



Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

PRESS-RELEASE

June 14, 2007

No. 06

Salvation Day

June 15 each year Azerbaijan celebrates the Salvation Day. On that day in 1993, Heydar Aliyev was elected as the Chairman of the Supreme Council (Parliament) of Azerbaijan – event which marked his return to power in the turbulent period of Azerbaijan’s history when the country was at the brink of a civil war and collapse.

Heydar Aliyev was a leader of Azerbaijan from 1969 to 1982 and from 1993 to 2003. These two different periods - one when Azerbaijan was under the Soviets and another as independent country - Heydar Aliyev pursued various strategies to ensure the stable growth of Azerbaijan’s economy and strengthening of its social institutions.

Upon the return to power in 1993, Heydar Aliyev managed to install stability in the country and reach cease-fire with Armenia which has occupied twenty percent of the Azerbaijani territory. Under his leadership Azerbaijan started implementing large-scale economic and social reforms, transregional energy projects such as Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline. Azerbaijan cooperated actively with the Euro-Atlantic community, joined the Council of Europe, and developed relations with its neighbors.

“His position and efforts demonstrated in attraction of the large-volume foreign investments that strengthened economic development of Azerbaijan played key role. These achievements had improved lives of million Azerbaijanis” (George W. Bush, US President).

“Heydar Aliyev had been a great leader of Azerbaijan. He brought stability to his country in the period of chaos.” (Tony Blair, UK Prime Minister)

“Significant state official who gained deserved respect and great influence all over the world” (Vladimir Putin, President of Russia)