



NEWSLETTER

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Azerbaijani Community in Canada Commemorates Khojaly Tragedy

The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Canada and Azerbaijani Community of Quebec jointly held an event commemorating Khojaly tragedy at the Montreal Jewish Community Centre on February 24. The event was opened by Mr. Boris Pertchenko, Vice-President of Quebec Russian Speaking Congress, who stressed the necessity of remembrance of the victims of the tragedy. Further, Mr. Farid Shafiyev, Azerbaijani Ambassador to Canada delivered detailed information about the Khojaly massacre and called all the participants to join the campaign of "Justice for Khojaly", aimed at raising awareness about this tragedy among the international community. The event was attended by the representatives of Azerbaijani, Russian, Jewish and Turkish communities. Azerbaijan Community of British Columbia also held remembrance ceremony of Khojaly massacre in Vancouver. During the event all the speakers noted the significance of remembering this tragedy and prosecuting the perpetrators. A refugee from the conflict zone, Azerbaijani-Canadian Ms. Sanubar Aliyeva addressing the audience said that Khojaly was not the only tragedy perpetrated by Armenian nationalists against the civilians; there were even worse brutalities, but they are unknown to the international community.

2010 – The Year of Environment in Azerbaijan

President Ilham Aliyev has presided over a meeting to discuss the country's environmental problems. In his opening remarks, the President said that 2010 was declared the Year of Environment in Azerbaijan, adding that the country placed a particular emphasis on solving environmental issues. "We adopted a relevant program. It covers a wide range of spheres, and also stipulates mechanisms and financial resources for the implementation of the measures set in the program." The President highlighted Azerbaijan's social and economic achievements in the past crisis year, stressing environmental problems "should remain as a priority".

The Head of State informed how the government had been tackling environmental problems, in particular the cleaning of oil-polluted areas and utilization of wastewater, sewage and household waste, and also outlined future programs. Other speakers - Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Mayor of Baku and President of the State Oil Company spoke of the projects aimed at solving environmental problems in Azerbaijan in 2010 and the years ahead. The Head of State emphasized the significance of drawing up a project of re-utilization of wastewater on the basis of international experience. The issues such as prevention of air pollution, protection of forests, drying up and transformation of lakes into resort areas and renewable energy sources were also discussed.

"Gala" Movie Premiering in Ottawa and Toronto

Azerbaijani movie "Gala" (Fortress) directed by Shamil Najafzade, awarded at the 33rd Montreal Film Festival, will be screened in Toronto and Ottawa on March 19 and 30 respectively. The screenings supported by the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan and all proceeds from the screenings will be donated to the Azeri refugees and Haiti relief efforts.

Azerbaijan is one of Top Ten Fashion Uniform on Olympic 2010

According to the New York Times magazine, Azerbaijani athletes were among the most fashionable sportsmen at the Olympics in Vancouver. "For a country that has never won a gold during the Winter Games and is fielding only two athletes, the fashion statement made by the team was disproportionately bold. When the tiny entourage emerged, led by Fuad Guliyev, the party of five sported paisley pants - a print no doubt making its Olympic debut - in blue, red and green, which mirrored the national flag - a nice, if not particularly subtle touch. It makes one wonder what thrilling, trippy theater an Azerbaijani opening ceremony might be if the country were ever to host the Games".

Embassy's newsletter is compiled of various sources