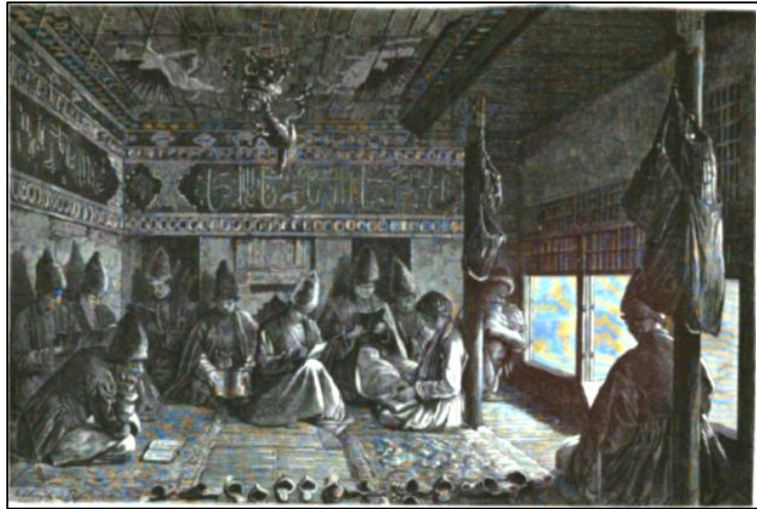


Education

The first district school in Azerbaijan was opened on December 30, 1830 in Shusha. The school taught grammar of the Russian language, geography, history, arithmetic, Azerbaijani language, calligraphy, and drawing. The Azerbaijani language was also taught as a compulsory subject for Russians. This school, which existed until 1874, provided only primary education.

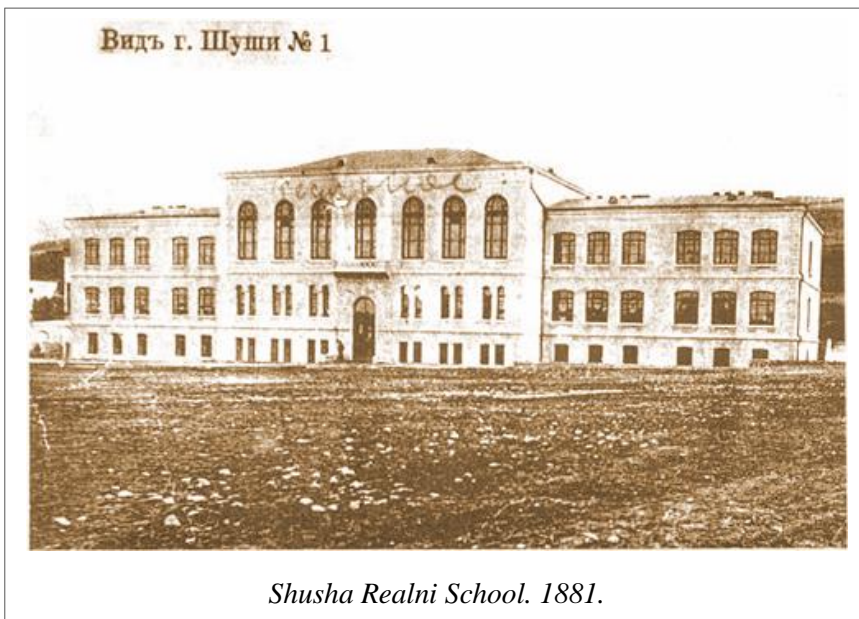
After the district school was closed, Shusha city school opened on the example of schools in Russia. Tuition at the school was paid. Children as young as seven were admitted to school without an exam. The program included Shariah, Azerbaijani, Russian and French languages, arithmetic, experimental geometry, geography, history, physics, drawing, singing and gymnastics. In 1880, a special music class was opened at the school. The classrooms of Shusha city



Azerbaijani school. Painter V.Vereshchagin. 1865.

school were provided with physics devices, zoology and mineralogy collections, geographical maps,

various sets of musical instruments, a rich library and a reading room.



