

**AN INTERESTING RESEARCH ON PHILOSOPHY OF INTERACTION
OF CULTURES ALONG THE SILK ROAD**

Ilham Mammadzadeh
prof., Doctor of Philosophical Sciences
Eynulla Madatli
Doctor of Historical Sciences
Fuzuli Gurbanov
Doctor of Philosophical Sciences

In 1877, a German geographer Ferdinand von Richthofen called the communication road of China's Han dynasty with the world as "die Seidenstrassen" or "Silk Road", and this term was later began to be used by researchers. F. Richthofen noted that on the communication route that people and goods and accordingly ideas were moving along the Asia-Europe-Africa, as well as the Pacific Ocean and the Mediterranean basin of the South China Sea and from there to the Atlantic Ocean, and the transportation of silk and other commercial goods by this ways had a certain impact on the overall development. Based on this idea, Peter Frankopan, a well-known researcher and one of the leading writers of "The Sunday Times", in both books "The Silk Roads. A new history of the world" (Peter Frankopan, London, Blooms Bury, 2015) and "The New Silk Roads. The present and future of the world" (Peter Frankopan, London, Blooms Bury, 2018) written three years later, emphasized that along with the exchange of goods, food, clothing and fashion, there was an interaction of languages, religions, cultures, and the rhythm of history was changing. (See: Frankopan P. The New Silk Roads. London, Blooms-Bury. 2018, pp.2-3)

According to Frankopan, profound changes in China and the transformation of this country from a regional power to a global superpower, the wind of changes in the Middle East, especially in Turkey, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran are causing the inevitable changes along the Silk Road - this network of the central nervous system around the world. (Ibid., p.3)

In the introduction to the almanac, Doctor of Philosophical Sciences, Prof. Ilham Mammadzadeh rightly notes that in the political and philosophical literature of Azerbaijan an opinion is formed that the modern world is in crisis, the world order is faced new challenges. In this context, philosophers are interested how the events of the present and future years will affect this order. Will it be really the world order, or will it be an order ruled by disorder, disharmony, imbalance, in other words, "order of power"?!

The political and economic rivalries of the world's great powers, the unreasonable sanctions of superpowers and the abuse of double standard pressure mechanisms, under the guise of democratic changes, creating hotspots in various parts of the world and then their activities for taking part in its "solution" are, unfortunately, still in the real practice of the forces that in the mood of empire. However, the establishment of fair and equal in rights, mutually beneficial cooperation, respect for the interests of all great and small states, their rights to self-development and self-defense, the involvement of backward and underdeveloped countries in world economic integration and support for these processes would contribute to maintenance of world order. Otherwise, Europe (considered the old continent) will face a greater influx of migrants and will face obvious difficulties in solving the resulting problems. Environmental problems and global changes in this area will undoubtedly exacerbate economic, socio-political problems. From this viewpoint and from a number of other aspects, nothing can be more profitable than economic cooperation among states and their citizens. Only economic cooperation can neutralize the destructive effects and consequences of globalization. In this sense, the role of the Ancient Silk Road in international relations can be implemented in a new quality and efficiency in the New Silk Road economic projects that are topical today. Trade relations, which connect a wide geography - from China to

European countries, from the Pacific and Indian Oceans to the Atlantic coasts with “One road, one belt”, can also facilitate the interaction of different cultures.

From this viewpoint, we believe that the scientific activity of the “Virtual Laboratory” created by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of ANAS in 2020 with the participation of scientists from a number of Silk Road countries will make a corresponding contribution to international intercultural dialogue. In particular, the scientific almanac “Philosophy of Interaction of Cultures and the New Silk Road” prepared by the Institute, articles of specialists from the countries on this ancient road of trade and culture can be considered one of the successful and innovative projects of recent years.

Professor İlham Mammadzadəh’s article emphasizes place and important role of Azerbaijan in current multipolar world, active participation of the Silk Road countries, especially China which increasingly advancing in the global leadership, in the “One Belt, One Road” transport project and the contribution it can make to intercultural relations through this. It is expected that this project will mobilize first China, Asia, the Turkic world and Russia, then other regions of the world (Europe, etc.) and stimulate the world’s leading international and financial institutions as well. Expressing that world hegemony is passing to Asia in the 21st century, İlham Mammadzadəh tries to reveal the philosophical principles of the interaction of cultures in such a situation and speaks about the role of culture in the configuration of new relations.

