

JANUARY 2020 NEWS DIGEST OF THE EMBASSY OF AZERBAIJAN IN WASHINGTON DC

The **January 2020 edition** of the Embassy's digest features news on the World Economic Forum, three decades since the Black January Tragedy of 1990, listing of the Heydar Aliyev Center by "The Times" among the best architecture of 2010s, recognizing Sheki as the World Heritage Site.

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[Azerbaijan's role in a cohesive and sustainable world](#)

January 18, 2020

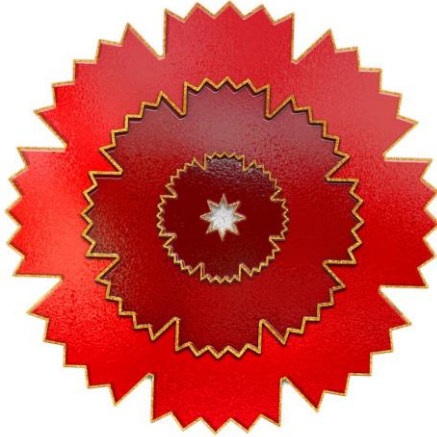


“Azerbaijan has continued to successfully implement energy projects. Supporting the EU’s efforts to diversify gas supply, Azerbaijan has implemented the Southern Gas Corridor. This 3,500-km project will change the energy map of the entire region by bringing natural gas from the Caspian region to European markets,” President Ilham Aliyev said in his article published by World Economic Forum.



[30th Anniversary of the Black January Tragedy in Azerbaijan](#)

January 19, 2020



MFA statement reads: On January 19, 1990, the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, M. Gorbachev, flagrantly violating Article 119 of the USSR Constitution and Article 71 of the Constitution of Azerbaijan SSR, signed a decree declaring the state of emergency in Baku from January 20. However, in order to keep the population unaware of it, the group “Alfa” of the USSR State Security Committee blasted the power unit of the Azerbaijani television and hence broadcasting in the country cut off. Thus, that night the troops entered the city, which was unaware of the declaration of a state of emergency, and ruthlessly persecuted the civilians.

[Members of Congress issue statements on the 30th anniversary of Black January](#)

January 15, 2020



US Representatives Paul Gosar, Steve Chabbot, Robert Aderholt, Steve Cohen issued statements in remembrance of Black January tragedy in Azerbaijan in 1990. “In January 1990, the former U.S.S.R. attempted to continue to suppress freedom and impose its political will on the people of Azerbaijan. At that time, however, the people of Azerbaijan decided that they had enough of Soviet control and resisted.” reads one the statements.

[“The Times” of Great Britain lists Heydar Aliyev Center among the best architecture projects of 2010s](#)

January 1, 2020



Heydar Aliyev Center in Baku, Azerbaijan is a quintessential project of Zaha Hadid, world famous architect. Azerbaijan has hosted the second World Religious Leaders Summit in the country's capital, Baku. Religious leaders from more than 30 countries attended the event to discuss ways to tackle a range of issues and build dialogue.

[Shebeke and the Silk Road: exploring the unparalleled crafts of Sheki, Azerbaijan](#)

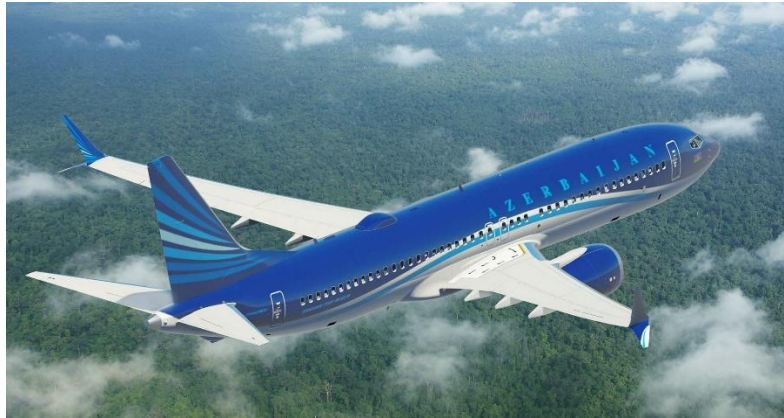
January 9, 2020



“I feel like Alice in Wonderland. Except, instead of falling into a rabbit hole, I have stepped into a kaleidoscope, where sunlight and coloured glass are playing off each other to create shape-shifting mosaics.” Read more about Azerbaijan’s Shaki, which is famous for its silk and crafting art.

[Azerbaijan Airlines ranked most punctual in Europe](#)

January 10, 2020



Azerbaijan's largest air carrier scored 86.81 percent on-time performance (OTP) to lead Top 10 European airlines featured in the Punctuality League 2020 ranking released by the Official Airline Guide (OAG).

[Gorbachev's war crime, January 20, 1990, and the rise of Azerbaijan. Fred Starr](#) [Central Asia and Caucasus Institute](#)

January 18, 2020



Prominent researcher of Central Asia and Caucasus Institute Fred Starr discusses Black January Tragedy at John Batchelor Show radio program.

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