



...Culture, arts, & heritage of Azerbaijan & the Caucasus

## Announcement

Washington, D.C. May 28, 2011— The Karabakh Foundation observes the National Day of Azerbaijan with the 40 million Azerbaijanis around the globe. This auspicious holiday commemorates the 93rd anniversary of the first predominantly Muslim democracy established in Azerbaijan. On May 28, 1918, 26 delegates declared 44,000 square miles to be the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. At the time, Azerbaijan included a much larger area that can be seen in the map below.



The first Western-style democracy in the Caucasus, Azerbaijan preceded its fellow American and European democracies by granting universal suffrage, which gave everyone the right to vote, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, creed, or political beliefs. U.S. President, Woodrow Wilson met with an Azerbaijani delegation in 1919, and the Allied Supreme Council recognized Azerbaijan on January 12, 1920.

The Karabakh Foundation hopes that Americans will participate in this important democratic celebration with the Azerbaijanis and Azerbaijani-Americans around the world.

## About the Karabakh Foundation

*The Karabakh Foundation is a U.S. 501(c)(3) cultural charity foundation based in Washington, D.C., that 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. Support also comes from the U.S.-based Allaverdy Foundation. Additional information about the Karabakh Foundation may be found at [www.karabakhfoundation.org](http://www.karabakhfoundation.org).*

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