In the almanac, Alessandro Figus, a representative of Rome University in Italy and an invited professor at North Kazakhstan State University in Kazakhstan, in his article “The Global World Order and the Challenges of the New Silk Road” focuses on Iran’s role, its interests in Central Asia, Southeast Asia, the Caucasus, the Persian Gulf and the Middle East, and the danger of the country’s increasing attempts to have nuclear weapons in the face of confrontation with the United States and the West. He comes to a conclusion that Washington must take into account the great changes in geopolitics, and in this situation, Iran is looking for friends with the countries on the Silk Road, especially China and Russia, which were once closely linked, and is not a marginal issue.

The analysis of the psychological aspects of multiculturalism in the article “Psychological aspects of intercultural relations” by Guido Amoretti, a professor at the University of Genoa, is also of interest.

One of the most notable articles in the almanac is “The Belt and the Road: A Direction of Development Characterizing the Achievements of Cooperation”, by Von Ley and Von Likna, senior researchers at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. It is noted there that the further development and support of the idea of the Silk Road “Economic Belt” project, proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping on September 7, 2013 at Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan, has opened new horizons of development and cooperation in this area. More than 50 countries have already approved it and signed a cooperation agreement with China. In a short period of time, the 2000-year-old Silk Road has revived rapidly, begun to yield practical results, and a favorable ground has been laid for the interaction and enrichment of peoples and their cultures along this road in the future. The author states that China’s initiative will give a serious impetus to globalization, which will form a new world order, and China will play an important role in this process.

Professor Ali Abbasov in his article “Preferences, challenges, risks and threats to the revival of the Silk Road” analyzes the growing international tension and current situation of the emergence of its new types, and the humanitarian and philosophical aspects of the restoration of the Silk Road, and calls not to overlook the risks and dangers that can arise. The author states that the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway, which was jointly completed by Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey on October 30, 2017, is an important contribution to the implementation of the Silk Road project. He highlights the benefits and potential risks for Azerbaijan. He comes to a conclusion that this project will allow China to gain a leading position in the global economy and develop the exchange of knowledge, technology and cultural values with countries along the route of the Silk Road.

Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Fizuli Gurbanov in his article “Substantive and communicative aspects of Azerbaijan’s participation in the “One Belt, One Road” project: philosophical analysis” analyzes the substantive and communicative aspects of the “One Belt, One Road” project within the philosophical-epistemological approach. From this perspective, the current situation of Azerbaijan’s participation and role in this project, future prospects and the impact on intercultural relations are analyzed. It is emphasized in the article that there is a creative example set by the “Baku Process”, which has been successfully continued for many years.

Professor Rena Mirzazadeh in her article in the almanac “On some problems of strategic cooperation between Azerbaijan and China” within the initiative “The Belt and The Road” emphasizes that in modern times, as in the medieval ages, Azerbaijan as a linking corridor between East and West, plays an important role in the completion of the New Silk Road through the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway, Baku International Sea Trade Port, and is an active partner in economic investment in these projects.

In the article “West and East on the New Silk Road” in the almanac by philosophers Tair and Timur Makhmatovs from the Russian Federation is emphasized that the practical interaction of civilizations will serve the East-West dialogue in a new quality and scale within the “Silk Road” project.

Corresponding member of ANAS Konul Bunyadzadeh’s article “The new Islamic philosophy and the New Silk Road: parallels, perspectives” mentions Azerbaijan in the relations on the Ancient Silk Road, as a place where along with trade and economic relations, ideas are received, given or transmitted, at the same time, is said to contribute to interreligion reconciliation. The place and role of Islamic religion and philosophy in the New Silk Road project are investigated as well.

