. "About the Facts of Falsification Committed During the Relocations and Censuses Carried Out by Tsarist Russia in the Territory of the Irevan Governorate (1850-1917)." *Journal of Migration and Settlement Studies* 1, no. 1 (June): 62-74. <https://doi.org/10.29329/jomiss.2023.560.5>.
- Ghulyan, Yurik. 2023. "Actions of Azerbaijan to Connect with Turkey through the Territory of Armenia in 1918-1920." *Scientific Proceedings of Vanadzor State University. Humanities and Social Sciences*, December (December), 97-109. <https://doi.org/10.58726/27382915-2023.2-97>.
- Karimova, Samira. 2023. "Genocide of the Era on the Basis of Mammad Said Ordubadi's Work 'The Bloody Years.'" *Azerbaijan Literature Studies*, no. 1: 102. <https://doi.org/10.59849/2663-4406.2023.1.102>.
- Khoudinyan, Gevorg. 2023. "ՀՀ ԴԱՇՆԱԿՑՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆ ԱՌԱՋԱՎՈՐԱՍԻԱԿԱՆ ԵՎ ԱՐԵՎԵԼԱԵՎՐՈՂԱԿԱՆ ԵՐԿՐՆԵՐԻ ՔԱՂԱՔԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՄԱԿԱՐԳԵՐՈՒՄ 19-ՐԴ ԴԱՐԻ ՎԵՐՋԵՐԻՆ - 20-ՐԴ ԴԱՐԻ ՍԿՋԲՆԵՐԻՆ Մասս Չորրորդ: ՀՅԴ Կապերն Ու Հարաբերությունները Ռուսաստանի Հեղափոխական Կուսակցությունների Հետ Ռուսական Առաջին Հեղափոխության Տարիներին (1905-1907 թթ.)." *Vem Pan-Armenian Journal*, 91-116. <https://doi.org/10.57192/18291864-2023.4-91>.
- Markhulia, Guram. 2022. "Dashnaktsutyun and Its Anti-Human Propaganda." *International Scientific Journal "The Caucasus and the World,"* May (May). <https://doi.org/10.52340/isj.2022.24.15>.

- Marsoobian, Armen T. 2023. "Genocide by Other Means: Heritage Destruction, National Narratives, and the Azeri Assault on the Indigenous Armenians of Karabakh." *Genocide Studies International* 15, no. 1 (August): 21-33. <https://doi.org/10.3138/GSI-2023-0009>.
- McCarthy, Justin, Donald E. Miller, and Lorna Touryan Miller. 1994. "Survivors: An Oral History of the Armenian Genocide." *The American Historical Review* 99, no. 2 (April): 605. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2167407>.
- Melson, Robert. 2017. "Provocation or Nationalism: A Critical Inquiry into the Armenian Genocide of 1915." In *The Armenian Genocide in Perspective*, 61-84. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315131023-4>.
- Melson, Robert F. 2020. "Killing Orders: Talat Pasha's Telegrams and the Armenian Genocide Taner Akçam." *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 34, no. 1 (June): 124-26. <https://doi.org/10.1093/hgs/dcaa014>.
- Müller, Daniel. 2000. "The Kurds of Soviet Azerbaijan, 1920-91." *Central Asian Survey* 19, no. 1 (March): 41-77. <https://doi.org/10.1080/713656178>.
- Musalı, Vusala. 2022. "Mir Möhsün Nevvâb'ın Araştırılmamış Yazma Eserleri." *Edeb Erkan*, November (November). <https://doi.org/10.59402/EE002202204>.
- Mustafayev, Beşir, and Nermin Sadigova. 2022. "Giving Zangezur to Armenians by the Russians in History and Recent Developments." *Journal of Turkish Studies* 17, no. 6: 1585-1601. <https://doi.org/10.7827/TurkishStudies.64331>.
- Nuriyeva, Irada. 2023. "Armenia's Ethnic Cleansing Policy Against Turkic-Azerbaijani People." *International Scientific Journal "The Caucasus and the World,"* March (March). <https://doi.org/10.52340/isj.2022.25.02>.
- — —. 2024. "31 March Genocide Committed by the 'Oppressed Armenian People' Against Azerbaijanis on the Way of Realizing the Dream of 'Great Armenia.'" *Metafizika Journal* 7, no. 1 (March): 132-47. <https://doi.org/10.33864/2617-751X.2024.v7.i1.132-147>.
- Sadigov, Ramin. 2021. "1918-1920 Yıllarında Karabağ'da Ermeni İsyanları: Azerbaycan Hükümeti'nin Toprak Bütünlüğünü

Armenian Atrocities Against Azerbaijanis in the Ancient Oghuz-Turkic Homeland of Zangazur at the Beginning of the 20th Century (Based on Archival Materials)

- Sağlamak İçin İsyançılara Karşı Mücadelesi." *Giresun Üniversitesi İktisadi ve İdari Bilimler Dergisi* 7, no. 1 (February): 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.46849/guiibd.855016>.
- Sargent, Leslie. 2010. "The 'Armeno-Tatar War' In the South Caucasus, 1905-1906: Multiple Causes, Interpreted Meanings." *Ab Imperio* 2010, no. 4: 143-69. <https://doi.org/10.1353/imp.2010.0054>.
- Şekeryan, Ari. 2020. "Rethinking the Turkish-Armenian War in the Caucasus: The Position of Ottoman Armenians." *War in History* 27, no. 1 (January): 81-105. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0968344517747140>.
- Shahbazov, Tahir. 2021. "On Some Aspects of Ethno-Demographic processes in North Azerbaijan in the 19th Century." *BULLETIN: Series Historical and Socio-Political Sciences* 69, no. 2 (June). <https://doi.org/10.51889/2021-2.1728-5461.08>.
- Stepanyan, Gevorg. 2021. "The Stages of Implementation of the Policy of Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide of Armenians in the Eastern Cis-Caucasus (11th-20th Cc.) (Continuation of the Second Part)." *Scientific Artsakh*. <https://doi.org/10.52063/25792652-2021.4-19>.
- Uryadova, Yulia. 2020. "Roving Revolutionaries: Armenians and the Connected Revolutions in the Russian, Iranian, and Ottoman Worlds by Hourii Berberian." *Journal of World History* 31, no. 3: 646-47. <https://doi.org/10.1353/jwh.2020.0043>.