

For Immediate Release

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Karabakh Foundation Announces Fellowships to Increase Scholarship about Azerbaijan and the Caucasus



Washington, D.C. July 14, 2010 The Karabakh Foundation, dedicated to the culture, arts, and heritage of Azerbaijan and the Caucasus, announces two fellowship programs designed to enhance scholarship in these areas.

Uzeyir Hajibeyov Fellowship Program

What: Research in the United States on subjects related to Azerbaijani and Caucasus history, culture, Azerbaijani languages, traditions, arts, foodways, music, ancient architecture, literature, and important figures. IS THERE A TIME PERIOD GIVEN?

Who: Scholars engaged in the research phase of doctoral studies and scholars whose Ph.D. or equivalent professional training has been completed within the past ten years.

About Uzeyir Hajibeyov: An Azerbaijani composer, conductor, scientist, publicist, playwright, teacher, translator, and social figure, Uzeyir Hajibeyov (Sept. 18, 1885, Agjabadi-Nov. 23, 1948, Baku) is recognized as the father of Azerbaijani classical music and opera. Uzeyir Hajibeyov composed music for the national anthem of Azerbaijan Democratic Republic (also the anthem of the modern Republic of Azerbaijan) as well as the state anthem of Azerbaijan SSR. From Agjabadi governorate, which is now part of Azerbaijan, Hajibeyov was born to Abdul Huseyn Hajibeyov, secretary for many years to poet Khurshidbanu Natavan, and Shirin Hajibeyov, who grew up in the Natavan household.

Natavan Visiting Fellowship

What: Research by U.S. Fellows in Azerbaijan (for a maximum of three weeks) about Azerbaijani and Caucasus history, culture, Azerbaijani languages, traditions, arts, cuisine, music, ancient

architecture, literature, important figures, and conflict resolution pertaining to the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Travel support and stipend as well as use of archives and libraries, organization of meetings and events with researchers and experts in Azerbaijan.

Who: U.S. scholars and practitioners who wish to conduct research and writing in Azerbaijan.



About Khurshidbanu Natavan: Considered one of Azerbaijan's finest lyrical poets, Khurshidbanu Natavan (Aug. 6, 1832-October 2, 1897) came from the city of Shusha. Renowned for her *ghazal* style of poetry, Natavan was the daughter of Mehdi Gulu-khan, the last ruler of the Karabakh khanate.

For More Information about Karabakh Foundation Grants and Fellowships

Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the Foundation's guidelines at www.karabakhfoundation.org before submitting a concise initial query addressing the applicant's interest, background, credentials, and plans to fellowship@karabakhfoundation.org.

About the Karabakh Foundation

The Karabakh Foundation seeks to increase awareness and understanding in the United States of the cultural heritage and traditions of the country of Azerbaijan, the Caucasus area, and the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. While coalescing significant artistic and scholarly talent, the Foundation is nurturing a new generation of artists and scholars toward important accomplishments.

The Foundation serves as a dynamic facilitator and clearinghouse raising the public profile of Azerbaijan, its Karabakh region, and the Caucasus region in general. Main activities include preserving and disseminating cultural content via archival collecting, public programs, publications, exhibitions, speaking forums, international collaborations, scholarly exchange, artistic sponsorship, and related venues.

Foundation support comes primarily from Khazar University, the first private university in Azerbaijan and one of the country's leading institutions of higher learning. Additional information about the Karabakh Foundation may be found at www.karabakhfoundation.org.

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