In his article “Traces of the Silk Road in the works of Nizami Ganjavi”, Professor Badirkhan Ahmadli deals with the Turkish-Chinese relations since ancient times, the interest in Chinese culture, the charms and silk in Azerbaijan with examples from the poems of Nizami. For instance:

Loved the Chinese the Turk, became happy,
He freed himself from grief of the Hindus.

or:

White Chinese silk adorned the skies,
The earth threw off its black kerchief.

Doctor of Historical Sciences Eynulla Madatli in the article “The Silk Road - a bridge of trade and culture from ancient times up to the present” describes in detail, the trade and cultural relations of our country with China, as well as the interaction of peoples and cultures on the Silk Road since ancient times and states that the energy-transport corridors between Asia and Europe, initiated by Azerbaijan or realized with its close participation in the new Silk Road, have made a significant contribution to the interaction and enrichment of cultures in a vast geography. At the same time, the role of our country in the establishment and development of intercultural and interreligious relations together and in comparison with other countries of the region was investigated, and it was noted that the contribution to the transport corridors, oil and gas pipelines that have already been realized and those that are being operated with the initiative and close participation of Azerbaijan, on the whole, to the cooperation of the countries along the Silk Road, will continue to grow.

Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Afag Rustamova in her article “Philosophy of translation in the interaction and enrichment of cultures on the New Silk Road” emphasizes that translation activities open up vast opportunities for the interaction, rapprochement and enrichment of Eastern and Western cultures.

Doctor of Philosophy Lale Mehdiyeva’s article “Virtual Laboratory: The interaction of cultures on the New Silk Road” suggests that the Virtual Laboratory, which has already started

operating, will play an important role in coordinating and increasing the effectiveness of scientific research in this field.

Associate Professor Zohra Aliyeva in her article “The Great Silk Road is a unique investment to world civilization” states that the idea of reviving the Silk Road plays an important role in the coordination of cultural, economic and tourism relations between nations.

Ph.D in Philosophy Sholat Zeynalov’s article “The role of Azerbaijan in the formation of a dialogue culture at the East-West junction” elucidates the economic, political, cultural and spiritual aspects of dialogue culture in the Silk Road countries.

Kazakh researchers, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor Anuar Galiyev and Master Saniya Galiyeva in their article “Cooperation of Turkic-speaking post-Soviet states with China in the socio-humanitarian sphere” (on the “One Belt, One Road” project) emphasize the exceptional role of this huge trade and cultural route stretching from China to Europe in the life and culture and in the mutual relations of a number of peoples, especially the Turkic-speaking peoples. The establishment of the Alliance of Silk Road Cities in Hong Kong in 2014 and the opening of the Silk Road Academy in Beijing in April 2017, shortly after the Chinese president’s well-known proposal in Kazakhstan in 2013, are highly regarded as successful steps. The authors state that the cooperation on the Silk Road, also helps to erase the “blank spots” in the history of the Kazakh people according to Chinese sources and archival documents, to direct rightly the search for national ideas and national identity. It is stated in the article that the most geographically distant Turkic-speaking country from China is Azerbaijan. However, the closest to Europe is namely Azerbaijan, and the operating Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway corridor is an important part of the “One Belt, One Road” project.

Another Kazakh professor, Aydar Amrebayev, in his article “Some Problems of Strategic Relations between Kazakhstan and China” within the initiative “The Belt, the Road” emphasizes an important role of the Silk Road projects in expanding bilateral ties, as well as analyzes the beneficial cooperation of Kazakhstan in joint projects within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and their stimulating role in the process of further rapprochement of cultures and enrichment of each other.

Anar Bagirov, Ph.D in Political Sciences, in his article “The Relationship between Spirituality and Politics and the Role of Confucianism in China” illuminates the importance of Confucian moral values in state-building and political power in China, as well as the differences between Confucianism and neo-Confucianism and it is concluded that “One Belt One Road” project was put forward as an alternative to liberalism and individualism position of the Western approach.

As a result, this collective monograph, in our opinion, is not only interesting in terms of the theme and the approach of the authors, but also, in a certain sense, it “overviews” this huge project and predicts it in the near future. In this context, we would like to emphasize in particular, that the victory of Azerbaijan in the war against the Armenian occupation, ensuring the territorial integrity of our country and making decisions on opening communications that have been closed for years will serve the more effective implementation of the “One Belt, One Road” project in our region.