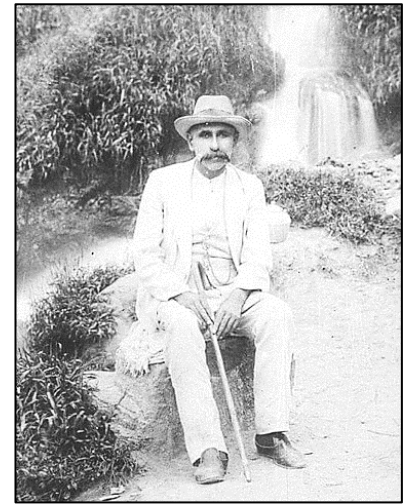
Shusha Realni School. 1881.

From 1849, a Shiite school was operating in Shusha on the example of a Muslim madrasa. The madrasa system was expanded by including the subjects such as logic, mathematics, physics, cosmography, and geology in Russian language into

curriculum. Shusha Muslim Shiite school had three classes. The school operated until 1861.

The Govhariyya school opened in Shusha under the mosque named after Govhar agha, the daughter of Karabakh khan Ibrahimkhalil khan, started to operate in 1864. The tuition fees of the poor children studying there were paid by Govhar aga.

On September 20, 1881, a six grade secondary school opened in Shusha. Along with the Azerbaijani children, the Armenians and Russians also studied at the school. Classes were conducted in Russian. The pupils were taught the Azerbaijani, German and French languages as well. The school's curriculum focused on mathematics, physics, natural sciences, drawing and calligraphy. The students wore special uniforms. Well-known educationists of that time Mirza Salah bey Zohrabbeyov, Yusif bey Malikhagnazarov and Hashim bey Vazirov taught at Shusha secondary school. Later, Mirza Salah bey Zohrabbeyov built a school in Shusha at his own expense and taught Russian at that school. He wrote the textbook "Teaching Russian for Azerbaijanis" and together with Firidun bey Kocharli compiled the textbook "Talimati-lisani-turki".



Hashim bey Vazirov



Salah bey Zohrabbeyov

After the occupation of Shusha in 1992, the Armenian vandals burned the secondary school building to the ground.

In 1886, a Russian-Tatar school opened to prepare the pupils for secondary and city schools. Farrukh bey Vazirov, a graduate of the St. Petersburg Mining Institute, made a great contribution to the opening of this school and its financial support.

The progressive people of Shusha, who got acquainted with the new European education system, tried to apply such a modern education system. One of such schools in Shusha was established by Mirmohsun Navvab. He equipped the classrooms with desks, blackboards, globes, and various visual aids.

Jamal bey Fatalibeyov, a final year student of the Transcaucasian (Gori) Teachers' Seminary, opened a school in Shusha in 1893. The school consisted of two classes. The education lasted for two years. After mastering the Azerbaijani and Russian languages during this period, the children gained the right to enter the secondary and city schools. Among the people, the school was called "Jamal bey's school".

In 1894, “Saint Mary” Girls’ School was established in Shusha on the basis of two private girls' schools. This opened the way for the Azerbaijani girls to get the European education.

A Russian-Tatar school opened in Shusha in 1896. Initially, Khurshudbanu Natavan and Fatali Mirza Gajar set aside their houses for the school building free of charge. Well-known residents of Shusha paid for the school maintenance. The director of the school was Hashim bey Vazirov. At the request of the Shusha Charity Society, the school was given the state status. Zulfugar bey Hajibeyov, Uzeyir bey Hajibeyov, Yusif Vazir Chamanzaminli, Mirza Khosrov Akhundov and others graduated from this school.

In 1897, the first city library opened in Shusha. Mehdigulu khan, son of Khurshudbanu Natavan,



Teachers and pupils of the realni school

and doctor Abdulkarim bey Mehmandarov played a great role in the opening of the library.