Of course, the continuation of the pandemic in the world, and the restrictions and prohibitions imposed in countries in this regard, require new scientific communications appropriate to the situation. In this regard, the virtual laboratory created at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology is seen as a new form for research by scientists from different countries. In other words, the virtual laboratory is one of the tools to support intercultural communication of different researchers, as well as different cultures, as a new form of dialogue for the Silk Road countries.

In the above-mentioned aspects, putting forward the idea of a virtual laboratory as an initiative by Azerbaijani scientists, acting of Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev in a certain sense, as the initiator of new geopolitical values and cooperation formats seems to be the projection on

philosophical and scientific thinking. In this regard, we believe that the initiatives of Azerbaijani scientists in this direction will continue.

İPƏK YOLU BOYUNCA MƏDƏNİYYƏTLƏRİN QARŞILIQLI TƏSİRİNİN FƏLSƏFƏFƏSİNƏ DAİR MARAQLI TƏDQIQAT

**İlham Məmmədzadə
Eynulla Mədətli
Füzuli Qurbanov**

Xülasə. AMEA Fəlsəfə və Sosiologiya İnstitutunun hazırladığı “Mədəniyyətlərin qarşılıqlı təsirinin fəlsəfəsi və yeni İpək Yolu” elmi Almanaxında qədim İpək Yolu üzərindəki bir sıra ölkələrin mütəxəssislərinin məqalələri yer almışdır. Kitabın elmi redaktoru professor İlham Məmmədzadə hazırkı çoxqütüblü dünyada Azərbaycanın yeri və oynaya biləcəyi əhəmiyyətli rolu, İpək Yolu ölkələrinin, xüsusilə də, global liderlik yarışında get-gedə daha çox irəli çıxan Çinin “Bir kəmə, bir yol” nəqliyyat layihəsində fəal iştirakı və bu vasitə ilə mədəniyyətlərarası əlaqələrə verə biləcəyi töhfələri vurğulamışdır. Azərbaycan tədqiqatçıları ilə yanaşı, İnstitutun yaratdığı Virtual Laboratoriya ilə əməkdaşlıq edən Çin, Qazaxstan, Rusiya, Özbəkistan, İtaliya universitetlərinin və elmi mərkəzlərinin alimlərinin məqalələrində sivilizasiyaların qarşılıqlı praktiki əlaqələrinin “İpək yolu” layihəsi çərçivəsində yeni keyfiyyət və miqyasla Şərq-Qərb dialoquna xidmət etdiyi elmi şəkildə araşdırılmış və təsbit edilmişdir. Azərbaycan Respublikasının regionda və beynəlxalq aləmdə mədəniyyətlərin dialoqu və qarşılıqlı təsiri sahəsində qazandığı zəngin təcrübənin təhlili və dəyərləndirilməsi təqdim edilən Almanaxın diqqətəlayiq cəhətlərindəndir.

ИНТЕРАКТИВНЫЕ ЭФФЕКТЫ КУЛЬТУР НА ШЕЛКОВОМ ПУТИ ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ ПО ФИЛОСОФИИ

**Ильхам Мамедзаде
Эйнулла Мадатли
Физули Гурбанов**

Резюме. Научный альманах «Философия взаимодействия культур и новый Шелковый путь», подготовленный Институтом философии и социологии НАНА, содержит статьи специалистов из ряда стран о древнем Шелковом пути. Научный редактор книги профессор Ильхам Мамедзаде высоко оценил роль Азербайджана в современном многополярном мире и ту важную роль, которую он может сыграть, подчеркнул его вклад в межкультурные отношения. Помимо азербайджанских исследователей, взаимодействие цивилизаций в проекте «Новый шелковый путь» было научно изучено учеными университетов и исследовательских центров Китая, Казахстана, России, Узбекистана и Италии, сотрудничающими с созданной Институтом Виртуальной лабораторией. Анализ и оценка богатого опыта Азербайджанской Республики в области диалога и взаимодействия культур в регионе и на международной арене является одним из основных моментов представленного Альманаха.