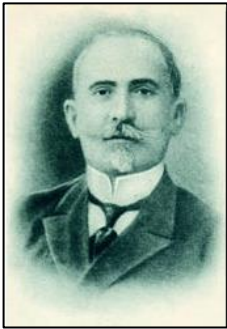
In 1906, a new three-storey building with an assembly hall for 400 people was built for the Shusha secondary school. The school had a student orchestra with Azerbaijani musical instruments, a wind orchestra, a choir and a drama troupe.

Progressive Shusha residents sent their children to study at the Transcaucasian Teachers' Seminary in Gori city. Firudin bey Kocharli, Farhad Agazade, Uzeyir bey Hajibeyov, Zulfugar bey Hajibeyov and other prominent people of Shusha graduated from this seminary.

By the end of 1916, the number of schools in Shusha had reached 50, the number of students 3,000, and the number of teachers 79.

In 1921-1922 academic year, a pedagogical school, and in 1923-1924 academic year, a music school opened in Shusha. In 1922-1923 academic year, there were 8 schools in Shusha with 580 students and 25 teachers. In 1927-1928 academic year, the number of schools in Shusha reached 11. The Central Children's Library opened in Shusha in 1938.

Shusha district school, the first secondary school in Azerbaijan, was transformed into Shusha seven-year model school in 1933, and city secondary school No. 1 in 1937-1938 academic year. In 1939-1940 academic year, the 110-year-old school had its first high school graduation. In 1982, this old educational institution celebrated its 150th anniversary. According to the decision of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, the 150th anniversary of Shusha city secondary school No. 1 was solemnly celebrated in 1982. The 180th anniversary of Shusha city secondary school No. 1 was marked by the decree of President Ilham Aliyev in 2010.



*Firudin bey
Kocherli*

Shusha city secondary school No. 1 continued its activity without interruption from its establishment until May 1992. The school had 24 subject-based classrooms and laboratories provided with all kinds of equipment, 2 language classrooms, an engineering classroom, a pre-service training room for the youth, a rich library, a large gym, an assembly hall, a canteen and others. After the occupation of the city by Armenians, students and teachers of the school temporarily settled in different regions of Azerbaijan. Shusha city secondary school No. 1 has been operating since 1992 in the building of the secondary school No. 38 in Yasamal district, Baku. Students and teachers of the school are looking forward to returning to Liberated Shusha.

Prior to the occupation, there were a branch of the Azerbaijan Pedagogical Institute, a department of the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy, four secondary special schools, one vocational school, one Forest Health School, 7 preschools and 6 out-of-school educational institutions in Shusha city.



Boarding school No. 1

Hoping to keep Shusha under occupation forever, Armenians opened a branch of the Technological University and Yerevan Agrarian University in the city.

Since 1973, Khankendi (Stepanakert) Pedagogical Institute had operated in Nagorno-Karabakh. Many young people from Shusha studied at the Azerbaijani department of the institute. Azerbaijani teachers and students of the Khankendi Pedagogical Institute were expelled from Khankendi on May 16, 1988. The pedagogical staff of Azerbaijanis found a temporary refuge in Shusha. Azerbaijani teaching staff and students of the institute, continued their activities in Shusha in accordance with the order of the Council of Ministers of the Azerbaijan SSR dated February 22, 1991. After the occupation of Shusha by Armenian vandals on May 8, 1992, the Shusha branch of the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University has been continuing its work in Aghjabadi.

The foundation of the first secular school in Azerbaijan and the South Caucasus was laid in Shusha in 1830. In 1980, on the initiative of great leader Heydar Aliyev, the 150th anniversary of this school was marked. Armenian vandals have completely destroyed the school which functioned as school No1 prior to the occupation. On May 12, 2021, President Ilham Aliyev laid foundation stone for school No1 in Shusha.

Educational institutions will soon resume their work and a new university will open in Liberated Shusha.